

**Syllabus: Introduction to Developmental Psychology ONLINE (PSY 215)**  
**Winter Term 2021 CRN 31661**

**Instructor:** Laura Jones, Ph.D.  
**Office hours:** Mondays and Wednesdays 12:00-12:50 (Zoom)  
**E-Mail:** jonesl@linnbenton.edu (please use email to contact me\*)

**Class Meets:** Moodle and Zoom: The class is **asynchronous**, meaning that you can access the learning materials at your convenience. We hold an optional meeting on Thursdays from 11:30-12:50 where we discuss key concepts, work in small groups, prepare for exams and answer your questions. This is an open classroom time and a wonderful opportunity to interact with me and other students.

\* When you email me, it is very important that you identify your full name, course you are attending and course time. Due to time constraints, I cannot respond to emails that do not include this information.

**Course Description:** Explores physical, psychological, emotional, and social development from birth to death. Topics include historical foundations, research methodology, and prominent theories/research of each developmental sequence across the lifespan.

**Course Outcomes:**

- Describe major facts and theories from the domain of developmental psychology.
- Apply relevant psychological phenomena to everyday relationships and situations.
- Combine and synthesize developmental concepts and theories to draw reasonable conclusions, develop intelligent skepticism, and critically analyze information.
- Develop insight into the self and others' behavior and mental processes as applicable throughout the lifespan.

**How to avoid getting dropped.** The following activities must be completed by the deadline or you will be dropped from the class. It is not possible to add you once you have been dropped. **Before 9 am on Thursday, 1/7:**

1. Enter the [Moodle](#) course shell and read your syllabus and watch the [course overview \(introduction to the course\)](#)
2. Complete the 'help me get to know you' online questionnaire

**About the Thursday Meeting:** You view the week's Zoom session before you attend and then meet on Thursday to discuss the week's key concepts and review key concepts from the previous week. I focus on material that will appear on your exams. Much of the interaction will be in small groups with your fellow students. We meet on Thursdays at 11:30. The length of meeting depends on topics covered and class discussion. Latest end time: 12:50. Attendance optional – look at the materials being covered and decide. We discuss key concepts from the week, review key concepts from the prior week(s), and prepare for the exams.

**Class Presentation:** Your Zoom recorded slide presentation is available by noon each Monday. The slide presentation contains visual, audio, and video components as well as individual activities to consolidate your learning.

**Tools for Success in this Course:** In an online course, the teacher is a **resource** in the learning process, while you, the student, takes a more active role in the process. If you are new to online learning, be aware that you will need to take the initiative to read all documents and materials thoroughly for your own understanding. Self-direction and self-discipline are critical. It is up to you to keep track of deadlines and complete the weekly tasks. The quizzes, exams and weekly forums are ways for me to gauge your understanding of the teaching/learning process in which you are participating. I am here to help. If you have carefully read course materials and still have a question, post your question to the **Question and Answer Forum** right away.

Online courses take the place of three hours of lectures and outside class assignments required in a traditional face-to-face class. You should expect to devote about **10 hours per week on the online interactions and other class assignments**. Set aside specific time each week to work on this class.

### **Required Materials:**

Berk, L.E. (2017). *Exploring Lifespan Development (Fourth Edition)* Boston: Pearson.  
Gawande, A. (2014). *Being Mortal. (First Edition)*. New York: Henry Holt and Company.

**About the Texts:** The text Exploring Lifespan Development has a lot of material. It contains the latest research-based information. If it were up to me, you would read the whole text and I recommend it. With that said, I understand that you need to prioritize your reading. Each week, I will post a guide on Moodle that will help you focus on material that is most prominent in the quizzes and exams. Read the final chapters (17-19) at your convenience before your project is due so you can use this material to inform your project. Chapters 17-19 will also be on your 2<sup>nd</sup> exam.

Week 1 you begin your second text, Being Mortal: Illness, Medicine and What Matters in the End. Your project is based on this text. We will hold a 'book club' discussion forum each week during which you'll discuss topics related to the text, in addition to a discussion of book chapters, so it is important to complete your weekly assigned reading before you post your forum response (see Course Calendar at the end of this syllabus). Your weekly quizzes and exams will not include material from this book.

### **Policy Regarding Assigned Work**

You should know upfront that I do not accept late work. Most coursework is submitted/conducted online via Moodle. Do not send any course work by email. Quizzes and assignments will be posted before **9 am** on Monday and must be completed/submitted on Moodle before 9 am on the following Monday.

**Grades** are figured on a straight percentage based on the total number of points possible: A= 90-100% B= 80-89% C= 70-79% D= 60-69% F= 59% or below

## Point Earners

**Chapter Quizzes:** Take open text quizzes on Moodle, each worth 10 points (see course requirements table for more information). Quizzes cover your Exploring Lifespan Development text only. Use the **reading guide** to help you focus on what you need to know for the quizzes. Quizzes are a mix of true/false, multiple choice (one + options) and matching items. T/F = 1 point; multiple choice with 1 answer = 1 point; multiple choice with more than one 1 answer = 2 points; matching = 3 points. 15 minutes time limit.

**Exams:** Take 2 open book exams on Moodle to assess your understanding of the course material. Exam 1 covers Week 1-6 lecture material (including videos), discussion forum and text chapters (Berk: 1-10). Exam 2 covers Week 7-10 lecture material (including videos) and text chapters (Berk: 11-19) +comprehensive items. Exam 2 will also contain some comprehensive items. **Important note:** Exam 2 and all course materials cannot be accepted after 5 pm on Tuesday of finals week under any circumstances.

