

SYLLABUS

COURSE INFORMATION

PSYC 2320.060: Lifespan Developmental Psychology
FALL 2026- ONLINE

INSTRUCTOR INFORMATION

Rachel Bloser, MA, LPC, NCC

Email: rachel.bloser@gmail.com

Office hours: Contact me to set up Zoom meeting

Contact Information: The best way to contact me is via Canvas messages. I also check my personal email (posted above) frequently. If I do not respond to your message within 48 hours, please message me again.

COURSE CATALOG DESCRIPTION

Physiological, perceptual, cognitive, social, and affective change from conception to death, with an emphasis on transitions and developmental challenges throughout the lifespan.

STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES & ASSESSMENTS

As a result of taking this course, successful students will be able to:

- Identify the primary reasons for studying human development across the lifespan.
- Describe the process of researching developmental changes over time.
- Identify, explain, and apply the major theories of human development across different stages of life.
- Identify and explain the impact/interaction between genes and environment on development.
- Describe factors that may affect development at different stages of life.
- Identify the main stages of prenatal development and the process of birth.
- Identify and explain the primary biological, cognitive, and psychosocial changes that occur during infancy, early childhood, middle childhood, adolescence, emerging adulthood, adulthood, and late adulthood.
- Demonstrate an understanding of how cultural differences can impact development.
- Demonstrate the ability to apply developmental research to current social issues.

REQUIRED ONLINE PLATFORM (INCLUDES E-BOOK)

Kathleen Stassen Berger: Invitation to the Life Span, 6th Edition, Worth Publishers, 2025.
ISBN 9781319564575: Read and Practice for Invitation to the Life Span (1-Term Access)

OPTIONAL

Kathleen Stassen Berger: Invitation to the Life Span, 6th Edition, Worth Publishers, 2025.
ISBN 9781319603861: Loose Leaf Version for Invitation to the Life Span & Read and Practice for Invitation to the Life Span

NOTE: A student at UT-Tyler is not under any obligation to purchase textbook/online platform access from a university affiliated bookstore. The same may also be available from an independent retailer, including an online retailer.

TEACHING STRATEGIES

I love this course and want you to learn the material and see the applicability to your own life! Therefore, this online class will require a variety of assignments and there is a lot to it. Please read this syllabus thoroughly, view informational videos I attach in the course, read essay guidelines, and attend the opening Zoom meeting to have any questions answered.

You will be required to purchase the online Achieve Access- this will be used to complete assignments and gives you access to the e-textbook. You can also purchase a desk copy of this

textbook, but it is not necessary. It is expected in this online class that you read the book to learn the course material and use the posted chapter slides and videos to supplement the book material. You will be able to move through this course at your own pace, although there will be certain due dates throughout the semester to keep you on track. Due dates are posted below.

As you read each chapter, it is important to follow along with the PowerPoint slides and watch any corresponding videos (These will be posted throughout the semester- not all at the start of the semester). You will be required to complete the LearningCurve assignments for each chapter. Once you have completed the chapters that will be on each exam, take the exam. I do not recommend you move forward on the assignments before taking the exams for completed chapters. Multiple essay assignments will also be due throughout the semester. These are related to corresponding chapters. You will benefit from completing these as you work through the corresponding chapter.

IMPORTANT NOTES

- **There is no excuse for assignments and exams not being completed on time.** There will be plenty of time to complete these assignments. I recommend you do not wait until the last minute. Poor Wi-Fi, accidentally closing out the exam, called into work, etc. will not get you an extension on anything. Due dates are clearly posted. Plan accordingly.
- On exams, the questions will be shown one at a time and lock after they are answered. The questions will not necessarily be in the same order as your book, so be prepared and know the information. You will only be able to see your correct/incorrect answers one time on each quiz.
- If an embedded video does not open on Canvas, there is a "link to an external site" button to the right of the video title. This will open the webpage with the video and you can watch it there.

