

Psychology 407, Life Span Development
Summer 2017
University of La Verne

Rebecca Newman-Gonchar, Ph.D., Instructor

E-mail Address: rnewmangonchar@laverne.edu

Course Description

This course examines the developmental changes and sociocultural events that take place during an individual's life span from infancy to old age. The course explores the psychological characteristics, personal challenges and developmental opportunities for each of life's age periods. The course considers how the influences of genetic inheritance and environmental factors shape the individual's social, emotional, physical, and cognitive development. Students will gain a greater appreciation for the complexity of human development and gain a heightened awareness of their own developmental experiences.

This Course meets is designated as satisfying these General Education requirements: ASBH Soc Sci - Behavioral Sci, GESSa Behavioral Science, UVLL Lifelong Learning, & UVVO Values Orientation (for any student who entered before July 2015) and LVSS Social Science (for any student entering after July 2015).

Course Materials

- Instructional materials for this course can be found on Blackboard (<http://bb.laverne.edu>).
 - **The text for this course is** Arnett, J.J. (2015) *Human Development: A Cultural Approach (2nd Edition)*, Pearson Publishing.
 - The course will also use My Development Lab, which can be ordered at www.mydevelopmentlab.com.
-

Course Requirements

1. **Personal Experience Paper:** You will write a paper on your personal experiences that you recall from your middle childhood and adolescence (ages 10-17). These remembrances should be significant to you and should focus on your own psychological adjustment and relationships to family, friends, and school. Your insights into your childhood are an essential portion of your report.
2. **Developmental Observations/Interviews:** Two observation/interview assignments give you the opportunity to get to know two individuals at two different age levels as you either observe them in a group setting, interview them about "matters of personal importance", or challenge them with intellectual tasks.

3. **Exams:** There will be 4 on-line multiple choice exams throughout the semester.
4. **My Virtual Child:** This activity, found in My Development Lab, allows you to experience human development from a parent's point of view. You will raise a virtual child from birth to age 18.
5. **Video Programs:** The PBS series "**Seasons of Life**" is a required part of this course. While not essential for studying for the quizzes or exams, these materials are rather interesting and supplement your readings.
6. **Discussion Board:** You will use the Discussion Board to respond to questions and comment on the work of the class.
7. **Quizzes for Extra Credit:** For each of the 4 Chaptertions of this course, a set of quizzes corresponding to each of that section's chapters will be posted on Blackboard.

Extra Credit Work

9. Extra Credit MY Development Lab Cross-Cultural Videos

These videos show similarities and differences in development across cultures throughout the lifespan.

Course Evaluation

Grades will be given based on cumulative points acquired based on the grading system below. There are 365 points for assigned Exams and written work. Extra points from Cross-Cultural Video assignments will be added to the total number of points you obtain on this work. Final grades will be determined based on 365 points using the following scheme.

Roughly:

94% of the following 365 points will be in the "A" range,

90% of these points will represent "A-" level work,

87% will correspond to a "B+",

84% will equal a "B",

80% will equate to a "B-",

77% will be a "C+",

74% will be a "C",

70% will equal a "C-" and so on for the remaining grade options.

Personal Experience Paper	20 pts
Developmental Observation/Interviews	60 pts (30 pts each)
Exams	200 pts (50 pts each)
Quizzes	13 pts (1 pt each)
My Virtual Child Written Assignment	40 pts

Discussion Board Threads

7 (1 pt each)

5 Video Summaries

25 pts (5 pts each)

