**PSY 238-002 Lifespan Development**

**Instructor:** Caroline Kraft, Ph.D.  **Term:** Fall 2021

**Email:** [Kraftca3@msu.edu](mailto:Kraftca3@msu.edu) **Class Meeting Time:** M 11:30am-12:20pm

**Office:** Psychology Building, Room 252B **Class Location:** South Kedzie, Room S109

**Office Hours:** On Zoom M/W 1pm – 2:30pm and by appointment

**Office Hours Zoom Link:** https://msu.zoom.us/j/98619758258?pwd=RzJpYkM2OXh3ZjlQWVZtaXllRXR4Zz09

**Meeting ID:** 986 1975 8258

**Passcode:** devpsy

**Graduate Teaching Assistant:** André Herrera-Charpentier

**Email:** [**herre119@msu.edu**](mailto:herre119@msu.edu)

**Office:** Psychology Building

**Office Hours:** TBD

**Course Overview**

This course explores human development across the lifespan from conception to death. Students will learn about the physical, cognitive, and socioemotional changes that occur throughout human life, as well as important milestones that underlie typical development. Topics in this course are addressed using classic developmental psychology theories and research in the field. Topics in this course include prenatal development, language development, social skills and interpersonal relationships, identity formation, environmental influences on development, cognitive growth and decline, parenting, retirement, and dying.

**Course Objectives**

By the end of this course, students will be able to:

* Distinguish between key developmental psychology theories
* Apply developmental theories to everyday situations and relationships
* Explain the interplay of nature and nurture in human development
* Identify key markers and milestones in human development
* Explain the advantages and disadvantages of techniques used to study human development
* View current issues facing society from a developmental psychology perspective

**Materials**

**Textbook:** Life-Span Human Development (9th Edition) by Carol Sigelman and Elizabeth Rider

ISBN-13: 978-1337100731 A group of people standing in front of a blue background

Description automatically generated with low confidence

**D2L:** You will turn in assignments, use the discussion board, and complete quizzes and exams on D2L. I will use D2L to communicate with you and post grades and announcements. Please ensure that your contact information is current so that you receive all class-related emails. If you have trouble using D2L, you can contact the helpdesk. If you are unfamiliar with D2L, please complete the online tutorial: from the D2L page, click on help. A new screen will open up: click on Student Quick Start Guide. Please direct all technical questions to the D2L helpdesk at 517.355.2345 or 800.500.1554.

**Course Components**

* **Quizzes:** Each week you will complete a quiz on the topics covered in that week’s lectures (16 quizzes total). These quizzes will be no more than 10 questions. You will see many of these quiz questions again on your exams. *Your lowest quiz grade will be dropped at the end of the semester.*
* **Discussion Board:** The discussion board is on D2L. Each week you will see a discussion prompt pertaining to the material covered in lecture. You will and answer each of the questions in the prompt. You are expected to post one original response to the discussion prompt, and at least two replies to other students’ discussion posts. You are expected to respond politely and professionally to other students’ posts. Expressing disagreement is fine, but inappropriate and/or disrespectful comments will not be tolerated. **Guidelines for Discussion Board posts are on D2L.** *Your lowest discussion grade will be dropped at the end of the semester.*
* **Reading Response Papers:** There are 4 short written homework assignments in this class. You will write a 2 page (double-spaced) reading response to empirical research or review articles that are relevant to the topics we discuss in class. **The articles are posted as PDF files on our D2L class page.** You will turn in your responses via the dropbox function in D2L. All grades and feedback will be posted on D2L within a week following the due date. Assignments are graded on a 2- point scale. **All uploaded documents must be created in MS Word (.doc or .docx) or as .pdf files. Documents that are created in other programs will not receive credit. These papers will be monitored for plagiarism via the TurnItIn system. Guidelines for reading responses are posted on D2L.**

*\*Your grade for each reading response will be posted within a week of the due date.**If you wish to dispute the grade you earned on a homework assignment, you must do so within 5 days (including weekends) of the date your grade and feedback were posted on D2L. There will be no exceptions. You are strongly encouraged to monitor your progress on a regular basis.*

* **Exams:** There will be four exams in this course (including the final). The exams will comprise 60 multiple choice questions. You will have **75 minutes to complete the exam**, and **you MUST finish the exam once you start it**. Exams are ***Open Note***, but you are expected to **complete each exam by yourself** (individually), meaning you should NOT communicate with other students about the exam content, and you should NOT take the exam “with” other students (in person, via text, via zoom, through social media, etc.).  **Regular exams will open on Thursday at 8am and will close on Sunday at 11:59pm.**  If you are in the middle of taking your exam on Sunday at 11:59pm, you will not be able to complete your exam.

