

**South Plains College**  
**Common Course Syllabus: PSYC 2314 (Lifespan Growth and Development)**  
**FALL 2024– Sections 152 and 452**

<b>Department:</b> Behavioral Sciences	<b>Prerequisite:</b> TSI reading compliance for Online
<b>Discipline:</b> Psychology	<b>Available Formats:</b> conventional and online
<b>Course Number:</b> PSYC 2314	<b>Campuses:</b> Levelland, Plainview, Lubbock Campus & Downtown Center, Online & Online Dual-Credit
<b>Course Title:</b> Lifespan Growth and Development	<b>Credit:</b> 3 <b>Lecture:</b> 3 <b>Lab:</b> 0

**Course Description:** Life-Span Growth and Development is a study of social, emotional, cognitive and physical factors and influences of a developing human from conception to death.

**This course partially satisfies a Core Curriculum Requirement:** Social and Behavioral Science Foundational Component Area (080)

**Core Curriculum Objectives addressed:**

- **Communications skills**—to include effective written, oral and visual communication
- **Critical thinking skills**—to include creative thinking, innovation, inquiry, and analysis, evaluation and synthesis of information
- **Empirical and quantitative competency skills**—to manipulate and analyze numerical data or observable facts resulting in informed conclusions
- **Social Responsibility**—to include the demonstrated knowledge and competence, knowledge of civic responsibility, and the ability to engage effectively in regional, national, and global communities

**Student Learning Outcomes:** Students who have successfully completed this course should be to be able to:

1. Describe the stages of the developing person at different periods of the life span from birth to death.
2. Discuss the social, political, economic, and cultural forces that affect the development process of the individual.
3. Identify factors of responsible personal behavior with regard to issues such as sexual activity, substance abuse, marriage and parenting.
4. Explain the biosocial, cognitive and psychological influences throughout the lifespan as an ongoing set of processes, involving both continuity and change.
5. Describe the different developmental perspectives of the major theories of development (i.e. cognitive, learning, humanistic and psychodynamic).
6. Identify examples of some of the cultural and ethnic differences that influence development throughout the lifespan.
7. Discuss the various causes or reasons for disturbances in the developmental process.

**Student Learning Outcomes Assessment:** Andrea McCourt is the faculty member who is responsible for the assessment of the student learning outcomes. She will be sending a list of which SLOs will be assessed for each semester. There are 7 outcomes and these are rotated. Dr. McCourt is also the person responsible for entry of the data into Task Stream for documentation.

**Course Evaluation:** See the instructor's course information sheet for specific items used in evaluating student performance. However, all courses will have multiple exams and written work that is designated by the instructor of record.

**Attendance/Engagement Policy:** Students are expected to engage in class each week in order to be successful in a course. "Engagement" includes learning activities such as attending class, submitting weekly online assignments, completing make-up work, etc. Due to South Plains College attendance policies, any student who fails to engage in three consecutive weeks during the semester or fails to attempt a minimum of two major grades may be dropped from the course with an 'X' or 'F.'

*Students who enroll in a course but have “Never Attended” by the official census date, as reported by the faculty member, will be administratively dropped by the Office of Admissions and Records. A student who does not meet the attendance requirements of a class as stated in the course syllabus and does not officially withdraw from that course by the official census date of the semester, may be administratively withdrawn from that course and receive a grade of “X” or “F” as determined by the instructor. Instructors are responsible for clearly stating their administrative drop policy in the course syllabus, and it is the student’s responsibility to be aware of that policy.*

*It is the student’s responsibility to verify administrative drops for excessive absences through MySPC using his or her student online account. If it is determined that a student is awarded financial aid for a class or classes in which the student never attended or participated, the financial aid award will be adjusted in accordance with the classes in which the student did attend/participate and the student will owe any balance resulting from the adjustment.*

**Plagiarism and Cheating:** Students are expected to do their own work on all projects, quizzes, assignments, examinations, and papers. Failure to comply with this policy will result in an F for the assignment and can result in an F for the course if circumstances warrant.

Plagiarism violations include, but are not limited to, the following:

1. Turning in a paper that has been purchased, borrowed, or downloaded from another student, an online term paper site, or a mail order term paper mill;
2. Cutting and pasting together information from books, articles, other papers, or online sites without providing proper documentation;
3. Using direct quotations (three or more words) from a source without showing them to be direct quotations and citing them; or
4. Missing in-text citations.

