

East TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY

PSY 322.01W: Lifespan Development

COURSE SYLLABUS: Fall 2026

Online Course

INSTRUCTOR INFORMATION

Instructor: Dr. Krueger

Office Location: Henderson 233

Office Hours: Virtual (see Zoom link in D2L) on Tuesday 10:00-12:30, Wednesday 10:00-12:30, and by appointment

Office Phone: (903) 886-5637

Office Fax: (903) 886-5510

University Email Address: lacy.krueger@etamu.edu

Preferred Form of Communication: email

Communication Response Time: Within 48 hours

COURSE INFORMATION

Required Textbook: Lifespan Development by Riser, Spielman, & Biek
Available for free online in our course software or at:

<https://open.umn.edu/opentextbooks/textbooks/1734>

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 (SLOs)

1. Students will recognize key issues regarding physical, cognitive, and socioemotional changes that occur across the major stages of

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development – 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 apply knowledge of this course 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 two quiz grades. If you miss two quizzes, those will be your dropped grades. No makeup quizzes will be given unless under severe circumstances AND documentation must be provided. Quizzes are worth 20% of your course grade. (SLOs 1-3)
2. **Discussion Posts** – You will complete original discussion posts and respond to classmates' post to promote discussion of the course readings. Discussion posts must be written by YOU. If I wanted to know what AI thought about a topic, I could ask it myself. Instead, I want you to think about these topics. These topics are important and are applicable to your life, so I truly want you to reflect on them. There are no right or wrong answers for your thoughts. Please note that discussion posts are to be completed on time. Do not wait until the due date to complete these. Late posts will not be allowed unless severe circumstances AND documentation. Discussions are worth 20% of your course grade. (SLO 1 & 3)
3. **Service Learning Project** – Students will conduct a service learning project related to lifespan development. Students will prepare a presentation corresponding to their service project. You should create this project, not AI. I have specific instructions for you to follow as a template for the presentation, and in this presentation you will describe your service, how it connects to the course, and how it impacted you. This is your final project, and there is a strict late work

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policy for it. Projects submitted late within 24 hours of due date will receive a one-grade step deduction, within 24-48 hours late a two-grade step deduction, and after 48 hours a grade of zero will be assigned. The project is worth 30% total. (SLO 3)

4. **Research Exposure Requirement** – A goal of this class is to help you become familiar with psychological research. (SLO 2). 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.

THIS IS AN ONLINE COURSE; THEREFORE, ALL CREDITS CAN BE COMPLETED ONLINE.

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.

**** In D2L I provide examples of how the research exposure can be completed by solely participating in research studies, solely**

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doing the alternative assignments, or doing a combination of both. Be sure to note the due date that is listed at the end of the syllabus in the course calendar.

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 online course. Lecture materials and media will be posted, and students are expected to review these materials.

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 weekly assignments. I recommend checking D2I at least twice weekly. Also, be sure to start your service learning project EARLY. This will allow sufficient time to complete the service hours and prepare a presentation.

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:

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

LMS Browser Support:

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

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@etamu.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, an 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

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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

Late Work

There are STRICT late work policies in this course. Part of being a student is planning and being accountable. See late work statements in the Course Requirements/ Assessment section for late work policies by assignment.

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>

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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.

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

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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

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. Visit the link below to download the app and explore the resources available to you for guidance and support whenever you need it. You can locate it at:

telusproduction.com/app/5108.html

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.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.

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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](http://www.etamu.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/34SafetyOfEmployeesAndStudents/34.06.02.R1.pdf) 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.

COURSE OUTLINE / CALENDAR

TENTATIVE SCHEDULE

GETTING STARTED

August 20 – 23: Getting Started

Reading: Syllabus

Assignment: Discussion Post

UNIT 1

August 24 – 30: Lifespan Psychology & Developmental Theories

Reading: Chapter 1

Assignment: Quiz 1

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UNIT 2

Note: I skipped chapter 2 due to time constraints, but I highly recommend reading on your own about the hazards to prenatal development, mother's health issues, and the post-partum period

August 31 – September 6: Physical and Cognitive Development in Infants & Toddlers

Reading: Chapter 3

Assignment: Quiz 2

UNIT 3

September 7 – September 13: Social and Emotional Development in Infants & Toddlers

Reading: Chapter 4

Assignment: Quiz 3

UNIT 4:

September 14 – September 20: Physical and Cognitive Development in Early Childhood

Reading: Chapter 5

Assignment: Quiz 4

UNIT 5

September 21 – September 27: Social and Emotional Development in Early Childhood

Reading: Chapter 6

Assignment: Quiz 5 & Discussion Post

UNIT 6

September 28 – October 4: Physical and Cognitive Development in Middle Childhood

Reading: Chapter 7

Assignment: Quiz 6

UNIT 7

October 5 – 7: Service Learning Project (MINI WEEK DUE TO FALL BREAK! Fall break is October 8-11)

Reading: Dr. Krueger's Service Learning Project Instructions (Posted in D2L)

Assignment:

Assignment: Discussion Post. *Note:* This is due on October 7 (earlier than our usual week timeline)

UNIT 8

October 12 – October 18: Social and Emotional Development in Middle Childhood

Reading: Chapter 8

Assignment: Quiz 7

UNIT 9

October 19 – October 25: Physical, Cognitive, AND Socioemotional Development in Adolescence

Readings: Chapter 9 AND 10

Assignment: Quiz 8

**** Note:** You have TWO chapters assigned this week instead of one. We will cover all of adolescence.

UNIT 10

October 26 – November 1: Physical, Cognitive, AND Socioemotional Development in Early Adulthood

Readings: Chapter 11 AND 12

Assignments: Quiz 9 and Discussion Post

** Note: You have TWO chapters assigned this week instead of one. We will cover all of early adulthood.

UNIT 11

November 2 – November 8: Physical, Cognitive, AND Socioemotional Development in Middle Adulthood

Readings: Chapter 13 AND 14

Assignment: Quiz 9

** Note: You have TWO chapters assigned this week instead of one. We will cover all of middle adulthood.

UNIT 12

November 9 – November 15: Physical and Cognitive Development in Late Adulthood

Reading: Chapter 15

Assignment: Quiz 10

UNIT 13

November 16 – November 22: Socioemotional Development in Late Adulthood

Reading: Chapter 16

Assignments: Quiz 11 & Discussion Post

UNIT 14

November 22 – 25 (Thanksgiving Week): Death, Dying, & Grieving

Reading: Chapter 17

Assignment: Quiz 12. *Note:* This is due on November 25 (earlier than our usual week timeline)

UNIT 15

November 30 – December 6: Research Exposure Requirement & Service Learning Project

Assignments: Research Exposure Requirement due on 12/4 and Service Learning Project due on 12/6