



## **PSY 322.01B: Lifespan Development**

COURSE SYLLABUS: Spring 2026  
Monday & Wednesday 9:00-9:50 in BA 245; Friday Online

### **INSTRUCTOR INFORMATION**

**Instructor:** Dr. Krueger

**Office Location:** Henderson 233

**Office Hours:** M/W 10:00 am – 12:30 am (HEN 233) and by appointment

**Office Phone:** (903) 886-5637

**Office Fax:** (903) 886-5510

**University Email Address:** [lacy.krueger@etamu.edu](mailto:lacy.krueger@etamu.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, 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

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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
4. Students will relate knowledge learned in this course about human development to the real world

### **COURSE REQUIREMENTS/ASSESSMENTS**

1. **Quizzes** – Testing promotes learning (Roediger & Karpicke, 2006). Quizzes will be administered to provide an assessment of your knowledge of the assigned chapter reading. Each student can drop one quiz grade; if you miss a quiz, that will count as your dropped quiz. Quizzes are worth 30% of your course grade.
2. **Reflections** – You will write reflections in the course to link the course content with your life. The reflections must include a reference to specific page numbers from the chapter and be linked to content from the assigned textbook. The instructions for the assignment can be found on D2L. The majority of the reflections will occur online. However, the last reflection we will occur in person during finals week. The reflection assignments are worth 20% of your course grade.
3. **Service Learning Project** – In groups of three to four, students will select a topic for a service learning project related to lifespan development (e.g., organizing a drive to donate to an organization, cleaning a park, volunteering at a food bank, etc.). Groups will deliver a presentation to the class that includes the following sections: Introduction to the issue, connection to lifespan development, your method of doing the project (from organizing to completing it), and the implications. These presentations need to be created in Google Slides and include the instructor as a member. (This will allow me to see contributions and edits by group members.) Group members will

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evaluate each other, and this will count toward the grade, so be sure to be an active contributor to the group project. The self-reflection assignment is worth 30%.

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 East Texas A&M, 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 (see me for more information on D2L for the alternative writing assignment).

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 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 grade in the class will be a ‘B.’ More information about participating in research, such as how to log in to the EMS, is located in D2L.

### Visual Recap of Assignments

Assignment	SLO	% Weight
Quizzes	1	30%
Reflections	3, 4	20%
Service Learning Project	1, 3, 4	30%
Research Exposure Requirement	2	Requirement completion grade

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## **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 needed include being able to use the learning management system to access course materials. Google slides knowledge is needed. Additionally, proficiency in Microsoft Office or similar program is needed.

### **Instructional Methods**

This is an in-person course with an online component. The majority of our classes will include a discussion of the assigned readings. Online assignments occur the days we do not meet in person.

### **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. Completing the online assignments is critical for successfully completing this course. Students will also work in groups and are expected to **CONTRIBUTE** and be **COURTEOUS**. For all assignments you are expected to **SUBMIT YOUR ASSIGNMENTS ON TIME**.

## **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)

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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 East Texas A&M University 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.

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

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

#### **In-Person Attendance Expectations**

This is an in-person course on Mondays and Wednesdays. The following are expected for attendance on these in –person class days:

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1. **Arrive on time.** Late arrivals are a disturbance to peers. Occasionally things happen with traffic, but if you are routinely coming in late you will be asked to meet with the instructor.
2. **Stay the full class time.** Do not pack up early. If you need to leave early, notify the instructor before class. It is disruptive to students when peers start shuffling their items and depart early. Your instructor will have a two minute time that will go off prior to the end of class. This will allow the instructor to wrap up her thought, and then the instructor will verbally let you know that class has ended.
3. **Be courteous to the instructor and peers.** See the university conduct section below. If there is an issue, you will be required to meet with the instructor after class and/or asked to leave the classroom.
4. **Technology use should be class relevant.** Do NOT talk on your phone in class or record social media videos (e.g., TikToks). This is a learning environment. As such, students are expected to be in class to learn and engage with the course content. If you are off-task, you will get a warning. The instructor will meet with you after class. However, if this is a repeated issue, the instructor will require a meeting with the student and the academic department head. Students can use their phones and computers to access the textbook, search google scholar, etc. This is just a 75-minute class, so during that time technology use should be limited to course relevant usage. On days when exams are not scheduled, phones can be on silent to receive texts, but texting should not interfere with others' learning around you; if so, you will be asked to put your phone away.

