



**PSY322.02E-Lifespan Development**  
T/Th 2:00p-3:15p in BA 109  
Fall 2024

**INSTRUCTOR INFORMATION**

**Instructor:** Lei Zhang

**Office Location:** Henderson 209

**Office Hours:** Tuesdays from 11:00 am to 12:00 pm and Thursdays from 3:30 pm to 5:00 pm (HEN 209)

**University Email Address:** lzhang7@leomail.tamuc.edu

**Preferred Form of Communication:** email

**Communication Response Time:** Within 48 hours

**COURSE INFORMATION**

**Required Textbook:** An OER (free textbook) by Lally and Valentine-French.

<https://open.umn.edu/opentextbooks/textbooks/540>

**Course Description**

Understanding Human Development is a developmental psychology course that examines the changes, both growth and decline, across the human lifespan from conception to death. It includes physical, cognitive, and socioemotional changes that help to shape our lives. Topics include the importance of the prenatal environment on development, formation of language, self-esteem and identity, romantic relationships, retirement, and dying. What you will find is that our journey through life is incredible – from learning to walk to compensating for physical declines in later life.

**Student Learning Outcomes**

1. Students will recognize key issues regarding physical, cognitive, and socioemotional changes that occur across the major stages of development – prenatal, infancy, early childhood, mid-late childhood, adolescence, early adulthood, middle adulthood, and late adulthood, and death and dying.
2. Students will demonstrate the importance of research along with understanding how this research is conducted, including research methodology and ethical issues.
3. Students will further develop communication skills to discuss psychological concepts related to developmental psychology.

*The syllabus/schedule are subject to change.*

4. Students will complete a service learning project that corresponds to course topic.

### COURSE REQUIREMENTS/ASSESSMENTS

1. **Content Exams:** Testing promotes learning (Roediger & Karpicke, 2006). The instructor will provide study guides to prepare for the content exams. There will be three content exams consisting of 50 multiple-choice questions. The best two out of three exams will count toward your course grade. Exams are worth 40% of your course grade (20% each).
2. **Class Participation:** Participation assignments will occur in class; therefore, attendance is necessary. There are 18 participation assignments, and only 15 will count. Thus, students can miss up to 3 participation assignments without penalty. Students should bring with them paper to complete these activities. Activities will include thought exercises, learning quizzes, and applications. Students will earn up to 1 point each for completing these. Additionally, participation includes also being a good class citizen; this includes refraining from being on your phone for non-academic purposes, arriving more than 5 minutes late, and leaving early. Participation is worth 15% of your course grade (1% each).
3. **Service Learning Project:** Students will conduct a service learning project related to lifespan development. Students will write a paper corresponding to their service project. The project is worth 30% total.
4. **Research Exposure Requirement:** A goal of this class is to help you become familiar with psychological research. One way to obtain this goal is to have you participate in research studies. Participating in research studies contributes to students and faculty at A&M - Commerce, your understanding of how research is conducted, and human knowledge in general. All students in this class will be required to participate in the psychology department's participant pool or complete alternative assignments. The alternative to Sona research participation will be to complete an original 2-page article summary for each credit hour. The instructions and assigned articles can be found on D2L. If you choose to do the research alternative instead of the research studies, the article summaries will be due on December 6, 2024.

Students must complete a total of 6 experiment credits. However, if you complete your first 4 experiment credits without any “no-shows” you will receive 2 free *punctual participant credits*. In other words, if you show up to your experiments on time you will only need to complete 4 experiment credits. When you first sign into the experiment management system (EMS) you will be asked to take a prescreen. The prescreen takes about 20 minutes to complete. If you complete the prescreen in the first two weeks of the semester you will receive ½ free experiment credit. This can be combined with later experiments that are worth ½ credit.

If you fail to complete this portion of the class your grade will be lowered by one full grade. In

*The syllabus/schedule are subject to change.*

grade in the class will be a 'B.' More information about participating in research, such as how to log in to the EMS, is given at the end of this syllabus.

*\*\* Students may complete up to three additional research exposure credits for extra credit.*

effect, if you have an 'A' in the class but fail to complete your research participation (either through participating in research studies, alternative assignments, or a mixture of both) your final

5. **Cumulative Final:** Students will complete a cumulative final exam during the final exam week. The format of the exam will be the same as the previous exams with 50 multiple-choice questions. This assignment is worth 15% of the course grade.