**Course Guidelines**

* **The lecture material is more important than the book material for your success in this course.**

This means you need to attend and participate in this class. Also, I will not include exam questions that were not covered in lecture. The book is a guide that will help you learn more about specific topics we discuss in class, but reading every page of the book is not necessary.

* **The lecture schedule will be modified as needed throughout the semester, but the exam dates will stay the same.**

**Grading**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Grade** | **Percentage of Total Points** | **Grade** | **Percentage of Total Points** |
| 4.0 | 90% to 100% | 2.0 | 70% to 74.9% |
| 3.5 | 85% to 89.9% | 1.5 | 65% to 69.9% |
| 3.0 | 80% to 84.9% | 1.0 | 60% to 64.9% |
| 2.5 | 75% to 79.9% | 0.0 | Under 60% |

**Your weighted final grade in this course will be based on the following:**

* Exams (50%) (4 exams: each worth 12.5% of your grade)
* Reading Responses (15%)
* Quizzes (20%)
* Discussion Board Posts (15%)

**Course Policies**

**Email**

Emails will be answered within 48 hours. Please do the following:

1. ALWAYS State in the subject line **PSY 238-002 🡪 The Section Number is especially important this semester.**
2. Make sure the answer to your question is not on the syllabus before emailing (please!)
3. Be specific in your email. If you have a question about an assignment, state the name of the assignment you are talking about.

**Attendance**

**\*IF YOU FEEL SICK, PLEASE DO NOT COME TO CLASS**. Class attendance is not mandatory, but it is strongly recommended (for those of you who do not feel sick) because your success in this course depends on learning the material that is covered in lectures. I will not post videos of the in-class lectures, so you should attend class. If you are unable to attend class because of illness, I will provide you with links to previously recorded lecture videos. **When you attend class, you are expected to wear a mask that covers your nose and mouth AT ALL TIMES.** If you fail to comply with University mask mandates, you will be asked to leave the classroom. If you test positive for COVID-19, please follow University guidelines regarding quarantine. Do not attend class if you test positive for COVID-19, even if you do not have symptoms.

**Exams**

Exams will take place on D2L, but completing the exams within the assigned time frame is mandatory. Makeup exams are only permitted in extremely extraordinary circumstances that adhere to university policies.

**Use of Electronics in Class**

The use of electronics, such as laptops and Ipads, is permitted during class for academic purposes. When you use these devices for other purposes, it is distracting to other students. Phones should be silenced during class. Vibrate is acceptable, unless your phone vibrates repeatedly, in which case I will ask you to turn your phone off. Please do not text during class.

**Academic Honor Policy**

 Article 2.III.B.2 of the [Student Rights and Responsibilites (SRR)](http://splife.studentlife.msu.edu/academic-freedom-for-students-at-michigan-state-university) states that "The student shares with the faculty the responsibility for maintaining the integrity of scholarship, grades, and professional standards." The Psychology Department adheres to the policies on academic honesty as specified in General Student Regulations 1.0, Protection of Scholarship and Grades; the all-University Policy on Integrity of Scholarship and Grades; and Ordinance 17.00, Examinations. (See [Spartan Life: Student Handbook and Resource Guide](http://splife.studentlife.msu.edu/) and/or the MSU Website: [www.msu.edu](http://www.msu.edu/).)  
Therefore, unless authorized by your instructor, you are expected to complete all course assignments, including homework, lab work, quizzes, tests and exams, without assistance from any source. You are expected to develop original work for this course; therefore, you may not submit course work you completed for another course to satisfy the requirements for this course. Students who violate MSU academic integrity rules may receive a penalty grade, including a failing grade on the assignment or in the course.

**Confidentiality**

Essays, journals, and other materials submitted for this class are generally considered confidential pursuant to the University's student record policies.  However, students should be aware that University employees, including instructors, may not be able to maintain confidentiality when it conflicts with their responsibility to report certain issues to protect the health and safety of MSU community members and others.  As the instructor, I must report the following information to other University offices (including the [MSU Police Department](http://police.msu.edu/)) if you share it with me:

--Suspected child abuse/neglect, even if this maltreatment happened when you were a child,

--Allegations of sexual assault or sexual harassment when they involve MSU students, faculty, or staff, and

--Credible threats of harm to oneself or to others.

