

# PSY 238: Lifespan Development Syllabus

Summer Session I, 2024: Section 730 - 5/13/2024 - 6/27/2024

## Instructor

Hyewon Yang

she/her/hers

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I am a doctoral student in the Social/Personality Psychology program at MSU. My research of interest are close relationships, personality, aging, friendship, and longitudinal analysis.

## Office Hours

Wednesday 9-10am EST (Eastern Time Zone)

Zoom Link: <https://msu.zoom.us/j/4876026354>

I will do my best to respond to emails within 24 hours (if not sooner) on weekdays. Remember that sending a response will take time. Emails over the weekend will be addressed the following Monday.

**I will be able to respond more quickly if you email me with the regular MSU email ([yanghyew@msu.edu](mailto:yanghyew@msu.edu)) instead of the D2L email.**

For faster response times, **all email subject lines must include** "PSY 238."

## 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 Mode

Lifespan Development is a fully online course. Therefore, you will need to have access to a computer with consistent access to a high-speed internet connection. Additionally, the course is set up to be asynchronous. This means you can complete most work according to your own needs. The course is designed to give you flexibility – but this flexibility also comes with the assumption that you will participate actively and meet due dates as required by the course.

## Course Goals

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 (older editions are fine). See 'Start Here' module on D2L for textbook (pdf of the textbook is provided there).

### D2L

You will turn in assignments and use the discussion board 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. Should you have technical difficulties with D2L, please contact [the D2L Help Desk](#) or call their service number, (517) 432-6200 or toll free (844) 678-6200, instead of emailing me. **Please keep in mind that the Help Desk is hosted by MSU and is available daily 7 AM – midnight EST.**

If there is a problem with D2L, report it as soon as it occurs to the Help Desk. They will log the problem and, in turn, report the details to the instructor. These technical problems should be reported immediately (maximum 1 hour). If there is a system problem, then hearing about what happens from more than one student will help to fix what is wrong. If it is just a problem with your computer, the help desk can help troubleshoot that issue, too.

## Course Guidelines

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

This means you need to watch the lecture videos. Also, I will not include questions that were not covered in lecture on quizzes. 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. *Course material, including the lecture videos have been provided courtesy of Dr. Caroline Kraft in the Psychology Department here at Michigan State University.*

- **All times and due dates listed in this syllabus are for Eastern Standard Time** (also called EST or ET; Michigan and New York is under this time zone, but NOT Chicago!). If you are taking this course in a different time zone, you will want to be aware of this and change your time zone to ET so that you do not miss any due dates/times. You can easily convert your time zone to ET here: <https://www.thetimezoneconverter.com/>

## Course Website and Access to Technology

The course can be accessed by going to [d2l.msu.edu](https://d2l.msu.edu). You will be asked to enter your MSU log- in and password. Look under the "My Courses" section and select Psychology 238 to access all of the class materials. You will also turn in assignments and take your exams

through this D2L site.

***Please be aware that technology failures will not be accepted as excuses for late or missing assignments or exams. Since we all know that technology can be temperamental, please allow yourself enough time to turn-in assignments and take exams, and alert me before deadlines if you have technical issues.***

This course requires a high-speed internet connection. It also requires various software programs to see/hear all of the course material. You need to be on a computer that allows downloads of free browser plug-ins so that you can watch movies and listen to lectures. This means that many public library computers are not appropriate unless you have verified that they have the necessary software. D2L is supported by most of the major internet browsers, including Mozilla Firefox, Internet Explorer, Google Chrome, and Safari. However, you should double and triple check that materials are accessible well in advance of assignment and exam due dates in case you experience technical difficulties.

If you do encounter a problem during a test or activity, report it as soon as possible to the 24 hour MSU Help Line at (844) 678-6200 or (517) 432-6200. They will log the problem and in turn, report it to me. Technical problems should be reported immediately (maximum within 6 hours). Keep the D2L help numbers by your computer in case there is a problem. Occasionally, there are planned service outages in order to update the software. These are reported in the "News" sidebar on the MSU D2L homepage and you should keep these in mind when scheduling your coursework. You can find a lot of helpful information at their website, too: <https://help.d2l.msu.edu/>

**Please follow these suggestions to prevent problems during your participation in this course:**

1. Use a recommended browser, like Chrome or Firefox.
2. Clear your cache and cookies before starting a quiz.
3. Have D2L open only to the quiz browser. If you have the course open in a second browser then you may have guest status in the exam browser and be logged in with your NETID in the other. Your quiz could end up with blank sections even after you enter data or it can skip questions.