Cheating violations include, but are not limited to, the following:

1. Obtaining an examination by stealing or collusion;
2. Discovering the content of an examination before it is given;
3. Using an unauthorized source of information (notes, textbook, text messaging, internet, apps) during an examination, quiz, or homework assignment;
4. Entering an office or building to obtain unfair advantage;
5. Taking an examination for another;
6. Altering grade records;
7. Copying another’s work during an examination or on a homework assignment;
8. Rewriting another student’s work in Peer Editing so that the writing is no longer the original student’s;
9. Taking pictures of a test, test answers, or someone else’s paper.

**Student Code of Conduct Policy:** Any successful learning experience requires mutual respect on the part of the student and the instructor. Neither instructor nor student should be subject to others’ behavior that is rude, disruptive, intimidating, aggressive, or demeaning. Student conduct that disrupts the learning process or is deemed disrespectful or threatening shall not be tolerated and may lead to disciplinary action and/or removal from class.

**Please refer to the follow in link for information on SPC policies regarding Intellectual Exchange, Disabilities, Non-Discrimination, Title IX Pregnancy Accommodations, the Campus Assessment, Response, and Evaluation (CARE) Team, and Campus Concealed Carry:** [Syllabus Statements \(southplainscollege.edu\)](https://southplainscollege.edu/syllabusstatements) OR [www.southplainscollege.edu/syllabusstatements/index.php](http://www.southplainscollege.edu/syllabusstatements/index.php)

### Instructor's Course Information: PSYC 2314: Lifespan Growth and Development

<b>Name:</b> Dr. Andrea McCourt	<b>Phone Number:</b> (806)716-2458
<b>Office:</b> Levelland - Administration Room 127 Lubbock Downtown Campus Room 2005	<b>Email Address:</b> <a href="mailto:amccourt@southplainscollege.edu">amccourt@southplainscollege.edu</a>
<b>Course Website:</b> Blackboard (southplainscollege.blackboard.com)	<b>Preferred Contact Information:</b> Because I teach on multiple campuses, email is typically the fastest way to contact me.
<b>Final Exam Time:</b> Students must take the final exam during Finals Week	
<b>Office Hours:</b> Mondays: 8:45-9:30 a.m. and 1:00-4:00 (Levelland Campus) Tuesdays: 8:30-9:30 and 12:15-1:15 p.m. (Lubbock Downtown Campus) Wednesdays: 8:45-9:30 a.m. (Levelland Campus) Thursdays: 8:30-9:30 (Lubbock Downtown Campus) Fridays: Virtual and On-Campus Office Hours by Appointment	

**Textbook Information:** All reading materials are posted in Blackboard. You will not need to purchase a textbook for this class.

#### CLASSROOM POLICIES:

**Respect for Fellow Students:** It is the policy of South Plains College to offer all educational and employment opportunities without regard to race, color, national origin, religion, gender, disability or age. All students will maintain respect for fellow classmates' personal beliefs, values, morals and life situations. In short, "Bigotry will not be tolerated." (Student Guide)

**Disruptive Behavior:** Please be respectful of others and their right to learn in a peaceful educational environment. Disruptive behavior includes, but is not limited to creating distractions, talking out of turn, talking with classmates during lecture, wandering in and out of class, chronically showing up late, chronically leaving early, or improper use of technology. "Failure to comply with lawful directions of a classroom teacher relative to maintaining good order is considered misconduct on the part of the student. Repeated violations of disrupting a class will result in the student being dropped from the course." (See Student Guide)

**Electronic Devices:** Cell phones must be silenced and put away while in the classroom. Devices used for note-taking are permitted, but should be used responsibly and must not create distractions for you or others. Headphones will not be allowed during class.

**Attendance & Administrative Drop Policy:** Attendance will be taken during each class meeting. Students will be responsible for material presented and discussed in class. Due to South Plains College attendance policies, any student who fails to attend two consecutive weeks during the semester or fails to attempt a minimum of two major grades may be dropped from the course with an 'X' or 'F.'

**Tardiness:** Please do your best to manage your time well and be on time to class. If you are tardy, please enter the room quietly and take a seat as close to the door as you can get. Being late to class is disruptive to your fellow classmates. Being late to class is disruptive to your fellow classmates and is therefore subject to the same consequences listed in the Disruptive Behavior policy.

**Academic Integrity:** See College Catalog "Offering the work of another as one's own, without proper acknowledgement, is plagiarism..." For further information and examples please see [www.plagiarism.org](http://www.plagiarism.org). Handing in work that was submitted for completion of another course will not be permitted. Students found

guilty of such academic dishonesty in any form will receive a zero the work in question and will be dropped from the course with an 'F' should a second offense occur.

