

**DEP3053, Section #5418
DEVELOPMENTAL PSYCHOLOGY, LIFESPAN, FALL 2013**

Instructor

Dr. Natalie Ebner
Assistant Professor
082 Psychology Bldg.

Meeting time

Tuesdays: 1:55PM – 2:45PM &
Thursdays: 1:55PM - 3:50PM (15
minutes break)

Teaching Assistants

Phoua Yang
520 McCarty C

Cortlandt Halsey
505 McCarty C

**Office hours (office in #082
Psychology Bldg.)**

Dr. Ebner:
By appointment
E-mail: natalie.ebner@ufl.edu

**Class Meets in
LIT 0101**

Phoua Yang:
Fridays: 1PM – 2PM
& by appointment
E-mail: pyang@ufl.edu

Course website
<https://lss.at.ufl.edu/>

Cortlandt Halsey:
Wednesdays: 9AM – 10AM
& by appointment
E-mail: cvhalsey@ufl.edu

**Use these email addresses for all email correspondence. Use your Gatorlink email addresses for all communication with the instructor or TAs. Always contact the TAs first with questions and only in cases where the issue cannot be solved or if the question is related to grades contact Dr. Ebner directly.

Course Description

Lifespan developmental psychology asserts that human development is a lifelong process that begins in infancy and continues unfolding through childhood, adolescence, adulthood, and old age. This course provides an introduction to the fundamental concepts and empirical research on the development and changes in perception, cognition, emotion, and social functioning over the human lifespan. In addition to learning the foundational and modern-day research in the study of lifespan development with a particular emphasis on the interplay of biological, psychological and contextual factors, students will learn to evaluate empirical research, develop critical thinking, and draw connections to everyday phenomena. We will accomplish these course goals through presentations and discussions, quizzes, and exams. In particular, the course uses a lecture style that involves in-depth reading of introductory book chapters. However, as part of understanding and applying developmental concepts, there will be opportunities for in-class participation and discussions. The course provides experiences that help you digest what you read, but taking and benefiting from the class relies on you reading the assigned chapters and responding to reading-related questions prior to the class in which they will be reviewed.

Specific objectives/learning goals of the course:

- Understanding of physical, cognitive, and socioemotional aspects of psychological lifespan development
- Integration of theories and empirical research findings of lifespan developmental psychology and their relations to real-world experiences
- Readings, LearnSmart modules, lectures, active in-class participation, and exams aim at acquiring and consolidating core knowledge. The essay assignment provides the opportunity for students to learn about development across adulthood via individual experiences and to integrate this information with the research literature.

Some Helpful Advice

- Attend class regularly and actively participate in class
- Read text; concentrate on sections that correspond to lectures; you are also responsible for other sections of the text not covered in detail during class
- Complete the Connect LearnSmart Modules
- Have a good set of notes; pay attention to details; PowerPoint lecture slides will be posted online AFTER each session. However, do not rely on these slides to substitute for missing class, rather be sure to have a good set of notes.
- Be sure to monitor Sakai, Connect, and your email for announcements

Required Materials

Santrock, J. W. (2012). *Life-Span Development*, 14th Edition. New York: McGraw-Hill.

As part of the course, you are required to register for the online Connect learning modules associated with the textbook as well as Poll Everywhere for classroom response. If you purchased the text book from the UF bookstore, it comes with an access code that will allow you to register. If you don't have that version of the textbook, then it is possible to purchase the Connect access code online the first time you sign on to complete an assignment in Connect. See announcements on the Sakai course website for detailed information about how to register for Connect and Poll Everywhere.

Course Website

Go to <https://lss.at.ufl.edu/> to access the Sakai course website. A copy of the syllabus, copies of the lecture slides (after each class), class announcements, etc., will be posted on this website. Also, please check your email accounts regularly as announcements may be sent via email as well. Use of these course website will be reviewed during the first day of class.

Topic Timeline and Readings/Assignments

Date	Week/ Class	Topic/Assignment	Readings
Thurs 8/22/13	1/1	Introduction I McGraw Hill Representative Visits the Class	No readings
Tues 8/27/13	2/2	Introduction II	Chapter 1
Thurs 8/29/13	2/3	Biological Beginnings	Chapter 2
Tues 9/03/13	3/4	Prenatal Development and Birth	Chapter 3
Thurs 9/05/13	3/5	Physical Development in Infancy; Librarian Visits the Class	Chapter 4
Tues 9/10/13	4/6	Cognitive Development in Infancy	Chapter 5
Thurs 9/12/13	4/7	Socioemotional Development in Infancy	Chapter 6
Tues 9/17/13	5/8	Physical and Cognitive Development in Early Childhood	Chapter 7
Thurs 9/19/13	5/9	Socioemotional Development in Early Childhood	Chapter 8

