

**Middlesex Community College-Meriden Campus**  
**Student Course Outline**  
**Life Span Development**

**Course #:** 3505 Psy F201

**Semester:** Fall 20 15

**Meeting Time/Location:** On-Line

**Semester Hours:** 3

**Instructor:** Christopher Arnold M. A.

**Work:** Albert J. Solnit Children's Center 860-704-4230

**Office Hours:** By appointment

**Email: Use Blackboard Email**

**carnold@txcc.commnet.edu if system fails or emergency**

***This outline is offered as a guide to the semester and is subject to change at the instructor's discretion.***

**Course Description:**

This course will examine human development from conception through death. Theories pertaining to physical, cognitive and psychosocial development will be explored and applied to the developmental tasks which face the individual throughout the lifespan. Care will be taken to view human development as a process of adaptation to the biological, psychological, sociological and cognitive challenges which are continuously presented to the growing person. Due to the fact that we explore the individual within the context of ethnic, religious and cultural diversity, this course qualifies as a "D" course, thereby meeting the graduation requirement.

**Textbook:**

***Development Across the Life Span. 7<sup>th</sup> edition,***

**Author: Robert Feldman**

**Course Objectives:**

**By the end of the course, students should be able to:**

1. discuss various theoretical approaches to development
2. demonstrate a general knowledge of human development
3. appreciate the person within the context of his/her psychosocial/cultural/ethnic environment.
4. understand aspects of scientific research, and how this contributes to understanding human development.
5. apply knowledge acquired to one's personal development.

**Disability:**

If you have a hidden or visible disability that may require classroom or test taking modifications, please inform me as soon as possible. Students with physical or learning disabilities who may require accommodations are encouraged to contact the counseling office.

**Instructors Message:**

My goal is for students to learn and comprehend the material presented to them. Any difficulty a student may encounter should be discussed with the instructor to determine the best plan for achievement.

**Academic Ethics:**

At Middlesex Community College, we expect the highest standards of academic honesty. Academic dishonesty is prohibited in accordance with the Board of Trustees' Proscribed Conduct Policy found in Section 5.2.1 of the board of trustees' Policy manual. This policy prohibits cheating on examinations, unauthorized collaboration on assignments, unauthorized access to examinations or course materials, plagiarism, and other proscribed activities. Plagiarism is defined as the use of another's ideas or phrase(s) and presenting those ideas as your own, either intentionally or unintentionally. The use of Website or library materials without proper citation is a form of academic dishonesty and will not be tolerated. Students found guilty of academic dishonesty will receive a "Failing" grade in the course.

**If one cannot state a matter clearly enough so that even an intelligent twelve-year-old can understand it, one should remain within the cloistered walls of the university and laboratory until one has a better grasp of one's subject.**

--Margaret Mead

**Grading Scale:**

	<b>A</b>	<b>100-93</b>	<b>A-</b>	<b>92.9-90</b>	
<b>B+</b>	<b>89.9-87</b>	<b>B</b>	<b>86.9-83</b>	<b>B-</b>	<b>82.9-80</b>
<b>C+</b>	<b>79.9-77</b>	<b>C</b>	<b>76.9-73</b>	<b>C-</b>	<b>72.9-70</b>
<b>D+</b>	<b>69.9-67</b>	<b>D</b>	<b>66.9-63</b>	<b>D-</b>	<b>62.9-60</b>
<b>F</b>	<b>&lt;60</b>	<b>UF</b>			

Students who enroll in a course, do not officially withdraw, fail to participate in course activities through the end of the term, and who have insufficient gradable work during the course, should now be given a final grade of "UF" – "unearned F." The same is true for students who enroll in a course, never attend, and never officially withdraw.

**Grading/Evaluation:**

**Classroom Observation or Individual Interview and Reaction paper,**

**Due 12/17/15: 25%**

Each student has the choice to either observe children in the classroom setting or interview an individual who is fourteen or older and then write a paper discussing how their interviewee's reflect the developmental issues we are exploring in the course.

If you chose to do classroom observation, you may observe infants, toddlers or young children in a childcare setting or older children in a school classroom setting. You will observe 2 of the 3 domains of development, psychosocial, cognitive and or physical development and then reflect in your paper how the children reflect the development theories presented in the course.

If you chose to interview an individual, the individual must be either an adolescent 14-19 years old, a young adult, 20-40 years old, or a middle aged 41-65 yrs. old. Your interview will include questions which reflect the developmental milestones and issues of the chosen age period. Your paper will include the questions/answers and discussion of how the person you chose to interview reflects the theories presented in class or that you've researched.

Your reaction paper must reference the theories mentioned in the text, , and should be at least five pages but no more than seven pages. Be sure to proof your final product prior to submitting.

**Weekly Discussion Board Participation 20%** Each week you will be assigned a discussion question that requires your response. In order to receive full credit for the discussion board, you must log on a minimum of three days weekly and respond to the current question as well as interact with your classmates. You must respond to at least two other postings in order to receive full credit. You will be graded on how completely you answer the assigned discussion question and by the quality of your responses to the other postings. Your use of critical thinking skills, conducting research on the discussion question and applying knowledge from your readings will be assessed. No credit will be given should you log on after one week. The discussion board is available Sunday 1:00am to the following Saturday Midnight Eastern Standard Time. No postings accepted after Saturday Midnight Eastern Standard Time.

