



**PSY 319-01W: Child and Adolescent Development**  
COURSE SYLLABUS: Summer II 2025, *Online meeting time Thurs 5-7 pm*

**INSTRUCTOR INFORMATION**

Instructor: Shulan Lu  
Office Location: Henderson 220  
Office Hours: TBA  
University Email Address: [shulan.lu@etamu.edu](mailto:shulan.lu@etamu.edu)  
Preferred Form of Communication: Email

*If you have any questions or concerns about our class, please ALWAYS contact me first. If we cannot reach a solution, I will refer you to our Department Head.*

*Communication Response Time: Typically, I can respond within 1-2 days of receiving the message on the normal Monday through Friday weekday schedule, however, during weekends and holidays this process might be longer.*

**COURSE INFORMATION**

Materials – Textbooks, Readings, Supplementary Readings

**Textbook Required**

Santrock, J. W. (2024). Life-span development (19th ed.). McGraw Hill.

**You must purchase the textbook with Connect access**

ISBN10: 1266768165 | ISBN13: 9781266768163

**Software Required**

Microsoft office (or an equivalent to such); D2L; pdf

**Course Description**

This course provides an in-depth examination of human development from infancy through adolescence, using John Santrock's *Life-Span Development* as a core text. Students will explore key developmental milestones across physical, cognitive, and socioemotional domains, with a focus on how children and adolescents grow, learn, and form identities. Topics include brain development, language acquisition, moral reasoning, peer and family relationships, and the impact of cultural and societal influences. The course integrates

foundational theories from Piaget, Erikson, and Vygotsky, alongside contemporary research and real-world applications. Through lectures, discussions, and experiential learning, students will develop a strong understanding of the developmental processes that shape early life and prepare individuals for adulthood. This course is ideal for students pursuing studies in psychology, education, social work, or related fields.

### **Student Learning Outcomes**

1. Develop an overview of the field of psychology by studying and reflecting on the topics.
2. Appreciate how psychologists take a scientific approach to understanding child and adolescent development.
3. Practice the convention of scientific discourse appropriate to the audience, purpose and message.
4. Learn to explain the real world psychological phenomena by applying the concepts, theories, and methods learned in our course. Learning strategies to help absorb information meaningfully is a good start.
5. Nurture scientific thinking. This is an approach to information that combines a high degree of skepticism (questioning what “everybody knows”), followed by objectivity (using empirical data to separate fantasy from reality) and rationalism (practicing logical reasoning).

## **COURSE REQUIREMENTS**

### **Minimal Technical Skills Needed**

You need to be able to use the following:

- Microsoft Office (or an equivalent to such)
- D2L
- PDF

In addition, refer to the following.

<https://carleton.ca/online/online-learning-resources/essential-technological-skills/>

### **Instructional Methods**

This course is primarily online. Dr. Shulan Lu hosts an online every Thurs (5-7pm). During this time, student mini-presentations will be held and interactive learning activities will be conducted. Students are expected to attend at least two online meetings.

## Student Responsibilities /Tips for Success in the Course

Your attendance is a significant factor in student course grades. Start with attending our class and do the following basics:

- 1) Check and read class emails promptly for announcements, updates, clarifications, etc.
- 2) Take notes as you listen to lectures, read the assigned parts of the textbook to check if your listening comprehension matches with the textbook descriptions, and fill in the missing pieces.
- 3) Quiz yourself often. Can you define a concept in your own words? Can you answer 3 or 4 questions of the textbook practice questions correctly?
- 4) Review the materials on a regular basis. Consider the *Pomodoro technique*. Set aside 15-20 minutes each day and study. Do at least 3 Pomodoro sessions each week. (If you are interested in this technique, I would recommend checking out the website “pomofocus.io”) While this technique can be useful to any student, depending on your needs, you may need to do more sessions per week. For more details, refer to “*Secrets of Student Success*” in our textbook Ch1.
- 5) Complete assigned coursework on time.

## 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

## Assessments

If you become sick, you must schedule to retake the assigned exam within 3 days of the due date and must provide documentation of your illness.

If you are traveling and representing the university (e.g., band members, athletes, etc.) you need to request accommodations BEFORE the exam or assignment is due, not after.

*Unless authorized by me, you are expected to complete all course assignments without assistance from any source, including artificial intelligence such as ChatGPT. Students must reply to instructor's email concerning the integrity of their coursework within 2 business days and schedule a meeting with the instructor within 4 business days from the date of the initial contact email.*

### **Learning engagement & mini-presentation: 10%**

Each student is expected to give two mini-presentations during scheduled online meeting time (Wed 5-7pm). Each presentation will cover selected concepts, theories, or experiments. Students must prepare a PowerPoint outline and have their camera on while presenting.