**Late work:** All assignments are considered late if they are not submitted by 11:59 PM CST on the day they are due. For each week that assignments are late, a 10% deduction in the overall grade for that assignment will be enforced. Assignments will not be accepted after two weeks past the original due date, except with instructor permission. Assignments other than the Final Exam will not be accepted after the last official day of class.

It is the student's responsibility to plan ahead to submit assignments on time. If you are traveling, etc. and are unsure of your access to the internet, it is strongly recommended that you plan ahead and submit assignments and take quizzes early. If for some reason the Blackboard system is down and the class has trouble accessing the quiz (this is rare but has been known to happen) I will work with the class to create a new due date. The key is this: internet access is required for this course, if you are unsure of your potential access submit early!

At times, extraordinary circumstances (death in the family, verified illness, etc.) may occur in student's lives that impact their assignment submission. In these circumstances, course assignments (e.g., quizzes, written assignments, etc.) might be granted an extension from the instructor. If you feel your circumstances warrant an extension, please email the instructor within one week of the original due date.

**Assignments will not be accepted after the last official day of regular classes (in other words, assignments cannot be submitted for credit during Final Exams Week)**

**Methods for Assessing Expected Student Learning Outcomes:** Quizzes, writing assignments, midterm exam, final exam.

### **Student Access to Office 365**

Microsoft Office 365 is now available to all SPC students. Students will have access to email, file storage, and Microsoft Office applications including Word, Excel, PowerPoint, Access, Publisher, Outlook, Skype and OneDrive by logging into <https://office.com> or <http://portal.office.com/account/#installs> for more apps.

All new student correspondence will be sent to their new o365 email account (student1234@southplainscollege.edu) and also forwarded to their Gmail account that will remain active.

## **COURSE ASSIGNMENTS/GRADING INFORMATION:**

### **Online Discussion (worth up to 200 points or 20% of the course grade):**

The Online Discussion component of this course is comprised of weekly Discussion Questions (DQs) and is an important part of class. Most weeks there will be discussion related to the course material posted in Blackboard. Students are expected to respond to ALL Main DQs. As a general rule, Main DQ responses should be at least 150 words in length. Online discussion is a very important part of online learning. Through your responses to weekly Main DQs, you will learn to integrate class material into your thoughts and learn more about how others view human development. Additional discussion with the class helps learn more about the material. As such, each week you are also expected to make at least 2 thoughtful and substantial responses to classmates. I suggest that class members participate in the online discussion at least two times per week. It is a good idea to check in early in the week and again closer to Sunday (the last day of each week of class, except as noted in the Course Schedule). This assures that you are an active member of the class throughout the week and have ample opportunity to interact with other class members. Weekly Discussion will be closed at 11:59 p.m. Central Time on Sunday nights, unless otherwise noted below.

For each Main DQ, you will be graded on (1) your response to the question and (2) your responses to classmates' discussion of that same discussion question (at least two responses required per discussion question). Weekly Online Discussion Will Be Graded as Follows:

Responses to Main DQs should:

- be made in a timely fashion that gives others an opportunity to respond
- include accurate information and be on topic
- be thoughtful, organized, and analyze the information and/or question
- incorporate and cite information from the textbook, outside academic sources, credible websites, etc.
- utilize appropriate language, grammar, and spelling

Responses to Classmates' Postings should:

- include at least 2 responses to classmates
- add to the overall value of the discussion (simply posting a statement of "I thought this week's ideas were neat" or "I agree") will not count towards your participation points
- utilize appropriate language, grammar, and spelling

### **Quizzes (collectively quizzes will be worth a total of 300 points or 30% of the overall course grade):**

Most chapters/units will have a quiz primarily based on the textbook to promote your understanding and knowledge of the material. These quizzes will allow you to take stock of your current understanding of the material. Although these are open book and open note, I strongly recommend you do the reading and review your notes first and then test your understanding via the quiz. You must work independently on the quizzes. Quizzes are designed to assess your understanding of the course materials..

All quizzes are taken in Blackboard and are timed. Once you start a quiz, you must complete it. You will not be able to log back into a quiz once you have opened it. Please make arrangements to take each quiz on a computer with a secure internet connection. You must take the quizzes individually. Please see the course schedule for due dates.

### **Exams (worth up to 125 points for each exam for 37.5% of the overall course grade)**

These objective (true/false, matching, multiple choice exam) will be taken in class. This exam will be cumulative for the first half of the semester.

**Adult Development Analysis (worth up to 125 points or 12.5% of the overall course grade)**

For this assignment, students will analyze a modern film that features adults at different life stages (emerging adulthood, young adulthood, middle adulthood, and late adulthood). This analysis involves viewing the film and completing a Blackboard assignment related to the analysis. More details on this assignment will be provided in class.

