



**Lifespan Development**  
**PSY 2110-080 Winter 2024 (January 4-24) 3 Week**  
**Credit Hours: 3 credits**  
**Meeting Time and Place: Online**

**CONTACT INFORMATION**

Professor: Gihane Jérémie-Brink, Ph.D.

Email: [jeremiebrinkg@wpunj.edu](mailto:jeremiebrinkg@wpunj.edu) \*\*Email is the best way to contact me\*\*

Phone: 973-720-2614

Office location: Science Hall East 2061

Office hours: Online by appointment. Email me to schedule an appointment.

Psychology Department Secretary – Dolores Oertel

Phone: 973-720-2148

Email: [oerteld@wpunj.edu](mailto:oerteld@wpunj.edu)

**Required Texts:**

Newman, B.M, Newman, P.R. (2018). *Development through life: A psychosocial approach (13th ed.)*. Belmont, CA: Wadsworth Publishing.

The text can be rented, purchased via eBook, in chapters or a traditional text.

<https://www.cengage.com/c/development-through-life-a-psychosocial-approach-13e-newman/9781337098144PF/#services>

Additional readings which may include journal articles and popular news articles, course materials, videos, and assignments will be available online through the course Blackboard page <http://bb.wpunj.edu>. If this is your first-time using Blackboard or you need some assistance navigating the BB platform, please see the Information Technology staff for assistance. Instructors are not responsible to teach students how to use Blackboard.

**Recommended Reading:**

American Psychiatric Association. (2013). *Diagnostic and statistical manual of mental disorders (5th ed.)*. Arlington, VA: Author.

**Course Title and Description:**

Lifespan Development      PSY 2110      3 credits

This course provides a foundation for understanding human physical, cognitive, and social-emotional aspects of development from conception to death. Theories and research findings of developmental psychology will be examined in its larger environment and socio-cultural context.

**IMPORTANT!**: This is an asynchronous, online course, which means there is no set time or place where the instructor and students meet. Asynchronous learning is self-directed, allows students to learn at their own pace, to access and engage in the course material at their own schedule within the course timeframe. This class will utilize the Blackboard course management system, please consult this course site frequently throughout the week. Every Thursday I will email out announcements for the week. You

must read this syllabus and read your email every day. Students will need to take initiative and complete work assignments outside of class. Powerpoint lectures will give an overview for the readings, and provide an opportunity to discuss and apply the readings via online class discussions. Each week the class will generally cover two to three chapters from the text and/or supplemental readings. Students will be asked to complete a weekly critical thinking discussion posts, take an online quiz and exams. The professor will provide several materials in online format so that students can access them easily.

### Course Objectives:

- a. To describe and critically evaluate the major theories of human development.
- b. To introduce the research methods used to study human development.
- c. To clarify how humans develop physically, cognitively, emotionally and socially during the stages of development: the prenatal period, infancy, early & middle childhood, adolescence, early, middle and late adulthood & death.
- d. To explain specific capabilities and limitations relating to each stage of development.
- e. To examine the biological and socio-cultural factors that interact with human development from conception through adolescence.

### Student Learning Outcomes:

Upon completion of this course, students will be able to:

- a. Critically examine major theories and concepts of human development.
- b. Demonstrate knowledge of the research models used to examine and explain human development issues.
- c. Describe and explain physical, cognitive, emotional, and social developments from the prenatal period through late adulthood and death.
- d. Recognize factors that promote and limit optimal development.
- e. Understand how biological and socio-cultural factors interact with human development.

### Topical Outline of the Course Content:

It is recommended that each student retain a copy of the syllabus for their records.

**\*\*\*REMINDER\*\*\*** This is a Winter session, meeting for only 3 weeks. The schedule list is subject to change due to the amount of time needed to master specific topics may vary. All changes will be communicated to students via Blackboard, and/or email. It is the student's responsibility to stay informed.