## Course Components

### Quizzes

Each week you will complete 2 to 3 quizzes for the chapters covered in lecture (16 quizzes total) and they are 10 points each. These quizzes will be no more than 10 questions each and have a 20-minute time limit. You have one attempt per each quiz. Each quiz is worth 10 points and your FOUR lowest quiz grade will be dropped at the end of the semester. **These quizzes will be available each Monday and due each Sunday at 11:59 pm, except for the final quizzes which will be due on the last day of class, Thursday 6/27 at 11:59 PM EST. Please see the Course Schedule for more details.**

### Discussion Board

There are 7 discussion board assignments in this course and they are 10 points each. The discussion board is on D2L. You will see a discussion prompt pertaining to the material covered in lecture. You will

engage with the material provided 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. Your ONE lowest discussion assignment point (among the 7 opportunities) will be dropped at the end of the semester. **These posts will be open from Monday at 12 AM until Sunday at 11:59 PM, apart from the final week in which they will close on Thursday 6/27 at 11:59 PM EST. Please see Course Schedule and Discussion Guidelines on D2L for more details.**

### Reading Assignments

There are 3 short written homework assignments in this class due in Weeks 2, 4, and 6, and they are 40 points each. You will write a reading response to empirical 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 assignments folder in D2L. All grades and feedback will be posted on D2L within a week following the due date. **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. Reading Responses are due on each corresponding Sunday at 11:59 PM. Please see Course Schedule and Reading Response Guidelines on D2L for more details.**

### TurnItIn

Consistent with MSU's efforts to enhance student learning, foster honesty, and maintain integrity in our academic processes, I have chosen to use a tool called Turnitin to compare your papers with multiple sources. The tool will compare each paper you submit to an extensive database of prior publications and papers, providing links to possible matches and a 'similarity score.' The tool does not determine whether plagiarism has occurred or not. Instead, I will make a complete assessment and judge the originality of your work. All submissions to this course will be saved in the MSU Turnitin repository.

**The policy of this class is that you must be the creator of all work you submit for a grade. The use of others' work, or the use of intelligent agents, chat bots, or AI engines to create your work is a violation of this policy and will be addressed as per MSU and Broad College codes of conduct. This may include receiving a penalty grade and/ or failing grade on the assignment and/ or in the course, and/ or be reported to the Office of Academic Affairs and the Office of Student Affairs. See also the Academic Integrity webpage (<https://ossa.msu.edu/academic-integrity>). For examples of what constitutes plagiarism, see: <https://wts.indiana.edu/writing-guides/plagiarism.html>**

You should submit all reading responses without identifying information included (e.g., name or student number), the D2L system will automatically show this information to me when I view the submission, but the information will not be retained by Turnitin. If you forget and submit your paper with your identifying information on it, it will be retained in the Turnitin repository. If you have any questions about the use of Turnitin in this course, please bring them to my attention.

### **Grading**

<u>Grade</u>	<u>Percentage of Total Points (%)</u>	<u>Total Points (out of 300)</u>
4.0	90% – 100%	270 - 300
3.5	85% – 89.9%	255 – 269.7

<u>Grade</u>	<u>Percentage of Total Points (%)</u>	<u>Total Points (out of 300)</u>
3.0	80% – 84.9%	240 – 254.7
2.5	75% – 79.9%	225 – 239.7
2.0	70% – 74.9%	210 – 224.7
1.5	65% – 69.9%	195 – 209.7
1.0	60% – 64.9%	180 – 194.7
0	< 60%	< 180

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

- Quizzes (40%)  
12 quizzes 12 x 10 (points) = 120 (pts)  
(16 quizzes in total; the lowest 4 quiz points will be excluded)
- Reading Assignments (40%)  
3 reading 3 x 40 (pts) = 120 (pts)
- Discussion Board Posts (20%)  
6 discussions 6 x 10 (pts) = 60 (pts)  
(7 discussions in total; the lowest 1 discussion point will be excluded)
- Extra credits reading assignments (maximum extra 10%)  
3 reading 3 x 5 (pts) = 15 (pts)

Total 300 points

### Grade Appeals

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 may appeal the grade. All grade appeals must observe the following rules: 1) they must be typed; 2) you must clearly provide support for the appeal by citing relevant page(s) or lines of the material 3) appeals must be emailed to me ([yanghyew@msu.edu](mailto:yanghyew@msu.edu)) within 5 days of the posted grade. There will be no exceptions. You are strongly encouraged to monitor your progress on a regular basis.

