**SYLLABUS**

**Code:** PSYC-208  
**Title:** Lifespan Development

**Institute:** Business and Social Science  
**Department:** Psychology

**Course Description:**

Lifespan Development is a broad-based course in developmental psychology that explores the processes that shape human development from conception to death. In this course, the scientific study of the biological, psychological, cognitive, emotional, personal, and social changes that occur throughout the lifespan will be examined with respect to the effects of heredity and culture, major developmental theories, moral development, gender role issues, sexuality, and family relationship issues that occur at every stage of development. Controversial and ethical issues relevant to lifespan development and the scientific study of human development will be critically examined and analyzed.

**Prerequisites:** PSYC-105 or 106.

**Corequisites:** none.

**Credits:** 3  
**Lecture Hours:** 3  
**Lab/Studio Hours:** 0

**REQUIRED TEXTBOOK/MATERIALS:**

*Lifespan Development: A Topical Approach* by Robert S. Feldman

*Taking Sides: Clashing Views in Lifespan Development* by Allison A. Buiskirk-Cohen

*Important Note:* Individual instructor addendums, which may be obtained through the Psychology Department (MAN 127), will note the exact edition of this required text.

**ADDITIONAL TIME REQUIREMENTS:** For information on Brookdale's policy on credit hour requirements and outside class student work refer to Academic Credit Hour Policy.

**COURSE LEARNING OUTCOMES:** Students successfully completing this course will be able to:

- Identify basic concepts and methods of studying human growth and development throughout the lifespan.
- Differentiate between and evaluate the various theories of human development. (SS)
- Identify and explain the major developmental milestones in the physical, cognitive, social, and emotional domains of human lifespan development during prenatal development, infancy, early childhood, middle childhood, adolescence, early adulthood, middle adulthood, and late adulthood.
- Analyze physical, psychological, and social issues that pertain to and occur during all phases of human development. (SS)
- Critically examine, analyze, and defend their personal positions based on research findings on controversial and ethical issues in the scientific study of lifespan development (e.g. Uses of Electronic Media in Early Development, the Adolescent Brain and Risk-Taking Behavior, the Institution of Marriage, & Euthanasia and Physician Assisted-Suicide). (SS)

*Learning Outcome(s) support the following General Education Knowledge Areas:*
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(SS) Social Sciences

GRADING STANDARD:

100-93% = A
92-90% = A-
89-87% = B+
86-83% = B
82-80% = B-
79-77% = C+
76-70% = C
69-65% = D
Less than 65% = F

There will be examinations and written assignments, which include, but are not limited to research papers that are designed to assess the student’s ability to define, conceptualize, analyze and apply the various content areas and to synthesize these elements in the written assignments. Details vary from instructor to instructor. Individual Instructor Addendums are available from the Learning Assistant in the Psychology Department (located at the lower level of the MAN building).

COURSE CONTENT:

A History of Developmental Psychology and Cultural Conceptualizations of the Individual Stages of Development
Research Methods used in the Scientific Study of Human Development
Biological and Cognitive Foundations
Cultural, Religious, and Political Beliefs
Moral Development throughout the Lifespan
Gender and Issues of Gender throughout the Lifespan
Conceptualizations of Self throughout the Lifespan
Familial Relationships throughout the Lifespan
Social Relationships and their Developmental Changes throughout the Lifespan
Conceptualizations of Gender and Sexuality throughout the Lifespan
School and School Relationships in Childhood and Adolescence
Work and Occupational Decision making in Adolescence and Adulthood
Effects of Media during Infancy, Childhood and Adolescence
Critically Examining and Analyzing Controversial and Ethical Issues in human Lifespan Development

DEPARTMENT POLICIES:

- Attendance is expected and contributes significantly to performance in this course.
- You are responsible for any work done in class that you miss.
- Class will begin and end on time. Lateness or early departure is not acceptable behavior, nor is walking in and out of the classroom during class time. Instructors may penalize such activities.
- Instructors may set a limit on the number of absences allowed. Individual instructor addendums detailing specific attendance policies are to be obtained through the psychology department (MAN 127).
- During lecture, periods of class explanation, and when fellow students are speaking to the class, students are expected to use proper courtesy and refrain from using technologies.
- ALL Cell Phones and Beepers must be turned OFF during class time.
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- Students are not permitted to use CD players or computers, etc... to play music during class time.
- The use of IRC, AIM and other instant messaging (chat) programs are not permitted during a class.
- E-mail must be professional and well written. As this is a college-level course it is expected that text messages are concise and prepared in full sentence form.
- Any e-mail that does not fully disclose the name of the student will be automatically interpreted as SPAM (unwanted junk mail) and be deleted unopened.
- Copying and pasting from the internet without a reference as well as purchasing materials online and misrepresenting them as your own work is considered plagiarism and is contrary to the BCC student conduct code.

COLLEGE POLICIES:
For information regarding:
- Brookdale’s Academic Integrity Code
- Student Conduct Code
- Student Grade Appeal Process

Please refer to the BCC STUDENT HANDBOOK and BCC CATALOG.

NOTIFICATION FOR STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES:
Brookdale Community College offers reasonable accommodations and/or services to persons with disabilities. Students with disabilities who wish to self-identify must contact the Disabilities Services Office at 732-224-2730 (voice) or 732-842-4211 (TTY) to provide appropriate documentation of the disability, and request specific accommodations or services. If a student qualifies, reasonable accommodations and/or services, which are appropriate for the college level and are recommended in the documentation, can be approved.

ADDITIONAL SUPPORT/LABS:

The Instructor addendum will be distributed on the first day of class. This addendum will contain specific information about instructor information (hours, office, phone, email), the class schedule, required assignments, and individual instructor class policies.

Additional tutoring is available from the Tutoring Center at the Bankier Library's Learning Commons. Please call 732-224-2999 or email tutoring@brookdalecc.edu for an appointment.