These reports may trigger contact from a campus official who will want to talk with you about the incident that you have shared. You have the right to choose whether or not you would like to utilize any of these services or even respond to the university’s email.  If you would like to talk about these events in a more confidential setting you are encouraged to make an appointment with the [MSU Counseling Center](http://counseling.msu.edu/).

**Accommodations for Students with Disabilities**

Michigan State University is committed to providing equal opportunity for participation in all programs, services and activities. Requests for accommodations by persons with disabilities may be made by contacting the Resource Center for Persons with Disabilities at 517-884-RCPD or on the web at rcpd.msu.edu. Once your eligibility for an accommodation has been determined, you will be issued a Verified Individual Services Accommodation ("VISA") form. Please present this form to me at the start of the term and/or two weeks prior to the accommodation date (test, project, etc.). Requests received after this date may not be honored.

**Note Taking and Recording**

You are encouraged to take notes on the lecture and are permitted to tape-record class sessions for your own purposes. However, you are not permitted to take notes or tape-record for purposes of sale and distribution.

**PSY 238-002 Course Schedule**

**\*The lecture schedule will be modified as needed throughout the semester, but exam dates are set.**

**\*The discussions, quizzes, and reading responses are always due on Sunday by 11:59pm.**

**\*Lecture material will be posted Mondays by 11am. Assignments will be posted on Mondays by 5pm.**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Week** | **Date** | **Lecture** | **Due SUN @ 11:59pm** |
| 1 | W 9/1- Su 9/5 | First Class Meeting: Syllabus | Quiz 1  Discussion 1 |
| 2 | M 9/6 – Su 9/12 | *No Class Meeting Labor Day Weekend*  Ch. 1 Introduction  Ch.2 Theories of Development | Quiz 2  Discussion 2 |
| 3 | M 9/13 – Su 9/19 | Ch.3Genes,Environment, Development | Quiz 3  *READING RESPONSE 1* |
|  |  |
| 4 | M 9/20 – Su 9/26 | Ch. 4 Prenatal Development | Quiz 4  Discussion 3  *EXAM 1 (CH. 1 - 4)* |
|  | *EXAM 1* |
| 5 | M 9/27 – Su 10/3 | Ch. 5 Body, Brain and Health | Quiz 5  Discussion 4 |
|  |  |
| 6 | M 10/4 – Su 10/10 | Ch. 6 Sensation, Perception & Action | Quiz 6  Discussion 5 |
|  |  |
| 7 | M 10/11- Su 10/17 | Ch. 7 Cognition | Quiz 7  *READING RESPONSE 2* |
|  |  |
| 8 | M 10/18 – Su 10/24 | Ch. 8 Memory and Information Processing | Quiz 8  *EXAM 2 (CH. 5-8)* |
|  | *EXAM 2* |
| 9 | M 10/25 – Su 10/31 | *No Class Meeting Fall Break* | Quiz 9  Discussion 6 |
|  | Ch. 9 IQ and Creativity |
| 10 | M 11/1 – Su 11/7 | Ch. 10 Language and Education | Quiz 10  Quiz 11  *READING RESPONSE 3* |
|  | Ch. 11 Self and Personality |
| 11 | M 11/8 – Su 11/14 | Ch. 12 Gender & Sexuality | Quiz 12  *EXAM 3 (CH. 9 – 12)* |
|  | EXAM 3 |
| 12 | M 11/15 – Su 11/21 | Ch. 13 Social Cognition Moral Development | Quiz 13  Discussion 7 |
|  |  |
| 13 | M 11/22 – Su 11/28 | Ch. 14 Emotions, Attachment, & Social Relationships | Quiz 14  No discussion or RR this week |
|  | Thanksgiving Break |
| 14 | M 11/29 – Su 12/5 | Ch. 15 Family | Quiz 15  *READING RESPONSE 4* |
|  |  |
| 15 | M 12/6 – Su 12/12 | Ch. 16 Developmental Psychopathology | Quiz 16  Discussion 8 |
|  |  |
| **FINAL EXAM** | **W 12/15** | **7:45am – 9:45am** |  |