Date	Topic	Assignments
<b>Week 1</b> January 4	Introduction of Course and Welcome- Syllabus Major Theories for Understanding Human Development The Period of Pregnancy/Prenatal Development Infancy (First 24 Months)	Chapter 2, 4, 5  Chapter Exams
<b>Week 2</b> January 11	Toddlerhood (Ages 2 to 3) Middle Childhood (6 to 12 Years) Early Adolescence (12 to 18 Years) Later Adolescence (18 to 24 Years)	Chapters 6, 8, 9, 10  Chapter Exams
<b>Week 3</b>	Early Adulthood (24 to 34 Years)	Chapter 11, 13, 14

January 18	Later Adulthood (60 to 75 Years) Elderhood (75 until Death)	Chapter Exams
------------	--	---------------

**Course Format:** This course will be taught using lectures, video presentations, readings: journal articles, and exams. Course material will be posted on Blackboard and all exams should be submitted via the Assignments section on Blackboard. Therefore, it is the student's responsibility to keep up with the class readings and devote a significant amount of time to independent reading and studying.

## **COURSE REQUIREMENTS**

### **Online Structure**

The online structure necessitates that the work for this course be done independently outside of class. This structure gives the class flexibility to complete work when convenient, but also requires organization, good time management, intrinsic motivation and self-discipline to be an independent learner. Students find that online courses are much more challenging and demanding than traditional courses, it is important that you stay on top of your work and not fall behind. When students are committed to completing their course work, they find that the online structure is an interesting and rewarding way to learn.

**Attendance and Online Class Participation** is expected for this course. Completion of assigned course work is required and expected. For more detailed information on assignments, please read below. Please consult the Course Catalog for the college policy and dates for withdrawal and incomplete grades.

Announcements pertaining to your readings and exams will be posted on your Bb site each week- **Thursday**. Please look at the Announcement section every day, your Course Documents, and the other Bb sections (e.g., Links etc.) section especially on Thursdays. Students are responsible for knowing the deadlines in this syllabus. Grading rubrics and examples of work may be posted to Blackboard to assist students in their learning process.

### **Suggestions for the class:**

Please read over the chapter at least twice. Take notes as you read and ask yourself about the terms as well. Students need to know the terms in the text very well because many exam questions require them to apply the concepts in the text. Students may also try the exams (in the textbook) and flash cards. Students have said that quizzing each other and study groups are very helpful, I could help arrange groups if students wish. Students may meet during my office hours or at other times. Please complete all assignments. It may not seem that significant to miss one, but it can make a big difference in a student's grade. Don't wait to review all the material a week before the exam, or worse, a few days before the exam. Please contact the professor if you have any trouble whatsoever during the semester. I am here to help you.

**Exams (100%)** In this course there will be an untimed closed book exam (25 questions per exam) for each chapter. Students will have the opportunity to take one exam within the week, and if needed retake the exam on Wednesday. Should a student do poorly on their first exam, they still have an opportunity improve and figure out the material and retake the exam on Wednesday. As a result, each week students will be allowed two chances at completing the chapter exams; only the higher exam

grade will count. Research suggests that repeated testing (even without feedback) leads to improved test performance.

All exams are in multiple choice format, and will contain many questions that require thorough knowledge of the terms and an ability to apply the concepts from the book. Each exam must be completed in one sitting (e.g., student cannot pause or go back if they are interrupted), exam items will be presented one at a time, and there is no back-tracking. Students will be given immediate feedback as to their raw score on these exams, but no other feedback. **A word of advice-** experience shows that students will not have enough time to look up information during the exam. If student's have studied and know the material, they have more than enough time and very generous. If students have not studied, they will not have enough time to complete the exam and will only end up with a quarter of the exam questions answered.

Should students have any questions, please ask questions regarding the upcoming exam at least 24 hours in advance of the exam start date and time. On the test days students will find the chapter exams for under the **Assignments tab** in Blackboard. **Exams will open at the start of the Winter session (Jan. 4<sup>th</sup>) and remain open until the last day of the Winter session (Jan. 24<sup>th</sup>).** You may take the exam any time during this period (reminder: allowed a maximum of two chances at completing each chapter exams). It is in the student's best interest to take one exam early in the 3-week semester, but ultimately it is your choice. There are NO make-up exams or extensions.

Also included in Blackboard is a Class Discussion- Course Questions and Answers section where students can post any questions they may have on this board. Please don't email me your questions (unless urgent), but post them on this board. Other students may answer your question or you may find the answer in this section.

A Class Cyber Lounge will be provided for students to use to discuss any subjects with their classmates. For all the Discussion Board posts, an enclosed a link about Netiquette and being sensitive to others in your posts is provided. Because there are no visual cues to tell that the person is joking or smiling, sometimes, posts can come across as harsh. Please check that link and make sure that you are following those guidelines. Overtly crude, abusive or harassing posts are not acceptable, and will be deleted.