### Course Policies

#### Optional Extra Credit

You have up to 3 extra credit opportunities in this class during Weeks 3, 5, and 7, and they are 5 points each. These consist of completing additional reading response papers that will be posted on D2L. Each is worth a maximum of a 1.66% boost (5 points) to your grade for a total possible 5% boost (15 points). Grading policy for the extra credit reading response papers will be identical to the other reading assignment papers required in the course. **Extra credit is due on each corresponding Sunday at 11:59 pm, except for the final extra credit opportunity, which will be due on the last day of class, Thursday 6/27 at 11:59 PM EST. Please see Course Schedule and Reading Response Guidelines for more details.**

### Late Assignments (reading and discussion)

Late assignments are accepted with 10% deduction per day, up to three days (72 hours) after the due date. This is, 1 minutes – 24 hours late: 4 points off, after 24 hours – 48 hours late: 8 points off, after 48 hours – 72 hours late: 12 points off for a reading assignment.

After three days, late assignments are strictly no longer accepted.

For Discussion 7 and Extra Credit Reading Response 3 due on 6/27 (Thursday), late assignments will only be accepted for up to one day (24 hours) late due to the subsequent schedule for final grade submission.

### Late Quizzes

No late attempts on quizzes are accepted, unless I have previously received communication about your accommodation VISA.

### Honors Option

An honors option is not available for this course.

### Academic Honor Policy

Article 2.III.B.2 of the [Student Rights and Responsibilities \(SRR\)](#) 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](#) and/or the MSU Website: [www.msu.edu](http://www.msu.edu).)

You are expected to develop original work for this course. Hence, unless authorized, you are expected to complete all course assignments, including homework, lab work, quizzes, tests and exams, without assistance from any source. This also means that you may not submit course work you completed for another course to satisfy the requirements for this course. In addition, plagiarism of written work is forbidden. It includes taking the work of another individual or source and presenting it as your own. This is considered plagiarism even if the source has given you permission to use their work, or the work is in the public domain (e.g., on the web). The use of others' work or the use of intelligent agents, chat bots, or AI engines to create your work is a violation of this policy and will be addressed as per MSU codes of conduct. **Students who violate MSU academic integrity rules may receive a penalty grade, including a failing grade on the assignment or in the course; and may be reported to the Office of Academic Affairs and the Office of Student Affairs.** See also the Academic Integrity webpage (<https://ossa.msu.edu/academic-integrity>).

### 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](#)) 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.**

Please be aware that as your instructor, I am mandated to report the following information (including your name and the details of the disclosure) to the Office of Inclusion if you share it with me:

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](#).

Given this, you should not disclose experiences of abuse or sexual violence related to MSU unless you are comfortable having this information shared with the Office of Inclusion. All are encouraged to use the resources listed below (not mandated university reporters) if you want to share any experiences of abuse or sexual violence.

MSU Safe Place: (517) 355-1100 <http://safeplace.msu.edu/>

NRC DV: <http://www.nrcdv.org/>

NNEVD: <http://www.nnedv.org/>

NCDSV: <http://www.ncdsv.org/>

MCEDSV: <http://www.mcedsv.org/>

No More <http://nomore.org/>

RAINN <https://rainn.org/>

The Joyful Heart Foundation: <http://www.joyfulheartfoundation.org/>

Feministing: <http://feministing.com/>

Futures Without Violence: <http://www.futureswithoutviolence.org>

### 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 at their [website](#). 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 (via email) 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.**

## Commercialized Lecture Notes

Commercialization of lecture notes and university provided course materials is not permitted in this course. In other words, you are not allowed to sell or post any lecture notes or other course materials without authorization from the instructor. Photographing lectures, slides, and/or recording of the lectures are also prohibited.