### Visual Recap of Assignments

Assignments	SLO	Format	%Weight
Exams (Best 2 out of 3)	1	Recognition Test	40%
Class Participation	3	In-Class Activities	15%
Research Exposure Requirement	2	Research Studies and/or Research Article Summaries	Requirement completion grade
Service Learning Project	4	a) Service Learning b) Paper	30%
Cumulative Final	1	Recognition Test	15%

### GRADING

Final grades in this course will be based on the following scale:

A = 90%-100%

B = 80%-89%

C = 70%-79%

D = 60%-69%

F = 59% or Below

### Minimal Technical Skills Needed

Needed Skills include being able to use the learning management system to access course materials. Additionally, proficiency in Microsoft Office or similar program is needed.

### Instructional Methods

This is an in-person course. The majority of our classes will include a discussion of the assigned readings.

### Student Responsibilities or Tips for Success in the Course

In order to succeed in this course you need to keep up with the readings and complete the assignments. Coming to class and being engaged is crucial for student success as this is part of the course grade.

*The syllabus/schedule are subject to change.*

## TECHNOLOGY REQUIREMENTS

### LMS

All course sections offered by Texas A&M University-Commerce have a corresponding course shell in the myLeo Online Learning Management System (LMS). Below are technical requirements

LMS Requirements:

<https://community.brightspace.com/s/article/Brightspace-Platform-Requirements>

LMS Browser Support:

[https://documentation.brightspace.com/EN/brightspace/requirements/all/browser\\_support.htm](https://documentation.brightspace.com/EN/brightspace/requirements/all/browser_support.htm)

Zoom Video Conferencing Tool:

[https://inside.tamuc.edu/campuslife/CampusServices/CITESupportCenter/Zoom\\_Account.aspx?source=universalmenu](https://inside.tamuc.edu/campuslife/CampusServices/CITESupportCenter/Zoom_Account.aspx?source=universalmenu)

### ACCESS AND NAVIGATION

You will need your campus-wide ID (CWID) and password to log into the course. If you do not know your CWID or have forgotten your password, contact the Center for IT Excellence (CITE) at 903.468.6000 or [helpdesk@tamuc.edu](mailto:helpdesk@tamuc.edu).

**Note:** Personal computer and internet connection problems do not excuse the requirement to complete all course work in a timely and satisfactory manner. Each student needs to have a backup method to deal with these inevitable problems. These methods might include the availability of a backup PC at home or work, the temporary use of a computer at a friend's home, the local library, office service companies, Starbucks, a TAMUC campus open computer lab, etc.

Technical Support

If you are having technical difficulty with any part of Brightspace, please contact Brightspace Technical Support at 1-877-325-7778. Other support options can be found here:

<https://community.brightspace.com/support/s/contactsupport>

### COMMUNICATION AND SUPPORT

If you have any questions or are having difficulties with the course material, please contact your Instructor.

#### **Interaction with Instructor Statement**

I do my best to respond within 48 hours of receiving an email. If you do not hear back from me within 48 hours, please email me again in case I did not receive your message. My office hours are also stated at the beginning of this syllabus. Your assignments will be graded and returned to you within two weeks.

When emailing, include your course number/course name (PSY 322) in the email. Correspondence with your instructor should be professional.

*The syllabus/schedule are subject to change.*

## **COURSE AND UNIVERSITY PROCEDURES/POLICIES**

### **Late Work**

#### **Exams**

Both the content and the cumulative final, must be completed on the day they are due. The best two out of three content exams will count as your dropped exam grade, so if you miss one content exam, that one will be dropped. All students must complete the final.

#### **Class Participation Assignments**

Participation assignments are in class; therefore, there are no make-ups unless necessary and documentation is provided. Each student gets to drop three.

#### **Service Learning Project**

Service Learning Project has the following late work policy: If submitted within 24 hours of the due date = 1 grade step deduction, if submitted between 24-48 hours late = 2 grade step deductions, and after 48 hours = 0 on the assignment. Failure to do so will result in a grade step deduction on your grade.

#### **Research Exposure Requirement & Extra Credit**

Research Exposure Requirement and any Extra Credit are due the day that the participant pool closes. There are no exceptions to this date unless severe circumstances and documentation is provided. I recommend completing this requirement early!