## **GRADING**

Exams- 100%

All assignments will be graded on a standard grading scale as outlined below:

100-94 A	76-74 C
93-90 A-	73-70 C-
89-87 B+	69-66 D+
86-84 B	65-60 D
83-80 B-	59-0 F
79-77 C+	

## **Dates to keep in mind**

January 6, 2024: Last day to withdraw with 100% refund

January 7, 2024: Last day to withdraw with 50% refund

January 12, 2024: Last day to withdraw with no refund

\*See Refund Policy for Title IV refund recipients

## COURSE POLICIES AND EXPECTATIONS

**Email and Blackboard Communication:** Throughout the semester, please regularly check your WPUNJ email or course Blackboard announcement page. You must read the syllabus, read your email every day, consult the Blackboard course site every Friday for the announcement for the week, and check the Bb site throughout the week. It is your responsibility to stay informed.

Please check your WPU email for messages throughout the semester. Email should be used for individual concerns or any difficulties you are having with the course. **Your WPU email must be used when contacting me** no other email accounts or addresses that you may have. Use your WPU email address to communicate with the instructor. When communicating via e-mail, please write your name and the course title in the subject (e.g., Dr. Gihane Jérémie-Brink, Group Interventions) I will check my email frequently, but may not necessarily respond immediately due to the many responsibilities' professors have. As a rule, students should allow professors 48 hours (during business days) to respond to their email. I do want to help students as much as I can, but please do not send your professor emails at midnight and become anxious when you don't get a reply by 6 am! Plan for things to go wrong from time-to-time, do not procrastinate and wait for the last possible moment to submit your work. This is an important life skill.

**Grading:** Grades are earned, not given. If students are experiencing confusion, difficulty, or has concerns, it is the student's responsibility to reach out to the professor immediately. The professor is here as a resource to help guide students and assist them in their learning within the course. As stated above, the professor is very accessible via office hours or an agreed upon appointment to meet. The professor does not offer extra credit or extra assignments at the end of the semester. During the semester, students may earn extra credit by going to the Writing Center (submit documentation to professor) to receive writing assistance for their final integrative paper. If student waits until the end of the semester to approach the professor, chances are there is not much the professor can do at that point to help the student save their grade.

Grades are distributed according to points system and based on the course requirements as listed in this syllabus. Each assignment is worth a specific number of points. Student's grade will be the number of points they can earn as a percentage of the number of points the evaluation is worth. I have rigorous standards for writing assignments. All papers must be written according to the American Psychological Association's (APA) Publication Manual (7<sup>th</sup> edition).

Any grade disputes must be brought up to the professor within 7 days of receiving the grade in writing (i.e., email). Grade discussions or questions will only be handled in person, either during open office hours or via appointment.

**Late assignments:** Student's assignments should be completed and submitted ON TIME via Blackboard, therefore late assignments will not be accepted. It is the student's responsibility for

reading the syllabus and knowing the dates of assignments, and tests. If a student does not take the exam by the deadline, they will earn a 0.

**Technology use:** Since this an online course, students will need a fast and reliable internet connection. Please plan accordingly, if you do not have a fast home-based internet connection, this is not deemed an emergency. A student might experience difficulty using Safari web browser (not a full-service web browser) while taking tests. So please download a free web browser like Google (which works best-suggested by WPU IT and Blackboard experts) or Firefox both of which work well with Blackboard and your Mac computer. Should a student experience technological difficulty, please contact the Help Staff at **bb.wpunj.edu** for assistance.

**Course Etiquette:** All students are expected to be respectful of one another at all times. Any irreverent behavior and inappropriate, derogatory, or disrespectful comments towards the professor, other students, or towards any groups of people will not be tolerated and will be handled in accordance with WPUNJ policy.

**Teaching and Feedback:** You will have the opportunity to provide anonymous midterm feedback to the instructor. I am also open to any verbal or written feedback about this course at any time. Please email me if you have any questions or concerns, I am (and your classmates) here to support and be a resource for you.