**Project:** This project will draw on your reading of the text Being Mortal: Medicine and What Matters in the End and the Berk text (you will need to read chapters 17-19 in the Berk text ahead of your project due date) and our related class discussions via the forum. Late projects are not accepted.

**Discussion Forum Activity:** You will participate in discussion forums about topics related to the text, Being Mortal (Gawande). For full credit, you will respond to at least 1 other classmates' post and your post should reflect integration of scientific text based or other credible information to support your perspective. This information can come from course lecture content and/or your reading, and/or the posted video/reading, and/or outside information. It is important to cite your source and provide a reference. **Posts without supportive information a citation, and a reference will lose 'quality' points.**

Participation = 4 pts.

Replied to classmate=3 pts.

Quality will affect score!

Post sufficient = add 3 pts.\*

**\*You must include reference to any of the following: text, or posted reading or video, or Lecture, name the source of your information AND Your own experience**

**More about the Discussion Forum activity:** In order to receive full credit, your forum posts must explicitly reflect an integration of the video or readings assigned for the activity and/or the ideas covered in the weekly text readings. As you are graded on 'quality' one important part of this grade is originality. It is also important that you bring your unique perspective to share in a way that is non-dogmatic so that others can "listen" and understand you. I encourage you to ask questions, agree, and disagree with others as much as possible, as long as you do so respectfully. **CONFIDENTIALITY:** You may choose to share personal anecdotes about people you know. Speak from your own perspective. Also, protect the confidentiality of others. Refer to them by first initial only (e.g. "T" rather than Thomas). You may also refer to "my sister", "my uncle", "my neighbor" or "my friend".

## Accessibility Resources

Contact me during the first week of class if: 1.You have a documented disability and need accommodations. 2. Your instructor needs to know medical information about you. 3. You need

special arrangements in the event of an emergency. If you have documented your disability, remember that you must make your request for accommodations through the Center for Accessibility Resources Online Services web page every term in order to receive accommodations. If you believe you may need accommodations but have not yet registered with CFAR, please visit the CFAR website at [www.linnbenton.edu/cfar](http://www.linnbenton.edu/cfar) for steps on how to apply for services or call 541-917-4789.

<b>Summary of Course Requirements (Point Earners)</b>				
Requirement	Summary	Points Possible per unit	Units	<b>Total</b>
<b>Forum Discussion Activity</b>	A post on your thoughts around the forum questions that includes information to back your perspective and a citation to support your information and reply to a class member's post	10	X10 posts	90
<b>Project</b>	See description on Moodle	75		75
<b>Chapter Quizzes*</b> (over text only)	Online open book quizzes over the <u>Berk text only</u> .	Variable types/ values totaling 10 points	X8 quizzes	80
<b>Exams</b> (texts, lecture, videos, and discussion forum)	Exam 1: Berk chapters 1-10 Exam 2: Berk chapters 11-19 + comprehensive	100 100		200
<b>Total Possible Points</b> 455				

**Cheating/Plagiarism:** Using someone else's work as your own or using information or ideas without proper citation (this is plagiarism) can lead to failing the assignment, test or class. References and in text citations are required whenever you use outside sources, including internet sources (unless otherwise indicated by me). Do not directly reproduce material from another source in your weekly forum or project (even if you cite it!). You must provide material written in your own words and that contain your original ideas.

<b>Week</b>	<b>Read these text chapters at beginning of week</b>	<b>Point Earners (below) are due each Monday before 9 am (on date listed below).</b>
1 1/4	Berk: 1, 2 Gawande: 1	<b>1/11</b> Online text quiz (Berk 1, 2) Discussion Forum Activity
2 1/11	Berk: 33 Gawande: 2 & 3	<b>1/18</b> Online text quiz (Berk, 3) Discussion Forum Activity
3 1/18	Berk: 4, 5 Gawande: 4 & 5	<b>1/25</b> Online text quiz (Berk 4, 5) Discussion Forum Activity
4 1/25	Berk: 6, 7 Gawande: 6	<b>2/1</b> Online text quiz (Berk 6) Discussion Forum Activity
5 2/1	Berk: 7, 8 Gawande: 7	<b>2/8</b> Online text quiz (Berk 7, 8) Discussion Forum Activity
6 2/8	Berk: 9, 10 Gawande: 8 Berk: 17*	<b>2/15</b> <b>Exam 1</b> (Berk chapters 1-10 and related class material) Discussion Forum Activity
7 2/15	Berk: 11, 12 Gawande: Epilogue Berk: 18*	<b>2/22</b> Online text quiz (Berk 11, 12) Discussion Forum Activity
8 2/22	Berk: 13, 14 Berk 19*	<b>3/1</b> Online text quiz (Berk 13, 14) Discussion Forum Activity <b>Class Project due</b>
9 3/1	Berk: 15, 16	<b>3/8</b> Online text quiz (Berk 15, 16) Discussion Forum Activity
10 3/8		<b>3/15</b> Discussion Forum Activity
11		<b>Exam 2</b> (Berk 11-19 and related class material + comprehensive) opens at 9 am on Friday, March 12 and <b>closes at 5 pm on Tuesday, March 16</b>

\* Read the final Berk chapters (17-19) at your convenience before your project is due; you'll draw from this material for your project. Chapters 17-19 will also be on your 2nd exam.