**The weekly discussion assignments are worth 15 points each.**

### **Weekly Discussions (15 points)**

Questions for a week are posted on the weekly discussion board. You are required to answer all questions and comment at least two responses posted by others. For all the questions, you may need to research references such as journals, articles, books, Internet resources to support your opinions. For multiple questions, you need to write your answers of a question in a separate paragraph.

You will receive 15 points for fully answering the questions and responding to others. **You are highly recommended to write your answers in a Word file and save it. Then you copy the text and paste it in the discussion message window.** You are expected to **post your answer by midnight, Friday** of the week. Your response to two other students is due midnight, Saturday of the week. The discussion evaluation is composed with two parts, first part relates to your answers to the questions, which is 12 points maximum, and the second part is how you respond to others, which is 3 points maximum.

### **Part I. Points for the Answers to the Questions (12 Points)**

<b>Discussion Grading Rubric</b>	<b>Points</b>
----------------------------------	---------------

Provided complete details & explanations in an organized manner using complete sentences for the Discussion Question addressed in the discussion assignment. Complied with all Discussion Board requirements per syllabus.	12
Provided details & explanations in an organized manner using complete sentences for the Discussion Question. Complied with most weekly requirements per syllabus.	8
Details & explanations were very limited but writing was organized for some of the discussion question. Did not comply fully with Discussion Board requirements per syllabus	4
Details & explanations were very limited with no organization. Did not comply with discussion board requirements per syllabus.	1

## **Part II. Points for the Responses to Others**

**3 Points:** Responded to at least TWO message with explanations.

**1 Points:** Responded to at least TWO messages without explanations.

**0 Points:** Does not respond to any one.

### **Developmental Autobiography:**

The developmental autobiography will be the result of your collection of anecdotal information from the milestones of your physical, psychosocial, and cognitive development from conception through your current phase of development. Components of normal development for each phase of development will be applied through your own recollection and the stories you gather from significant others in your life who have been part of your growth and development.

**Due 12/15/15, midnight: 25%**

**Midterm Exam posted 10/13/15, 12:01 am , due 10/16/14, 11:59pm: 15%**

**Final Exam posted 12/12/15, 12:01am , due 12/15/15, 11:59pm: 15%**

**Submit exams in Assignment Drop box.**

### **ADDITIONAL SYLLABUS INFORMATION**

**For information about the college's policies and procedures regarding academic honesty, accessibility/disability services, attendance, audio-recording in the classroom, grade**

appeals, plagiarism, religious accommodations, weather/emergency closings, and more, please go to the following website: [www.mxcc.edu/catalog/syllabus-policies/](http://www.mxcc.edu/catalog/syllabus-policies/)

### Topical Outline

**Due dates for the discussion question student responses are listed below the chapter title as well as due dates for discussion responses to other postings by other students.**

Chapter 1	Week 1	8/27-9/6	An Introduction to Life-Span Development	9/5 due date for student response -9/6 discussion comments
Chapter 2	Week 2	9/7-9/13	The Start of Life: Prenatal Development	9/12 due date for student response -9/13 due date for discussion comments
Chapter 3	Week 3	9/14-9/20	Birth and the Newborn Infant	
Chapter 4			Infancy – Physical Development	9/19 due date for student response -9/20 due date for discussion comments
Chapter 5	Week 4	9/21-9/27	Infancy - Cognitive Development	
Chapter 6			Infancy - Social and Personality Development	9/26 due date for student response -9/27 due date for discussion comments
Chapter 7	Week 5	9/28-10/4	Preschool Years - Physical , Cognitive Development	
Chapter 8			Preschool Years - Social and Personality	10/3 due date for student response -10/4 due date for discussion comments
Chapter 9	Week 6	10/5-10/11	Middle Childhood - Physical, Cognitive Develop.	10/10 due date for student response -10/11 due date for discussion comments
Chapter 10	Week 7	10/12-10/18	Middle Childhood Years - Social and Personality	10/17 due date for student response -10/18 due date for discussion comments
Chapter 11	Week 8	10/19-10/25	Adolescence - Physical, Cognitive Development	10/24 due date for student response -10/25 due date for discussion comments
Chapter 12	Week 9	10/26-11/1	Adolescence – Social and Personality	10/31 due date for student response -11/1 due date for discussion comments
Chapter 13	Week 10	11/2-11/8	Early Adulthood - Physical, Cognitive Development	11/7 due date for student response -11/8 due date for discussion comments
Chapter 14	Week 11	11/9-11/15	Early Adulthood - Social, Personality Development	11/14 due date for student response -11/15 due date for discussion comments
Chapter 15	Week 12	11/16-11/22	Middle Adulthood - Physical, Cognitive Development	11/21 due date for student response -11/22 due date for discussion comments
Chapter 16	Week 13	11/23-11/29	Middle Adulthood – Social, Personality Development	11/28 due date for student response -11/29 due date for discussion comments
Chapter 17	Week 14	11/30-12/6	Late Adulthood - Physical, Cognitive Development	12/5 due date for student response -12/6 due date for discussion comments

**Chapter 18 Week 15 12/7-12/13 Late Adulthood – Social and Personality  
Development**

**Death and Dying**

**12/12 due date for student response -12/13 due date for discussion**

**comments**