## **UNIVERSITY RESOURCES AND POLICIES**

### **ACADEMIC INTEGRITY POLICY**

Conduct yourself according to the University's Code of Conduct and please be aware of the University's policy on academic integrity such as plagiarism, cheating, collusion, lying. You can read it in the undergraduate catalog, available online at <http://www.wpunj.edu/cte/wpu-policies/wpu-academic-integrity-policy/> If you are unsure whether a behavior would violate the integrity policy, please ask me. Any student caught cheating will receive an "F" in the course.

### **SUPPORT**

a. Academic (e.g., The Writing Center, <http://www.wpunj.edu/writing-center/> , Center for Academic Success, <http://www.wpunj.edu/academics/asc/> , any class specific support.

**Located in Atrium 128 and VR 3048.**

b. Nonacademic (e.g., Counseling Center, (973) 720-2257 or (973) 720-2360)

c. Disability Services, <http://www.wpunj.edu/disabilityservices/req-accom> , (973) 720-2853, Morrison Hall, Room 132

### **NON-DISCRIMINATION POLICY**

(<http://www.wpunj.edu/employment-equity/nonDiscrimPolicy.dot>)

The William Paterson University of New Jersey is committed to equal employment opportunity and to maintaining an academic and work environment for students, faculty and staff which is conducive to the achievement of educational and career goals on the basis of ability and performance, and which is free of discrimination on the basis of race, creed, color, national origin, nationality, ancestry, sex/gender (including pregnancy), affectional or sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, age, marital status, civil union status, domestic partnership status, familial status, religion, atypical hereditary cellular or blood trait, genetic information, liability for service in the Armed Forces of the United States, or disability, except where a particular qualification is specifically permitted and is essential to successful job performance.

Since discriminatory behavior seriously undermines the atmosphere of trust essential to the academic and work environment, anyone who violates this policy may be subject to disciplinary action, including termination.

### **STUDENTS WITH SPECIAL NEEDS**

Students with documented disabilities or related concerns should contact me by the second class to discuss any special needs or accommodations. All students with a disability must provide a letter verifying their disability. If you have a disability but do not have a letter, please meet with a counselor from the Accessibility Resource Center for necessary documentation. Students requesting special testing accommodations (e.g., extra time, separate space) will always need to make these arrangements with a coordinator from the Accessibility Resource Center, (973) 720-2853, Morrison Hall, Room 132, <https://www.wpunj.edu/accessibilityresourcecenter/>

## HEALTH AND SAFETY COMPLIANCE DURING THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC

William Paterson University seeks to ensure the health and welfare of all in our community. The COVID Health and Safety page which includes related news and information can still be found at [wpunj.edu/Covid19](http://wpunj.edu/Covid19).

- With the expiration on May 11, 2023 of the federal COVID-19 public health emergency under section 319 of the Public Health Service Act, William Paterson University will no longer require COVID-19 vaccines for students and employees. However, we strongly recommend that individuals, especially those who are at risk for complications, stay up to date with COVID-19 vaccines and boosters.
- You should not come to campus if you are sick and/or not feeling well. Students should alert their instructors.
- If you test positive for COVID-19, you are required to isolate for 5 days. You are not required to have a negative test to return to campus. However, you are not permitted to return before day 6 and would need to be symptom free for at least 24 hours. Upon returning to campus after 5 days of isolation, you are required to remain masked around others for another 5 days. You should upload an image of your positive test to [WP Covid Testing Portal](#).
- If you test positive for COVID-19 you MUST notify the university by uploading an image of your test in the WP COVID Testing Portal found in WP Connect. PCR or home tests are both acceptable. This will be reviewed by Human Resources (employees) and Counseling, Health and Wellness Center (students). Once reviewed, further instructions will be provided via email.
- Students will be provided an excuse letter via email after submission of their positive test. Students are instructed to forward this letter to their professors. Due to confidentiality requirements, the letter does not say whether the student has tested positive. Faculty must refrain from asking students personal health information.
- There is no quarantining required for close contact exposures, however the CDC recommends that individuals exposed wear a mask around others for 10 days post exposure. WP will not conduct contact tracing and it is the responsibility of the individual that tests positive to alert any close contacts.
- For more information regarding COVID-19 please visit [CDC COVID-19 Information](#) and [WP COVID-19 Health and Safety](#).

Adhering to the guidelines above are a matter of public health and community integrity, and the WP community views the adoption of these practices as a mark of good citizenship and respectful care for fellow classmates as well as WP faculty and staff. For more information, see the University's [COVID website](#).