

Ordering Information

Please review the following tips for ordering your course materials:

1. Do not purchase your textbooks until your enrollment is approved. During the processing period, a new section may be opened that could require a different textbook or edition.
2. *Always order by the ISBN.* Publishers and vendors often offer the same textbook title under different ISBNs. You must have the correct ISBN to access your online website.
3. Answers@outreach.lsu.edu for assistance.

Other Materials and Resources

Software: , MS Word, PowerPoint, Web Browser, Adobe Acrobat Reader

Students will use MS Word to complete module assignments and PowerPoint to complete the module reviews.

It is recommended that you use Mozilla Firefox or Google Chrome as your web browser. Internet Explorer is not compatible with your Moodle course site.

Adobe Acrobat Reader is required to view PDF document files.

Hardware: *Web cam with a microphone (built-in or external), headphones or working speakers, and high speed internet*

Exams are completed online and require the hardware listed above. Students are encouraged to review the technical requirements provided on the ProctorU website and to perform a test on their equipment prior to enrolling in this course to make sure they have the necessary resources available.

Technical Requirements: <http://www.proctoru.com/tech.php>

Equipment Test: <http://www.proctoru.com/testitout/>

Nature and Purpose of the Course

Course Outcomes: Upon completion of this course, students are expected to be able to:

1. Describe the physical changes in the body and brain from birth to death
2. Describe the cognitive changes that occur across the lifespan
3. Discuss the social and emotional changes that occur across the lifespan
4. Recognize the special emotional and cognitive issues associated with adolescence and adulthood

5. Recognize the special social, emotional, and cognitive issues associated with late adulthood and death

Welcome to the study of Life-Span Development! We will begin this introductory session by outlining the major components this course will cover. Psychology is the scientific study of mind and behavior. It includes how thinking and behavior develop and what processes are involved. These processes are sometimes within an individual and sometimes within the environment in which the person lives. Life-span developmental psychology is concerned with the study of human development from conception to death. It includes the areas of social, emotional, personality, perceptual, and cognitive development. From a life-span developmental perspective, development is viewed as life-long.

Life-span developmental psychology is the most relevant psychology course you will ever take. It will provide insights into your own development and potential changes, good and bad, that you will face as you travel life's path. It will give you insights about your relationships and how to maintain them over time. It will help you gain insight into good parenting and provide helpful ideas about raising your own children. This course also has much to offer students in professions engaged with people, such as medicine, nursing, counseling, and education.

Working with the Course Materials

Remember, this course covers an entire semester of work or the equivalent of a classroom course lasting 15 weeks. That means that each module in this course equals nearly a week of course work and will require the same time and effort on your part. *Do not expect to complete each module in a single study session. Understand, too, that if you choose to submit assignments at a very high pace, your instructor may not be able to grade your work at the same rate.*

Each module contains information, activities, and assignments organized under a consistent series of headings. Get familiar with how the module is organized. Each module in this course is organized into the following sections: the Module Learning Objectives, the Reading Assignment, a Review, and the graded Module Assignment. You should work through these parts of the module in order. Specific recommendations are provided in a link to the course module instructions, which you should review before beginning the first module.

You should begin each module by reading the introductory overview, then carefully read the designated chapters or assigned readings.

Next, you should go through the PowerPoint review. This will help you identify the important points you need to know to pass the exams and provide an opportunity for "retrieval practice" of important findings and definitions. Many of the PowerPoint slides have missing information replaced by ??? marks. This is your cue to try to remember the correct information to fill in the slide. Then proceed to the next slide and the correct information will be displayed. Whenever you are unable to retrieve the correct information, you should go back to that section of the text and review the material.

Syllabus

After all your study and review is complete, you should complete and submit the module assignment. Once you have completed the reading, review activities, and module assignment, you are ready to move on to the next module.

Suggested Study Techniques

1. Carefully review the module objectives to help you focus on the information that will be covered on the exams.
2. Concentrate on the reading assignments, the module lecture material, and any additional resources provided. This review should include a detailed examination of any illustrative problems and examples. After an assignment has been completed, a rapid re-reading of the related text and other materials is strongly recommended.
3. Put yourself on a definite schedule. Set aside a certain block of hours per day or week for this course and work in a place where distractions are minimal.
4. Try to submit one assignment each week or at least every two weeks. Delays in submitting assignments usually result in lagging interest and the inability to complete the course.
5. Review your module assignments after they have been graded, paying special attention to any instructor feedback provided. (We suggest that you wait for assignment feedback before you submit subsequent assignments.)
6. Regardless of how you complete your graded assignments, keep in mind that module completion should not be your sole preparation for your exams. As with any college course, you should study for your exams.

Reading Assignments

To do well in this course, it is essential that you read and study all the course materials that precede the module assignment. Do not begin the module assignment until you have done so. For each type of document you prepare for this course, follow carefully the guidelines provided in the textbook, syllabus, and course website.

You will read an average of 32 pages per module. Specific reading assignments will be given in each module.