### **Syllabus Change Policy**

The syllabus is a guide. Circumstances and events, such as student progress, may make it necessary for the instructor to modify the syllabus during the semester. Any changes made to the syllabus will be announced in advance.

### **University Specific Procedures**

#### **Student Conduct**

All students enrolled at the University shall follow the tenets of common decency and acceptable behavior conducive to a positive learning environment. The Code of Student Conduct can be found at <https://www.tamuc.edu/student-code-of-conduct/>.

If you believe someone has engaged in behaviors that do not align with the Code of Student Conduct or you have other concerns, please visit the File a Report page at <https://www.tamuc.edu/office-of-student-rights-and-responsibilities/concerns-incident-reporting/>

Students should also consult the Rules of Netiquette for more information regarding how to interact with students in an online forum: <https://www.britannica.com/topic/netiquette>

*The syllabus/schedule are subject to change.*

### **Academic Integrity**

Students at Texas A&M University-Commerce are expected to maintain high standards of integrity and honesty in all of their scholastic work. For more details and the definition of academic dishonesty see the following procedures:

Undergraduate student academic dishonesty policy

[Undergraduate Academic Dishonesty 13.99.99.R0.03](#)

Undergraduate student academic dishonesty policy

[Undergraduate Student Academic Dishonesty Form](#)

### **TAMUC Attendance**

For more information about the attendance policy please visit the [Attendance](#) webpage.

### **Artificial Intelligence**

Texas A&M University-Commerce acknowledges that there are legitimate uses of Artificial Intelligence, Chatbots, or other software that has the capacity to generate text, or suggest replacements for text beyond individual words, as determined by the instructor of the course.

Any use of such software must be documented. Any undocumented use of such software constitutes an instance of academic dishonesty (plagiarism).

Individual instructors may disallow entirely the use of such software for individual assignments or for the entire course. Students should be aware of such requirements and follow their instructors' guidelines. If no instructions are provided the student should assume that the use of such software is disallowed.

In any case, students are fully responsible for the content of any assignment they submit, regardless of whether they used an AI, in any way. This specifically includes cases in which the AI plagiarized another text or misrepresented sources.

### **Students with Disabilities -- ADA Statement**

The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) is a federal anti-discrimination statute that provides comprehensive civil rights protection for persons with disabilities. Among other things, this legislation requires that all students with disabilities be guaranteed a learning environment that provides for reasonable accommodation of their disabilities. If you have a disability requiring an accommodation, please contact:

Office of Student Disability Services

Velma K. Waters Library- Room 162

**Phone (903) 886-5930**

Fax (903) 468-8148

*The syllabus/schedule are subject to change.*

Email: [StudentDisabilityServices@tamuc.edu](mailto:StudentDisabilityServices@tamuc.edu)

Website: <http://inside.tamuc.edu/campuslife/campusServices/StudentDisabilityServices/default.aspx>

### **Mental Health and Well-Being**

The university aims to provide students with essential knowledge and tools to understand and support mental health. As part of our commitment to your well-being, we offer access to Telus Health, a service available 24/7/365 via chat, phone, or webinar. Scan the QR code to download the app and explore the resources available to you for guidance and support whenever you need it.



### **A&M-Commerce Supports Students' Mental Health**

The Counseling Center at A&M-Commerce, located in the Halladay Building, Room 203, offers counseling services, educational programming, and connection to community resources for students. Students have 24/7 access to the Counseling Center's crisis assessment services by calling 903-886-5145. For more information regarding Counseling Center events and confidential services, please visit [www.tamuc.edu/counsel](http://www.tamuc.edu/counsel)

### **Nondiscrimination Notice**

Texas A&M University-Commerce will comply in the classroom, and in online courses, with all federal and state laws prohibiting discrimination and related retaliation on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, disability, age, genetic information or veteran status. Further, an environment free from discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation, gender identity, or gender expression will be maintained.