EVALUATION AND GRADING

Exams 225 points – 3 exams, worth 75 points each

Cumulative Final Exam 75 points

Learning Curve Assignments 250 points – 25 assignments, worth 10 points each

Reflection Essay 50 points

TED Talk Essays 50 points- 2 assignments, worth 25 points each

Total Possible Points 650 points

Any extra credit points will be added to your overall point total at the end of the semester.

GRADE ASSIGNMENT

A = 585 – 650 points

B = 520 – 584 points

C = 455 – 519 points

D = 390 – 454 points

F = 389 points or below

In order to calculate your grade, keep track of the number of points you accumulate throughout the semester. Grades will be assigned based on the point distribution listed above.

Although it is not included in the grading rubric, do not forget the Research Requirement. It will result in a loss of 10% of your grade if not completed.

EXAMS

There will be 3 multiple choice exams given during the semester. Each exam is worth 75 points. You will be given 60 minutes to complete each 75 questions exam. Once you begin the exam, you cannot close it out or pause time. The exam will be accessible for you to take whenever you would like as long as you complete each exam by their posted due date. You must complete it within 60 minutes

once you begin. Exams will cover information from textbook readings and PowerPoint slides. Your LearningCurve assignments will be very helpful for you to prepare for these exams.

The exams are worth a total of 225 points.

FINAL EXAM

The final is worth 75 points. It will include 150 questions, and you will be given 100 minutes to complete it. It will be multiple choice questions, covering all chapters (1-15) from your textbook.

ACHIEVE LEARNINGCURVE ADAPTIVE QUIZZES:

There will be 25 adaptive quizzing assignments throughout the semester. Achieve LearningCurve is an adaptive quizzing tool that will present you with quiz questions and adapt questions based on your success. Each question will earn you points, until you reach the score needed. You will receive immediate feedback after each question and be able to view your progress. You can pause these assignments and complete them later if needed and you can access the e-book without penalty. These assignments will take longer if you are doing poorly on them. Plan accordingly! **DON'T WAIT UNTIL THE LAST MINUTE TO COMPLETE THESE!!!**

Each assignment is worth 10 points. This is an all or nothing assignment- you must complete the entire assignment to receive 10 points, otherwise you receive 0. Some chapters have 2

LearningCurve assignments, other chapters only have 1.

The assignments will be accessible for you to take whenever you would like as long as you complete by their posted due date. There is more explanation, videos, examples, and an orientation assignment on Canvas. The LearningCurve assignments are worth a total of 250 points.

REFLECTION PAPER

This is an essay that allows you to reflect on what you have learned in this course and apply it to your own life. This assignment requires you to understand a learned concept in depth, further explain it, and then show how it relates to you. Grading rubric and more information will be posted on Canvas. This paper is worth 50 points.

TED TALK ESSAYS

There will be 2 TED talk assignments that are due throughout the semester. In each of these assignments you will be asked to watch multiple TED talk videos that are related to this course. Pick the (1) video that resonates the most with you and complete the essay assignment. Each of these assignments will be worth 25 points, totaling 50 points of your grade. The guidelines and videos are posted on Canvas. Due dates are below.

EXTRA CREDIT OPTIONS

I may offer extra credit opportunities such as volunteering in the counseling clinic or attending guest speakers (in my in-person PSYC class). If I do offer any, they will be clearly posted on Canvas. Please do not ask me for any additional extra credit. I do not offer it to some and not others.

UT TYLER PSYCHOLOGY DEPARTMENT RESEARCH REQUIREMENT

The Psychology Department requires that all students taking 1000- and 2000-level psychology courses to complete a research requirement.