## 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. Since lectures are comprised of videos, please do not distribute these videos to other platforms. Dr. Caroline Kraft created and recorded all of the lectures and videos for this course.

## Work Load

Because this course is completely online, you will need to make sure that you will have consistent access to the Internet throughout the course. Vacations don't fit in well with accelerated summer courses, regardless of whether they are face-to-face or online. Remember that each week of an accelerated session is equivalent to two weeks of a regular semester! If your internet plans fall through during a vacation, then you may miss turning in an assignment or taking a test. These sorts of problems will not be excused. Whether Summer Session courses fit with a Study Abroad program depends on the timing of the program and the availability of high-speed internet at the program site. As with face-to-face classes, there will be no accommodations for exams or assignments due to conflicts with vacations and travel. You will need to research your program and decide if it is feasible!

This course is NOT self-paced, so you will need to decide if a condensed 7-week summer course is feasible for you. There are due dates for course activities, assignments, papers, and quizzes. Other than the fact that this course is online, it is structured much like a face-to-face class. I will make use of D2L's calendar feature to help you keep track of these due dates. You can subscribe to it and it will export to the calendar application (e.g., Outlook, Google Calendar, iCalendar) you use automatically! If I change a due date, it will update in real-time on your calendar. Follow the instructions in this link to subscribe to the calendar: <https://resources.depaul.edu/teaching-commons/teaching-guides/technology/desire2learn/tools/course-home/Pages/subscribing-to-a-calendar.aspx>

## Study/Time management TIPS

The best way to be successful on this course is to keep track of the dates to keep pace with the course. Below is a list of resources that I would recommend:

MSU's Guide to Remote Access: <https://remote.msu.edu/learning/learn-online.html>

Reduce distractions and gamify tasks: <https://www.forestapp.cc/> and <http://habitica.com/>

The Pomodoro Method (for studying): <https://pomofocus.io/>

Toodledo (for to-do list, outlining, notetaking): <https://www.toodledo.com>

Time tracker per project: <https://toggl.com>

Grammarly (for editing and grammar): <https://app.grammarly.com/>



## Course Schedule

Each week's materials will be available on Monday at 12 AM EST. The discussions, reading responses, and quizzes are always due on Sunday by 11:59 PM EST **except for Week 7, during which all assignments will be due on Thursday 6/27 at 11:59 PM EST (the final day of the course)**. The lecture schedule will be modified as needed throughout the semester and you will be notified via email, course homepage, etc.

Week	Date	Lecture	Due Sunday @ 11:59 PM EST
1	Mon 5/13 - Sun 5/19	Syllabus Ch. 1 Introduction Ch. 2 Theories of Development	Quiz 1 Quiz 2 Discussion 1
2	Mon 5/20 - Sun 5/26	Ch. 3 Genes, Environment, & Development Ch. 4 Prenatal Development	Quiz 3 Quiz 4 Discussion 2 Reading Response 1
3	Mon 5/27 - Sun 6/2	Ch. 5 Body, Brain, and Health Ch. 6 Sensation, Perception, & Action	Quiz 5 Quiz 6 Discussion 3 Extra Credit Reading Response 1
4	Mon 6/3 - Sun 6/9	Ch. 7 Cognition Ch. 8 Memory & Information Processing Ch. 9 IQ and Creativity	Quiz 7 Quiz 8 Quiz 9 Discussion 4 Reading Response 2
5	Mon 6/10 - Sun 6/16	Ch. 10 Language and Education Ch. 11 Self & Personality	Quiz 10 Quiz 11 Discussion 5 Extra Credit Reading Response 2
6	Mon 6/17 - Sun 6/23	Ch. 12 Gender and Sexuality Ch. 13 Moral Development Ch. 14 Emotions, Attachment, & Social Relationships	Quiz 12 Quiz 13 Quiz 14 Discussion 6 Reading Response 3
7	Mon 6/24 - Thurs 6/27	Ch. 15 Family Ch. 16 Developmental Psychopathology	Quiz 15* Quiz 16* Discussion 7* Extra Credit Reading Response 3*

\*Due Thursday 6/27 at 11:59 PM EST