

Course Information:

PSYC 4353.062 – Developmental Psychology
Summer 2026
Virtual, Asynchronous

Instructor Information:

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Course Catalog Description:

The study of theory and current research on developmental psychology across the lifespan, with an emphasis on the growth of personality and cognitive abilities, the interaction of heredity and environment, including the influence of family, peers, and social and cultural context, and transitions.

Required Text:

- Lifespan Development: A Psychological Perspective (2022). Lally & Valentine-French. Link to Open Access Textbook: <https://open.umn.edu/opentextbooks/textbooks/540>

Evaluation & Grading: 1,000 points total

- Discussion Board Posts – 250 points (25%)
 - Discussion Board Post 1 – 50 points
 - Discussion Board Post 2 – 100 points
 - Discussion Board Post 3 – 100 points
- Reflection Activities – 350 points (35%)
 - Reflection Activity 1 – 150 points
 - Reflection Activity 2 – 200 points
- Quizzes – 400 points (40%)
 - Quiz 1 – 100 points
 - Quiz 2 – 100 points
 - Quiz 3 – 200 points

Grading Scale

90 – 100%	A	900-1000 points
80 – 89%	B	800-899 points
70 – 79%	C	700-799 points
60 – 69%	D	600-699 points
0 – 59%	F	0-599 points

Assignment Descriptions:

Reflective Activities

There will be two Reflective Activities in this course. These two assignments will focus on specific developmental stages and how these stages have directly impacted real individuals. The Reflective

Activities will be submitted in essay format via Canvas. The essays must be formatted in APA style and include a list of references (if applicable). Further instructions will be provided on Canvas.

Discussion Board Posts

You are required to complete three Discussion Board Posts throughout this course, each worth 100 points. Each post should be a brief but thoughtful reflection on a given topic or question related to the assigned weekly reading. Some posts may require you to upload documents or slides. Topics or questions will be posted on Canvas, and your responses must be submitted by 11:59 PM on the due date listed in the course schedule. Late submissions will not be accepted or graded.

Each Discussion Board Post should include an "Initial Post" that answers the question and at least two responses to your peers' posts. Ensure all posts adhere to proper grammar and syntax, reflecting the senior-level writing standard expected in this class.

Quizzes

There will be three quizzes in this course, each worth 80 points. The quizzes will feature multiple-choice, fill-in-the-blank, and/or case study questions, covering material from the provided slides and textbook.

Extra Credit (Optional)

There is one opportunity for extra credit during this course. If all the requirements are met for the extra credit assignment, then full points will be rewarded. If your submission for this assignment does not meet all the requirements, then no points will be rewarded. Points from this extra credit assignment will be added to your overall points for the class. The guidelines for the extra credit assignment will be posted on Canvas.

Course Schedule:

Week	Topic/Readings	Assignments Due
Week 1: June 1-5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chapter 2 - Heredity, Prenatal Development, & Birth • Chapter 3 - Infancy & Toddlerhood 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Discussion Board Post 1 Due June 5 by 11:59 PM • *Start Infant Care Interview*
Week 2: June 8-12	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chapter 4 - Early Childhood • Chapter 5 - Middle & Late Childhood 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Infant Care Interview and Reflection Due June 12 by 11:59 PM • Discussion Board Post 2 Due June 12 by 11:59 PM
Week 3: June 15-19	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chapter 6 - Adolescence • Chapter 7 - Emerging & Established Adulthood 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Quiz 1 Due June 19 by 11:59 PM • Discussion Board Post 3 Due June 19 by 11:59 PM
Week 4: June 22-26	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chapter 8 - Middle Adulthood • Chapter 9 - Late Adulthood 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Quiz 2 Due June 26 by 11:59 PM
Week 5: June 29-Jul 3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chapter 10 - Death & Dying • Review for Quiz - Cumulative Review 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ageism Reflection Due July 2 by 11:59 PM • Cumulative Quiz 3 Due July 2 by 11:59 PM

Course Policies:

Virtual Classroom Environment

Creating a respectful and inclusive virtual classroom environment is essential. Everyone should feel comfortable expressing their thoughts without fear of harsh or judgmental responses. I expect all students to be respectful of the diverse experiences and backgrounds of your classmates, and you can expect the same respect from me. Disrespect or discrimination of any kind, including but not limited to ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation, physical ability, socioeconomic status, religion, or value system, will not be tolerated.

IMPORTANT: The classroom is NOT a place to discuss one's own problems or to obtain help if you are going through an acute problem. I can, outside of class, help direct a student to services they might need, although the best and most appropriate resource is often the Student Counseling Center, 903-566-7254, located in the University Center, which is covered by your student services fees.
<http://www.uttyler.edu/counseling/services.html>

Online Course

This course is 100% online. Your ability to function within the Canvas system will facilitate your success in this course. Online learning requires students to be very self-disciplined. Be sure you understand and are prepared to comply with all required class assignments and deadlines. For this course, refer to the syllabus for all assignments and due dates.

Late Work

Late work will be accepted for written assignments, excluding Discussion Board posts, with the understanding that points will be deducted due to lateness (10% will be deducted each day the assignment is late). Quizzes cannot be taken late unless there are severe extenuating circumstances.

Utilizing AI

UT Tyler is committed to exploring and using artificial intelligence (AI) tools as appropriate for the discipline and task undertaken. We encourage discussing AI tools' ethical, societal, philosophical, and disciplinary implications. All uses of AI should be acknowledged as this aligns with our commitment to honor and integrity, as noted in UT Tyler's Honor Code. Faculty and students must not use protected information, data, or copyrighted materials when using any AI tool. Additionally, users should be aware that AI tools rely on predictive models to generate content that may appear correct but is sometimes shown to be incomplete, inaccurate, taken without attribution from other sources, and/or biased. Consequently, an AI tool should not be considered a substitute for traditional approaches to research. You are ultimately responsible for the quality and content of the information you submit. Misusing AI tools that violate the guidelines specified for this course (see below) is considered a breach of academic integrity. The student will be subject to disciplinary actions as outlined in UT Tyler's Academic Integrity Policy.

For this course, to best support your learning, you must complete all graded assignments by yourself to assist in your learning. This exclusion of other resources to help complete assignments includes artificial intelligence (AI). Please refrain from using AI tools to generate any content for any assignment.