Topic Outline

This course covers the following specific topics:

Module	Topic
01	The Life-Span Perspective
02	Prenatal Development and Physical Development in Infancy
03	Cognitive Development in Infancy

- 04 Socioemotional Development in Infancy
- 05 Physical and Cognitive Development in Early Childhood
- 06 Physical and Cognitive Development in Middle and Late Childhood
- 07 Socioemotional Development in Middle and Late Childhood

Mid-Course Examination

- 08 Physical and Cognitive Development in Adolescence
- 09 Physical and Cognitive Development in Early Adulthood
- 10 Socioemotional Development in Early Adulthood
- 11 Physical and Cognitive Development in Middle Adulthood
- 12 Socioemotional Development in Middle Adulthood
- 13 Physical Development in Late Adulthood
- 14 Cognitive Development in Late Adulthood
- 15 Socioemotional Development in Late Adulthood

Final Examination

Module Assignments

The module assignment requires that you write and submit short essay answers to four idea exchange essay questions and answer 20 multiple choice questions. Your essay answers do not need to be long, but should cover all aspects of each question. You should write *at least* one full paragraph for each answer, and most of your answers will be longer. You are also expected to cite relevant information from your text whenever appropriate.

Essay responses are worth a possible 20 points each, and each multiple-choice question is worth one point. The essay questions are designed to demonstrate the relevance of the material to your life and to help you think critically about relevant, real world issues. The multiple-choice items will test your knowledge of the text content and are similar to the multiple-choice items on your exams. *The essays must be your own work; any evidence of copying answers from others will result in plagiarism charges sent to the Dean of Students.*

You should submit each module assignment as soon as it is completed. Some courses have restrictions that require that a grade be received before you can submit additional assignments. Specific information on assignment submission is included in the Module Instructions. Please be sure to follow these instructions.

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Once you *submit* an assignment, you cannot revise it, so be sure to check your work. Your instructor will normally post a grade for your assignment within *seven calendar days*. Understand that occasional delays will occur, such as during holidays and semester breaks or if you submit several module assignments within the same week.

Do not rely too heavily on your textbook or other resource material when preparing your assignments. If you do, you may not realize until exam time that the perfect response you prepared for an assignment was only possible because you referred to resource material without really learning or understanding the material and concepts. Therefore, *you should attempt each assignment without referring to the resource material*, and if you find it necessary to look up an answer, be sure you have actually learned the concept and material rather than merely reflecting it in the answer.

Academic Integrity

Students in Online Distance Learning (ODL) courses must comply with the *LSU Code of Student Conduct*. Suspected violations of the academic integrity policy may be referred to LSU Student Advocacy & Accountability (SAA), a unit of the Dean of Students. If found responsible of a violation, you will then be subject to whatever penalty SAA determines and will forfeit all course tuition and fees.

Plagiarism

Students are responsible for completing and submitting their own course work and preparing their own modules. All work submitted in the course modules must be the student's own work unless outside work is appropriate to the assignment; all outside material must be properly acknowledged. It is also unacceptable to copy directly from your textbook or to use published answer keys or the teacher's edition of a textbook.

Collaboration

Unauthorized collaboration constitutes plagiarism. Collaborative efforts that extend beyond the limits approved by the instructor are violations of the academic integrity policy. Students who study together are expected to prepare and write their own individual work for submission and grading.

For more information and links to the *LSU Code of Student Conduct* and the SAA website, go to the [ODL Academic Integrity policy](#) on our website.

Examinations and Grading Policy

The assignment grades are based solely on your answers to the essay and multiple-choice questions at the end of each module. Your average on the 15 assignments will constitute one third of your final grade.

The mid-course and final exams will have the same format as the modules: 4 short essays and 20 multiple-choice questions, and they are graded in the same way (20 points for each essay question and 1 point each for the 20 multiple-choice questions). The essay questions will be similar to the ones in your module assignments. The mid-course exam covers Modules 01–07 and the final exam covers Modules 08–15.

**YOU MUST HAVE A PASSING AVERAGE ON THE EXAMINATIONS
IN ORDER TO PASS THE COURSE.**

If you have a passing average on the exams, course grade = average of lesson assignments + exam scores.

You will have a maximum of *three* hours to complete the exam.

The following grading scale applies:

97%–100% = A+
93%–96% = A
90%–92% = A-
87%–89% = B+
83%–86% = B
80%–82% = B-
77%–79% = C+
73%–76% = C
70%–72% = C-
67%–69% = D+
63%–66% = D
60%–62% = D-
0%–59% = F

IMPORTANT: The final exam cannot be taken until you meet the following requirements. Under no circumstances may the final exam be taken earlier.

1. You must have been enrolled in the course for *at least three weeks*, regardless of when the modules and other exams are completed.
2. You must have *received an assignment grade for Module 15*.

To read the full exam policy and other policy statements, visit <http://cms.outreach.lsu.edu/cms/CEHomePage.aspx>. Click on *Extended Campus*, select *Online Distance Learning*, and then click the link for *Policies*.

Taking Your Examinations

Syllabus

You are *required* to create a Louisiana State University ODL ProctorU account and to take your examinations through ProctorU, a remote proctoring service that allows you to take exams anywhere with internet access. Information on creating your ProctorU account can be found in the *Getting Started* module. You cannot use an account created through another university, so if you already have an account, you will still need to create an account associated with LSU Online Distance Learning (ODL).

The ProctorU website provides links you can use to find out how ProctorU works and to check your computer to see that it meets the technical requirements. In addition, to test using ProctorU, you need *access to a web cam with a microphone (built-in or external), headphones or working speakers, and high speed internet* to use this service. A complete list of technical requirements is available from the ProctorU website.

You should schedule your exams about a week before you are ready to take them in order to avoid any premium charges.

Transcript Information

After you have completed this course, your grade will be filed with the Office of the University Registrar. If a transcript is needed, it is your responsibility to make a request to the registrar. If you would like to order a transcript, visit the Office of the University Registrar Transcript Requests page to view your options (<http://sites01.lsu.edu/wp/registraroffice/student-services/transcript-request/>).

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