



# EAST TEXAS A&M

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## PSY 322.01W Lifespan Development

Spring 2026

### INSTRUCTOR INFORMATION

Instructor: Leon King, MS, COTA

University Email Address: [Leon.King@tamuc.edu](mailto:Leon.King@tamuc.edu)

Preferred Form of Communication: Email or via Zoom

Office Hours: Monday Through Thursday 3:30 – 5:00 pm via Zoom by appointment

Communication Response Time: Monday through Thursday 24 hours, and 48 hours  
Friday through Sunday

### COURSE INFORMATION

Materials – Textbooks, Readings, Supplementary Readings

Santrock, J. (2025). *A Topical Approach to Life-Span Development* (11<sup>th</sup> Ed.).  
ISBN: 126-4058942

We will be using McGraw Hill Connect for all quizzes, and an E-book version of your reading assignments will also be available through connect, so purchase your Connect account through the following link:

<https://connect.mheducation.com/class/l-king-lifespan-development>

**IF**, you want a printed version of this book, (loose leaf format), when you register for this course in connect, to gain access to your assigned quizzes, you may purchase a printed copy at a reduced cost!

### 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 in development, formation of language, self-esteem and identity, romantic relationships, retirement, and dying. **Important note, this is the required developmental psychology course for any student pursuing a career in the field of allied health sciences!**

*The syllabus/schedule are subject to change.*

## **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

## **COURSE REQUIREMENTS**

### **Minimal Technical Skills Needed**

- Using the learning management system (D2L)
- Using Microsoft Word and PowerPoint - Using general Internet search engines (i.e., Google.com, Yahoo.com) to locate research related to topics.
- Accessing and using the East Texas A&M University Library electronic databases

### **Instructional Methods**

This class will be taught completely online and will not meet at any of the EATUM campuses. While students are allowed to work ahead, it is critical that students do not fall behind in this course as late work will not be accepted in this course without prior permission from the instructor and/or in true emergencies which will be evaluated on a case-by-case basis by the instructor. All lecture notes, quizzes, homework assignments and other projects will be made available through D2L and will be submitted through D2L as well.

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

It is strongly recommended that students plan to work in this class for a minimum of nine hours per week. This is calculated based on this course being a three-credit hour course and it is expected that students should work a minimum of three hours per credit hour for a typical non-laboratory undergraduate college course. Students are expected to submit all class related work on time and reach out to the professor if questions arise through e-mail and if needed meet with the instructor via Zoom.

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### **Broken Link Policy:**

Online content is checked in advance, but in rare cases a link may stop working mid-week. If a link is no longer working, notify the instructor immediately and no later than 24 hours prior to the chapter due date. Any broken links will be remedied and announced in D2L, and therefore no adjustments will be made to student grades if this occurs.

### **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

Exam 1	10%
Exam 2	10%
Exam 3	10%
Smart Book	20%
Discussion Board	20%
Lifespan Connection Project	30%
Total	100%

### **Assessments**

**Unit Exams** – This class will be broken down into units which will comprise of approximately four chapters that will examine a different topic within the area of lifespan development. At the end of each unit, the student will take an exam that covers all the material within that unit.

**Smart Book** – After reading each chapter, the student will take a “quiz” over the material covered in the chapter through McGraw Hill Connect. Smart Book assignments will require the student to take a quiz over what he/she learned and provide formative feedback after submitting the answer to each question. If a question is answered incorrectly, the student will be taken back to the exact page where the question was created from with the answer highlighted for the student to further review the material. A

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student may retake the Smart Book assignment as many times as he/she likes until the desired score is reached if the assignment is completed by the due date.

**Discussions Board** – Within each unit, there will be a threaded discussion board assignment. Each student is expected to respond to the writing prompt with an initial post of at least 250 words. The student will then respond to at least two peers with a minimum of a 100-word response.

**Lifespan Connection Project** – Your major project in this course will consist of connecting all the material covered in this course with relevant research in a particular area of the student's choice. There will be three options for the student to choose from examining one of the topics discussed within the textbook in further detail, examining how different psychological conditions may affect an individual over the lifespan, or examining how lifespan development is affected based on different social issues. Successful completion of this project will require the student to both write a formal report in APA format as well as share their findings through a voiceover PowerPoint presentation to the rest of the class.

## 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).

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**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 me by e-mail and I will respond to your emails. I will also meet students via Zoom as needed for further clarification and/or assistance on assigned projects within this course.

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

I will answer all emails sent Monday through Thursday within 24 hours and respond to emails sent Friday through Sunday within 48 hours. With that said, I will make every effort to respond to all emails within 24 hours and most of the time, even sooner.

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

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

Late work will not be accepted unless prior approval by the instructor in advance, and/or in the event of a serious major life altering event such as hospitalization of student and/or family, death of family member, loss of housing, or university excused absence that is within the time frame suggested by the student advocacy department. All late assignments will automatically be granted a grade of zero. If the student has an excuse provided by the student advocacy department, the student and instructor will develop a plan together regarding make up assignments. Please note, loss of Internet at your house will not qualify for an extension on an assignment as you have ample locations throughout the town in which you live that provide free wi-fi in which case you can complete and upload assignments at any such location. Additionally, sporting events that student athletes compete in also do not qualify for an automatic extension of course work. It is expected that student athletes will adjust their schedule each week to meet the demands of their courses as well as their athletic obligations. Because this class meets online and the student athlete, like all other students in this course, have the

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option to work ahead, athletic events should not prevent the student from submitting assignments on time.

### **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 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](#)

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>

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## **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

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

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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.

Web url:

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

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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.

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### **COURSE OUTLINE / CALENDAR**

<b>Unit:</b>	<b>Dates:</b>	<b>Readings:</b>	<b>Assignments:</b>
Biological Processes	1/13 - 2/7	Chapters 2 - 5	Smart Book Chapters 2 - 5, Discussion Board, Unit Exam
Cognitive Process	2/8 - 3/7	Chapters 6 - 9	Smart Book Chapters 6 - 9, Discussion Board, Unit Exam
Socioemotional Processes	3/8 - 4/4	Chapters 10 - 13	Smart Book Chapters 10 - 13, Discussion board, Unit Exam
Social Contexts	4/5 - 5/2	Chapters 14 - 17	Smart Book Chapters 14 - 17, Discussion Board, Unit Exam

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Capstone/Epilogue	5/3 - 5/8	No New Readings	Capstone Report and PowerPoint due 5/3, Response to two peers by 5/8
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