### **Campus Concealed Carry Statement**

Texas Senate Bill - 11 (Government Code 411.2031, et al.) authorizes the carrying of a concealed handgun in Texas A&M University-Commerce buildings only by persons who have been issued and are in possession of a Texas License to Carry a Handgun. Qualified law enforcement officers or those who are otherwise authorized to carry a concealed handgun in the State of Texas are also permitted to do so. Pursuant to Penal Code (PC) 46.035 and A&M-Commerce Rule 34.06.02.R1, license holders may not carry a concealed handgun in restricted locations.

For a list of locations, please refer to the [Carrying Concealed Handguns On Campus](#) document and/or consult your event organizer.

*The syllabus/schedule are subject to change.*

Web url:

<http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/34SafetyOfEmployeesAndStudents/34.06.02.R1.pdf>

Pursuant to PC 46.035, the open carrying of handguns is prohibited on all A&M-Commerce campuses. Report violations to the University Police Department at 903-886-5868 or 9-1-1.

### **TENTATIVE SCHEDULE**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Topic</b>	<b>Reading</b>	<b>Assignment Due</b>
8/27 (T)	Syllabus/Introductions	--	
8/29 (R)	Lifespan Perspective Introduction	Ch. 1	
9/3 (T)	Lifespan Perspective Introduction, cont.	Ch. 1	In-Class Participation Assignment
9/5 (R)	Heredity, Prenatal Development, and Birth	Ch. 2	In-Class Participation Assignment
9/10 (T)	Heredity, Prenatal Development, and Birth, cont.	Ch. 2	In-Class Participation Assignment
9/12 (R)	<i>Service Learning Project Discussion</i>	N/A	None – we will discuss the service learning project
9/17 (T)	Infancy and Toddlerhood	Ch. 3	In-Class Participation Assignment
9/19 (R)	Infancy and Toddlerhood, cont.	Ch. 3	In-Class Participation Assignment
9/24 (T)	Early Childhood	Ch. 4	In-Class Participation Assignment
9/26 (R)	Early Childhood, cont.	Ch. 4	In-Class Participation Assignment
10/1 (T)	<b>Exam 1</b>	--	In-Class exam over chapters 1-4
10/3 (R)	Middle and Late Childhood	Ch. 5	
10/8 (T)	Middle and Late Childhood, cont.	Ch. 5	
10/10 (R)	Adolescence	Ch. 6	In-Class Participation Assignment
10/15 (T)	Adolescence, cont.	Ch. 6	In-Class Participation Assignment
10/17 (R)	Guest speaker		In-Class Participation Assignment
10/22 (T)	Early Adulthood	Ch. 7	In-Class Participation Assignment
10/24 (R)	Early Adulthood, cont.	Ch. 7	In-Class Participation Assignment
10/29 (T)	<b>Exam 2</b>	--	In-Class exam over chapters 5-7
10/31 (R)	Middle Adulthood	Ch. 8	In-Class Participation Assignment
11/5 (T)	Middle Adulthood, cont.	Ch. 8	In-Class Participation Assignment
11/7 (R)	Late Adulthood	Ch. 9	In-Class Participation Assignment
11/12 (T)	Late Adulthood, cont.	Ch. 9	In-Class Participation Assignment
11/14 (R)	Death, Dying, & Grieving	Ch. 10	In-Class Participation Assignment
11/19 (T)	Death, Dying, & Grieving, cont.	Ch. 10	In-Class Participation Assignment
11/21 (R)	<b>Exam 3</b>	--	In-Class exam over chapters 8-10
11/26 (T)	No Class. Use this time to finalize Research Exposure Requirement	--	

*The syllabus/schedule are subject to change.*



<b>Date</b>	<b>Topic</b>	<b>Reading</b>	<b>Assignment Due</b>
11/28 (R)	Thanksgiving – No School	--	
12/3 (T)	Writing Time and Remaining Questions		Service Learning Project due by 11:59pm
12/5 (R)	Optional Final Exam Review		
12/6 (F)	<b>Research Exposure Requirement &amp; Extra Credit</b>		<b>Research Exposure Requirements &amp; Extra Credit Due by 11:59pm</b>
**TBA	<b>Cumulative final</b>	--	In-class exam over chapters 1-10

NOTE: Participation requires class attendance.

**\*\* All courses are required to meet during finals week per university policy. See the following link for the finals schedule:**

<https://inside.tamuc.edu/admissions/registrar/academicCalendars/final-exam-schedule.aspx>

*The syllabus/schedule are subject to change.*