*****This is a requirement for the psychology department, not for this class specifically. It does not contribute to your overall points but will result in a reduction of 65 points (10%) if you do not complete it. THIS IS AN ENTIRE LETTER GRADE!!!*****

There are two ways to fulfill the requirement:

1. You may complete research credits by participating in psychology studies. A credit is earned for every 30 minutes of research participation. Most studies are 30 minutes long or less, so most studies will count as 1 credit. If the study is longer than 30 minutes, you will receive 2 credits. The number of

credits required varies from one course to the next, and your instructor will tell you how many credits are required to complete the research requirement in his or her specific course. This course requires 6 research credits to be obtained during the semester (3 hours).

2. In lieu of the research participation, you may instead complete a 5-page research report on a topic concerning developmental psychology. The topic for the paper can be found in Canvas. If you do the paper, you do NOT have to participate in psychology research on campus (option 1). This is merely another option for obtaining your 6 research credits. If your paper is acceptable, then you will receive your 6 credits. If it is not acceptable, you will be notified to revise and resubmit by the final deadline.

Due Date:

If you choose to complete the research participation, at least 3 of the credits must be submitted on or before **October 18, 2026**. Failure to do so will result in a 5% reduction to your final course grade. The remaining 3 credits needed to fulfill the requirement must be submitted on or before **December 6, 2026**. Failure to submit the remaining credits by this date will result in an additional 5% reduction to your final grade.

If you choose to complete the research paper, it must be submitted by **December 6, 2026**. There is a tab in Canvas with further instructions about this requirement.

More detailed information about this requirement is posted under a module in Canvas.

CLASS SCHEDULE AND DUE DATES:

Reminder: You can move through the chapters at your own pace. I will stay at least one week ahead of due dates by posting slides and assignments. However, you must have these assignments turned in by these dates- **late assignments will not be accepted**. Some weeks are busier than others so plan accordingly. You may want to work ahead of required due dates. Exam dates are not flexible, so you cannot take those early.

ZOOM MEETING: August 28, 2025 at 8:00 PM

I will host a zoom meeting that will cover the information for this course. Please attend to hear me better explain the course and answer any additional questions you may have. This is optional.

Due Date:	Assignment Due:
All assignments are due by this date (Sundays) at 11:59 PM	
August 30, 2026	Learning Curve Orientation Due (10 points) Read through syllabus thoroughly Watch informational videos Read essay guidelines and grading rubrics
September 6, 2026	LearningCurve 1a (10 points) LearningCurve 1b (10 points)
September 13, 2026	LearningCurve 2a (10 points) LearningCurve 2b (10 points)
September 20, 2026	LearningCurve 3a (10 points) LearningCurve 3b (10 points)
September 27, 2026	LearningCurve 4a (10 points) LearningCurve 4b (10 points) Exam # 1 (Chapters 1-4): Available 09/24 at 6:00 pm (75 points)
October 4, 2026	LearningCurve 5a (10 points) LearningCurve 5b (10 points)
October 11, 2026	LearningCurve 6a (10 points) LearningCurve 6b (10 points)
October 18, 2026	LearningCurve 7a (10 points) LearningCurve 7b (10 points) TED Talk Essay 1 Due (25 points) <i>3 Psychology Research Credits Due</i>
October 25, 2026	LearningCurve 8a (10 points) LearningCurve 8b (10 points) LearningCurve 9a (10 points)
November 1, 2026	LearningCurve 10a (10 points) Exam # 2 (Chapters 5-10) Available 10/29 at 6:00 pm (75 points)
November 8, 2026	LearningCurve 11a (10 points) Reflection Paper Due (50 points)
November 15, 2026	LearningCurve 12a (10 points)
November 22, 2026	LearningCurve 13a (10 points)
November 29, 2026	LearningCurve 14a (10 points) TED Talk Essay 2 Due (25 points)
December 6, 2026	LearningCurve 15a (10 points) LearningCurve 15b (10 points) Exam 3 (Chapters 11-15) Available 12/03 at 6:00 pm (75 points) <i>Psychology Research Credits/Alternative Research Paper Due</i>
December 13, 2026	Final Exam (Chapters 1-15) Available 12/08 at 6pm (75 points)