TOTAL

365 pts

Class Schedule

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
June						
	6/5 Chapter 1 Intro to Human Dev	6/6 Chapter 1 Intro to Human Dev	6/7 Chapter 1 Intro to Human Dev Discussion board CHECK IN DUE	6/8 Chapter 1 Intro to Human Dev	6/9 Chapter 1 Intro to Human Dev Discussion board CHECK IN responses DUE	6/10 Chapter 2 Prenatal Dev
6/11 Chapter 2 Prenatal Dev Discussion board post DUE	6/12 Chapter 2 Prenatal Dev	6/13 Chapter 2 Prenatal Dev Discussion board post responses DUE	6/14 Chapter 3 The Newborn	6/15 Chapter 3 The Newborn	6/16 Chapter 3 The Newborn	6/17 Chapter 3 The Newborn
6/18 Chapter 3 The Newborn Discussion board post DUE Quizzes for Chapters 1-3 DUE by 11 pm	6/19 Unit 1 Exam [6:30 – 11 pm ONLY]	6/20 Unit 1 Exam [6:30 – 11 pm ONLY]	6/21 Unit 1 Exam [6:30 – 11 pm ONLY] EC My Dev Video Answers for Chapters 1-3 DUE by 11 pm	6/22 Chapter 4 Infancy	6/23 Chapter 4 Infancy	6/24 Chapter 4 Infancy
6/25 Chapter 4 Infancy	6/26 Chapter 4 Infancy	6/27 Chapter 4 Infancy	6/28 Chapter 5 The Toddler	6/29 Chapter 5 The Toddler	6/30 Chapter 5 The Toddler	

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
July						
						7/1 Chapter 5 The Toddler
7/2 Chapter 6 Early Childhood	7/3 Chapter 6 Early Childhood Personal Paper DUE by 11 pm Seasons of Life Video 1 Summary DUE by 11 pm	7/4 Chapter 6 Early Childhood	7/5 Chapter 6 Early Childhood	7/6 Chapter 6 Early Childhood Quizzes for Chapters 4-6 DUE by 11 pm	7/7 Unit 2 Exam [6:30 – 11 pm ONLY]	7/8 Unit 2 Exam [6:30 – 11 pm ONLY]
7/9 Unit 2 Exam [6:30 – 11 pm ONLY] EC My Dev Video Answers for Chapters 4-6 DUE by 11 pm	7/10 Chapter 7 Middle Childhood	7/11 Chapter 7 Middle Childhood	7/12 Chapter 7 Middle Childhood	7/13 Chapter 7 Middle Childhood	7/14 Chapter 8 Adolescence	7/15 Chapter 8 Adolescence
7/16 Chapter 8 Adolescence	7/17 Chapter 8 Adolescence	7/18 Chapter 9 The Emerging Adult Seasons of Life Video 2 Summary DUE by 11 pm	7/19 Chapter 9 The Emerging Adult Observation / Interview #1 DUE by 11 pm	7/20 Chapter 9 The Emerging Adult	7/21 Chapter 9 The Emerging Adult	7/22 Chapter 9 The Emerging Adult Quizzes for Chapters 7-9 DUE by 11 pm
7/23 Unit 3 Exam [6:30 – 11 pm ONLY]	7/24 Unit 3 Exam [6:30 – 11 pm ONLY]	7/25 Unit 3 Exam [6:30 – 11 pm ONLY] EC My Dev Video Answers for Chapters 7-9 DUE by 11 pm	7/26 Chapter 10 Young Adulthood	7/27 Chapter 10 Young Adulthood	7/28 Chapter 10 Young Adulthood	7/29 Chapter 10 Young Adulthood Seasons of Life Video 3 Summary DUE by 11 pm

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
7/30 Chapter 11 Middle Adulthood	7/31 Chapter 11 Middle Adulthood					
August						
		8/1 Chapter 11 Middle Adulthood Seasons of Life Video 4 Summary DUE by 11 pm	8/2 Chapter 11 Middle Adulthood My Virtual Child Written Assignment DUE by 11 pm	8/3 Chapter 12 Late Adulthood	8/4 Chapter 12 Late Adulthood	8/5 Chapter 12 Late Adulthood
8/6 Chapter 12 Late Adulthood Seasons of Life Video 5 Summary DUE by 11 pm	8/7 Chapter 13 Death and Dying	8/8 Chapter 13 Death and Dying	8/9 Chapter 13 Death and Dying	8/10 Chapter 13 Death and Dying Quizzes for Chapters 10- 13 DUE by 11 pm	8/11 Unit 4 Exam [6:30 – 11 pm ONLY]	8/12 Unit4 Exam [6:30 – 11 pm ONLY]
8/13 Unit 4 Exam [6:30 – 11 pm ONLY] Observation / Interview #2 DUE by 11 pm EC My Dev Video Answers for Chapters 10- 13 DUE by 11 pm						