**Make-up exams:** Students should make every possible effort to take each exam on the scheduled date and time. If necessary, students may only take one make-up exam during the entire semester. If you will be missing an exam, you must inform the instructor at least 24 hours prior to the scheduled exam time. If students fail to notify the instructor 24 hours prior to the exam, the make-up exam will automatically be scheduled during finals week. If you fail to attend your scheduled make-up, your grade for that exam will be a zero, no exceptions.

**Grading Policy & Method of Evaluation:****Summary of Assignments**

<b>Assignment</b>	<b>Possible Points</b>
Online Discussion	200
Online Quizzes	300
Adult Development Analysis	125
Exam 1	125
Exam 2	125
Exam 3	125
<b>Total Points Possible =</b>	<b>1000</b>

Final Grades will be determined by calculating the total amount of points earned by you this semester. Using the scale below, your instructor will determine the corresponding letter grade.

- A = 900-1000 points
- B = 800-899 points
- C = 700-799 points
- D = 600-699 points
- F = 599 (or below) points

<b>TENTATIVE COURSE CALENDAR/OUTLINE</b>		
<b>Calendar Week/Dates</b>	<b>Course Topics and Assigned Readings</b>	<b>Assignments</b> <i>(due in Blackboard by 11:59 PM on Sundays unless otherwise noted)</i>
<b>Week One</b> August 26-September 1	Overview of Lifespan Growth and Human Development  READ: Textbook Chapter titled "Lifespan Development"	Online Discussion
<b>Week Two</b> September 2-8	Psychological Research  READ: Textbook Chapter titled "Psychological Research"	Online Discussion  Online Quiz #1
<b>Week Three</b> September 9-15	Theories of Development  READ: Textbook Chapter titled "Developmental Theories"	Online Discussion
<b>Week Four</b> September 16-22	Development of the Brain  READ: Learning materials posted in Blackboard	Online Discussion  Online Quiz #2
<b>Week Five</b> September 23-29	Heredity, Prenatal Development, & Labor and Delivery  READ: Textbook Chapter titled "Prenatal Development"	Online Discussion  Online Quiz #3
<b>Week Six</b> September 30-October 6	EXAM #1	<b>EXAM #1</b>
<b>Week Seven</b> October 7-13	Physical Development (Infancy Through Adolescence)  READ: Textbook Chapter titled "Physical Development Infancy Through Adolescence"	Online Discussion  Online Quiz #4
<b>Week Eight</b> October 14-20	Cognitive Development (Infancy Through Adolescence)  READ: Textbook Chapter titled "Cognitive Development Infancy Through Adolescence"	Online Discussion  Online Quiz #5



<b>Week Nine</b> October 21-27	Psychosocial Development (Infancy Through Adolescence)  READ: Textbook Chapter titled "Psychosocial Development Infancy Through Adolescence"	Online Discussion  Online Quiz #6
<b>Week Ten</b> October 28-November 3	EXAM #2	<b>EXAM #2</b>
<b>Week Eleven</b> November 4-10	Physical Development in Adulthood  READ: Textbook Chapter titled "Physical Development in Adulthood"	Online Discussion  Online Quiz #7
<b>Week Twelve</b> November 11-17	Cognitive Development in Adulthood  READ: Textbook Chapter titled "Cognitive Development in Adulthood"	Online Discussion  Online Quiz #8
<b>Week Thirteen</b> November 18-24	Psychosocial Development in Adulthood & Death and Dying  READ: Textbook Chapter titled "Psychosocial Development in Adulthood"	Quiz #9
<b>Week Fourteen</b> November 25-December 1	EXAM #3	<b>EXAM #3</b>
<b>Week Fifteen</b> December 2-8	Death and Dying  READ: Textbook Chapter titled "Death and Dying"	Online Discussion  Quiz #10
<b>Final Week of Class</b>  <b>December 9-12</b>	Development During Adulthood	<b>ADULT DEVELOPMENT ANALYSIS (submitted as a Blackboard Quiz) is Due by 11:59 PM on Tuesday, December 10</b>

**IMPORTANT DATES:**

First day of class	August 26
12th class day (non-attending students will be dropped)	September 11
Fall Break (all campuses are closed)	October 18
Thanksgiving Break	November 27-30
Last day to drop/withdraw from a class	December 2
Final Exams Week	December 9-12

**Note: The instructor reserves the right to modify the course syllabus and policies, as well as notify students of any changes, at any point during the semester.**