PSYC 4353.001: LIFESPAN DEVELOPMENT
Fall 2026
Syllabus

Class information:

Class time: Monday, Wednesday, Friday; 9:05-10:00 AM
Classroom: HPR 253 (In Person)

Instructor: Dr. Amy Hayes, Associate Professor of Psychology

Office: BEP 253
Email: ahayes@uttyler.edu
Office Phone: 903-565-5753
Office hours: Mondays 10-11, Wednesdays 10-12

Text: Lifespan Development: A Psychological Perspective (2022). Lally & Valentine-French.
Link to Open Access Textbook: https://www.clcillinois.edu/programs/psy/openeducation

Course Overview:

The primary purpose of this course is to examine the physical, cognitive, and social development of infants, children, adolescents, and adults, and the various factors (e.g., genetics, parenting, peer groups, schools) that influence development. Prominent theories of development and research methods used in developmental psychology are reviewed. Specific topics that are covered include: prenatal development, aggression, attachment, gender development, language development, moral development, cognitive development, cultural influences, school settings, and aging.

This is a face to face, in person class. I will generally introduce each topic with some background information and/or lecture on some selected aspect of each topic, but much of what you learn from the class will be information that you glean from the readings and class discussions. Active student attendance and participation will be required. **Classes will be delivered in person and will not be streamed on zoom.**

Evaluation and Grading:

TESTS:

Fifty percent of your class grade will come from tests over course content. Tests will be given online through Canvas. There are 4 tests, each covering roughly 25% of the course material. Each exam will be open on canvas for a whole day, and you will have one hour to complete it once it's open.

APPLICATION MINI-PROJECTS: You will need to complete 2 application assignments throughout the course of the semester. These are opportunities for you to experience and think about factors that influence development in a real-world setting, apply what you have learned in the class, and reflect on ways that the place or resource could be improved based on what you know about human development. The three assignments are spread out over the course of the semester, and you will need to pick 2 of them to complete. Detailed instructions for each of the assignments appear on Canvas. The topics are:

I. Infant Care Interview
II. Adolescent Parenting Infographic
III. Ageism Movie Review

IN CLASS PARTICIPATION: Participation grades will be based on completing a series of in-class assignments that will be distributed throughout the semester. Grades for each assignment will be either a "complete" or "incomplete". I will not announce the dates of the assignments ahead of time. Your final participation grade will be the percentage of complete assignments that you handed in.

Class Grade Breakdown:

Assignment	Percentage of Grade
Tests	50%
Application Mini-Projects	40%
In-class Participation	10%
Total points	100%

Course Policies:

Class participation and communication: The bulk of class time will be devoted to introducing you to the study of developmental psychology, discussing the readings, and critically evaluating course material. I highly encourage active class participation and reading of the course material in advance. Please take the opportunity to attend office hours as well, as they allow for more in depth conversations about course material than is possible during lecture. If you would like to meet with me and cannot attend my scheduled office hours, please contact me to schedule an appointment. Email communication is also encouraged. I will make routine announcements and class reminders through Canvas. **Please remember to check your Patriots email account in order to receive these reminders.**

Lecture Policies: Lectures will include material that is not in the textbook. If you miss a class, it will be your responsibility to find out from a classmate what happened in class (including handouts, assigned readings, announcements, and lecture content.

PSYCHOLOGY 4353: COURSE OUTLINE

WEEK	TOPIC	READINGS and assignments
Aug 24-28	Introduction to Lifespan Development	Ch. 1
Aug 31-Sep 4	Heredity, Prenatal Development and Birth	Chs. 2
Sep 7-11	**Sep 7- No class for Labor day** Infancy and Toddlerhood	Ch. 3
Sep 14-18	Infancy and Toddlerhood continued; **Friday- Test 1**	
Sep 21-25	Early Childhood	Ch. 4
Sep 28 – Oct 2	Middle Childhood	Ch. 5
Oct 5-9	Middle Childhood Wrap up	
Oct 12-16	**Monday: Test 2** Wednesday: Adolescence	Ch. 6
Oct 19-23	Adolescence Continued	Ch. 7
Oct 26-30	Emerging/Established Adulthood	
Nov 2-6	Middle Adulthood	Ch. 8
Nov 9-13	**Monday: Test 3** Wednesday- Late Adulthood	Ch. 9
Nov 16-20	Late Adulthood Death and Dying	Ch. 10
Nov 23-27	**Thanksgiving Break: No Class**	
Nov 30-Dec 4	Death and Dying Continued **Friday: Test 4**	