1. Each mini presentation should not last longer than five minutes.
2. Slides should use bullet points and include diagrams, charts, or illustrations where appropriate.
3. Slides should not contain large blocks of text for students to read during the presentation.
4. Students should demonstrate their understanding through Q&As with me and the class.
5. During presentation, students must be on zoom camera.

### **SmartBook Reading and Retrieval practice: 10%**

To support your understanding of course concepts, this class utilizes McGraw Hill's **SmartBook** platform for assigned readings. SmartBook is an adaptive learning tool that personalizes your reading experience and reinforces key concepts through interactive questions and feedback.

#### *Expectations for Each Chapter:*

- Complete the assigned SmartBook reading by the due date listed in the course schedule.
- Engage in the retrieval practice activities embedded in each chapter.
- Submit responses to questions where prompted.

*Feedback and Revision:* Collective feedback will be provided on question responses to highlight common strengths and areas for improvement. It is each student's responsibility to review this feedback carefully and revise their understanding or study strategies accordingly. While individual responses may not receive personalized comments, the collective feedback is designed to guide your learning and preparation for assessments.

### **Assignments: 50%**

This course incorporates **McGraw Hill Connect**, a digital learning platform that offers a variety of engaging and interactive activities designed to reinforce course content and support diverse learning styles.

For each topic, a curated selection of Connect activities will be assigned to deepen your understanding and encourage active participation. These may include interactive tutorials, application-based exercises, and concept checks tailored to each topic's learning objectives.

**Participation in these activities is essential** for mastering key concepts and will contribute to your overall course engagement grade. Students are expected to complete all assigned Connect activities by the posted deadlines and use the feedback provided to guide their learning.

### Exams: 30%

There are three exams in the course. Questions will be designed to reflect each of the student learning outcomes with emphasis on SLO 2, 3, and 4.

There will be NO after the fact make-up examinations. If for some REAL emergency you must miss an exam, make sure that you contact me BEFORE the exam. When official documentation is provided, you can do a make-up.

**Tentative Schedule**

Chapter	Topic	Dates
1	Introduction	7/08 due
	Online meeting	7/10 5-7pm
3	Prenatal dev and birth	7/10 due
	<b>Assignment Set 1</b>	7/12 due
6	Socioemotional dev in infancy	7/15 due
	Online meeting	7/16 5-7pm
8	Socioemotional dev in early childhood	7/17 due
	<b>Assignment Set 2</b>	7/19 due
	<b>Exam 1</b>	7/20 due
9	Physical and cog dev in middle and late childhood	7/22 due
	Online meeting	7/23 5-7pm

10	Socioemotional dev in middle and late childhood	7/24 due
	<b>Assignment Set 3</b>	7/26 due
	<b>Exam 2</b>	7/27 due
11	Physical and cog dev in adolescence	7/29 due
	Online meeting	7/30 5-7pm
12	Socioemotional dev in adolescence	7/31 due
	Assignment Set 4	8/05 due
	<b>Cumulative Final Exam (Exam week)</b>	8/7 due 5pm

## Technology Requirements

### LMS

All course sections offered by East Texas A&M University 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**

Typically, I will respond to your emails within 24 hours from Monday to Friday. It will take longer during the holidays and weekends. I can also meet with you via Zoom. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions.

### **Course and University Procedures/Policies**

#### **Course Specific Procedures/Policies**

##### **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>

### **Academic Integrity**

Students at East Texas A&M University 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](#)

Graduate student academic dishonesty policy:  
<https://inside.tamuc.edu/aboutus/policiesproceduresstandardsstatements/rulesProcedures/13students/graduate/13.99.99.R0.10.pdf>

Graduate student academic dishonesty form:  
<https://inside.tamuc.edu/academics/graduateSchool/faculty/GraduateStudentAcademicDishonestyForm.pdf>

### **TAMUC Attendance**

Students are expected to be present for all face-to-face classes. Three or more absences constitute excessive absences for the purposes of this course. Students are responsible for notifying the instructor of an excused absence and providing appropriate documentation when necessary. Students are also responsible for requesting any makeup work during excused absences.

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

### **Artificial Intelligence**

East Texas A&M University 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

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.



### **East Texas A&M University Supports Students' Mental Health**

The Counseling Center at East Texas A&M University, 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**

East Texas A&M University 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 East Texas A&M University 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 East Texas A&M University 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.

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 East Texas A&M University campuses. Report violations to the University Police Department at 903-886-5868 or 9-1-1.

Note: Our university is in the rebranding process. Some of the links could be changed during the semester. If you could not find the relevant information, contact the instructor.