Date	Week/ Class	Topic/Assignment	Readings
Tues 9/24/13	6/10	Physical and Cognitive Development in Middle and Late Childhood	Chapter 9
Thurs 9/26/13	6/11	Socioemotional Development in Middle and Late Childhood	Chapter 10
Tues 10/01/13	7/12	Review/Question & Answer	No readings
Thurs 10/03/13	7/13	Exam 1	No readings
Tues 10/08/13	8/14	Physical Development in Adolescence	Chapter 11
Thurs 10/10/13	8/15	Cognitive Development in Adolescence	Chapter 11
Tues 10/15/13	9/16	Socioemotional Development in Adolescence	Chapter 12
Thurs 10/17/13	9/17	Physical Development in Early Adulthood	Chapter 13
Tues 10/22/13	10/18	Cognitive Development in Early Adulthood	Chapter 13
Thurs 10/24/13	10/19	Socioemotional Development in Early Adulthood	Chapter 14
Tues 10/29/13	11/20	Physical Development in Middle Adulthood	Chapter 15
Thurs 10/31/13	11/21	Cognitive Development in Middle Adulthood	Chapter 15
Tues 11/05/13	12/22	Socioemotional Development in Middle Adulthood	Chapter 16
Thurs 11/07/13	12/23	Physical Development in Late Adulthood	Chapter 17
Tues 11/12/13	13/24	Cognitive Development in Late Adulthood	Chapter 18
Thurs 11/14/13	13/25	Socioemotional Development in Late Adulthood	Chapter 19
Tues 11/19/13	14/26	Death, Dying, and Grieving, Review/Question & Answer	Chapter 20
Thurs 11/21/13	14/27	Exam 2	No readings
Tues 11/26/13	15/28	Open discussion	No readings
Thurs 11/28/13	15/--	No class --- Thanksgiving Break	No readings
Tues 12/03/13	16/29	Open discussion Submit UP Series essay	No readings

Course Requirements & Grading

Grading follows the scale below:

Grade	%	Points
A	94 - 100	470 - 500
A-	90 - 93.9	450 - 469
B+	87 - 89.9	435 - 449
B	83 - 86.9	415 - 434
B-	80 - 82.9	400 - 414
C+	77 - 79.9	385 - 399
C	73 - 76.9	365 - 384
C-	70 - 72.9	350 - 364
D	67 - 69.9	335 - 349
E	< 67	< 335

Note. Point values, NOT percentage values, will be used to calculate final grades. Do not plan on rounding up to calculate your final grade. Please also visit <http://www.registrar.ufl.edu/catalog/policies/regulationgrades.html> for information on current UF grading policies for assigning grade points. This course does not issue D+ or D- grades.

Grades will be posted online on Sakai at <http://lss.at.ufl.edu/> in a timely manner.

The final grade is a composite of the following **course requirements**:

(1) Attendance and Active In-Class Participation (50 points; 10%)

For optimal learning, it is important and required that students attend class sessions regularly, take notes, and participate in class discussions and activities throughout the entire semester. To foster an environment that is conducive to all students' learning, please arrive on time to class with cell phones silenced and computers turned off. There will be 29 class sessions that will offer opportunities for lively and informed in-class participation. You are allowed to miss 4 class sessions (not exam sessions) without penalty. For each attended session 2 points will be assigned, for a total of **50 points** (10% of the final grade).

(2) Readings & Connect LearnSmart Module (50 points; 10%)

There are 23 sessions with assigned readings. All assigned readings must be completed before each class. In addition to the reading, each session has an online learning module (LearnSmart) in Connect that tests you on important material before each session and will also be useful for preparing for the finals. Each learning module takes about 30 minutes to complete. You are allowed to skip or drop 3 learning modules without penalty. You will receive 2.5 points for each of the 20 required LearnSmart modules, when completed within the deadline, for a total of **50 points** (10% of the final grade) over the course of the semester.

(3) Exams (250 points; 50%)

There will be two exams during the semester (see topic timeline for dates), each covering roughly 1/2 of the course material. These exams will consist of multiple choice and short answer questions. Answers to the questions should draw on the assigned readings and the material presented and discussed in class. Exams will emphasize lecture material (which largely overlap with the text but we will also often go more in depth on particular topics) and will also cover information in the text that we do not cover unless told otherwise. Prior each of the exams, study questions will be provided for exam preparation. Answering these practice questions will be of considerable benefit in preparing for the exams. The exam will take place during the regular class meeting time. There will be block-out time in the class session prior to each exam for review and for students to clarify any questions they may have. As a whole, exams account for **250 points** (50% of the final grade; 125 points (25%) each).

(4) UP Series Documentaries (150 points; 30%)

This is an individual work project. It entails watching the UP Series Documentaries and writing a 3-4 page essay about one of the characters in the series. Each individual step of this assignment and respective grading are outlined in detail in a separate document posted on Sakai under *Assignments*. As a whole, this UP Series Documentary assignment accounts for **150 points** (30% of the final grade).

Extensions

Any requests for an extension or make-up exam must be based on University approved reasons and must include proper documentation as per University guidelines. Requests for extensions must be made before the deadline, if possible, or within 24 hours of the deadline for unexpected emergencies. Late assignments or missed exams without approved extensions will not be accepted.

Students are responsible for maintaining access to Sakai and Connect. No extensions will be given for student-based technical difficulties. Do not wait until the last minute to complete assignments. If UF experiences technical difficulties, deadlines will be adjusted to allow for completion of assignments.

University and Course Policies

This course adheres to all University Policies. See <http://www.dso.ufl.edu/> for useful information at the Dean of Students Office webpage. This course uses the definition and guidelines for academic honesty as described by the Dean of Students Office; see <http://www.dso.ufl.edu/judicial.academic.php> for details. Students with disabilities or conditions requiring accommodation must first register with the Dean of Students Office. The Dean of Students Office will provide documentation to the student who must then provide this documentation to Dr. Ebner when requesting accommodation; see <http://www.dso.ufl.edu/drc/> for details.

Electronic mobile devices in class are only allowed to engage in class-related activities.

Feedback

Thoughts and opinion about the course are welcome, and Dr. Ebner will invite each student to provide anonymous feedback at two points during the semester.

If necessary, Dr. Ebner may change the specific topics, dates, and assignments on this syllabus. Students are responsible for all announcements made in class, via email, or posted on the course websites.