## **Late Work**

**Quizzes** - There are no makeup on quizzes because each student is allowed to drop one quiz.

**Service Learning Project** – Strict deadlines are due for this assignment that consists of both uploading a presentation and presenting it to the class. Only under dire circumstances (and pending document) will the instructor determine if an extension can be applied.

**Reflections** – These are satisfactory/unsatisfactory graded assignments. Failure to submit on time will result in an unsatisfactory (zero) grade.

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**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.

### **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.etamu.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.etamu.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](#)

#### **East Texas A&M University Attendance**

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.

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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@etamu.edu](mailto:StudentDisabilityServices@etamu.edu)

**Website:** <http://inside.etamu.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

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Center's crisis assessment services by calling 903-886-5145. For more information regarding Counseling Center events and confidential services, please visit [www.etamu.edu/counsel](http://www.etamu.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.etamu.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.

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## COURSE OUTLINE / CALENDAR

### TENTATIVE SCHEDULE

<b>Date</b>	<b>Topic</b>	<b>Reading</b>	<b>Assignment Due</b>
1/12 (M)	Syllabus/Introductions	--	
1/14 (W)	Lifespan Perspective	Ch. 1	
1/16 (F)		--	Syllabus activity
1/19 (M)	No Class – MLK Day		
1/21 (W)	Lifespan Perspective	Ch. 1	
1/23 (F)	Lifespan Perspective	Ch. 1	*Quiz
1/26 (M)	Hereditiy, Prenatal Development, and Birth	Ch. 2	
1/27 (W)	Hereditiy, Prenatal Development, and Birth	Ch. 2	
1/29 (W)	Hereditiy, Prenatal Development, and Birth	Ch. 2	*Quiz
2/2 (M)	Infancy and Toddlerhood	Ch. 3	
2/4 (W)	Service Learning Project	--	
2/6 (F)	Service Learning Project	--	Submit Service Learning Preferences
2/9 (M)	Infancy and Toddlerhood	Ch. 3	
2/11 (W)	Infancy and Toddlerhood	Ch. 3	
2/13 (F)	Infancy and Toddlerhood		*Reflections *Quiz
2/16 (M)	Early Childhood	Ch. 4	
2/18 (W)	Early Childhood	Ch. 4	
2/20 (F)	Early Childhood	Ch. 4	*Reflections *Quiz
2/23 (M)	Middle and Late Childhood	Ch. 5	
2/25 (W)	Middle and Late Childhood	Ch. 5	
2/27 (F)	Middle and Late Childhood	Ch. 5	*Reflections *Quiz
3/2 (M)	Adolescence	Ch. 6	
3/4 (W)	Adolescence	Ch. 6	
3/6 (F)	Adolescence	Ch. 6	*Reflections *Quiz
3/9 (M)	No Class – Spring Break	--	
3/11(W)	No Class – Spring Break	--	

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3/13 (F)	No Class – Spring Break		
3/16 (M)	Early Adulthood	Ch. 7	
3/18 (W)	Early Adulthood	Ch. 7	
3/20 (F)	Early Adulthood	Ch. 7	*Reflections *Quiz
3/23 (M)	Mental Health Guest Speaker	--	
3/25 (W)	Career Guest Speaker	--	
3/27 (F)	Speakers Reflections		*Reflections
3/30 (M)	Middle Adulthood	Ch. 8	
4/1 (W)	Middle Adulthood	Ch. 8	
	Middle Adulthood	Ch. 8	*Reflections *Quiz
4/6 (M)	Late Adulthood	Ch. 9	
4/8 (W)	Late Adulthood	Ch. 9	
4/10 (F)	Late Adulthood	Ch. 9	*Reflections *Quiz
4/13 (M)	Death, Dying, & Grieving	Ch. 10	
4/14 (W)	Death, Dying, & Grieving	Ch. 10	
4/16 (F)	Death, Dying, & Grieving	Ch. 10	*Reflections *Quiz
4/20 (M)	Service Learning Group Meetings – in class	--	
4/22 (W)	Service Learning Group Meetings – in class	--	
4/24 (F)	Service Learning	--	Service Learning Group Evaluations
4/27 (M)	Service Learning Presentations	--	All presentations due by 9:00 am
4/29 (W)	Service Learning Presentations, cont.	--	
5/1 (F)	<b>Research Exposure Requirement</b>	--	<b>Research Exposure Requirements Due by 11:59 pm</b>
5/6 8-10 am	<b>Reflections</b>	--	

NOTE: This course is a blended course. This means that we meet twice a week in person on Mondays and Wednesdays, and then Fridays are online. The online courses are noted in gray.

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