

Lifespan Developmental Psychology

The University of Toledo

By the end of the semester, you should be better able to:

- Comprehend the complexity of development including physical, cognitive, social, and emotional development at varying stages of life
- Understand the strengths and weaknesses of research contributing to knowledge about human development
- Be aware of the influence of diversity and culture on development
- Know the core features of various stages of development over the lifespan
- Reflect on the personal and societal examples of development in action



Learning Outcomes

Based on these course goals, the desired learning outcomes include:

- Explain and delineate the ways in which different types of development unfold and interact with each other over time
- Demonstrate the ability to analyze and synthesize issues within developmental psychology through the presentation and integration of psychological research
- Recognize the ways in which gender, ethnicity, and other forms of diversity inform our understanding of development over the lifespan
- Identify and recall important details of stages of development
- Evaluate the ways in which developmental psychology is apparent in our daily lives



Grading and Assignments

A variety of assignments will be used in an effort to provide a comprehensive estimate of whether the learning outcomes have been achieved. Please note in our discussion of the syllabus during the first class meeting how the course goals, learning objectives, and grading and assignments are logically interconnected. There will be a total of 100 points available for the class. Exams, a short paper, and reflective journaling will be the basis for your grade. (Please note that I reserve the right to adjust the grading distribution based on the class' scores. However, you will not receive a lower grade than that indicated in the table below.). At the midpoint of the course, I will provide a midterm grade based on all the assignments completed at that point. Along with monitoring your assignment grades as they are completed, the midterm grade can provide important feedback to you regarding how you are progressing in the course.

Grading:

Points

Exams	75
Paper	20

Mechanics and grammar: 3 points

Use and citation of research: 8 points

Overall presentation and discussion of issue: 9

Layout and APA Format

In addition to the 5 double-spaced pages of content, be sure to have a cover page with Title, Name, Rocket Number, and Course section. Also, you will need a References page with a minimum of two references.

American Psychological Association style must be used for the References page as well as all cited references in the paper.

Topic, Presentation, and Discussion

After identifying a topic from the textbook that interests you, try entering keywords into an academic search engine, like Google Scholar or PsychInfo. Based on the articles that come up, the specific issue you decide to write your paper on may become clearer. Of course, you can use academic sources other than journal articles for your paper.

After presenting the issue of your paper (the top bun), present the different research perspectives on the issue (the middle of the sandwich), and finish with your opinion, based on the research you presented (bottom bun).

The different research perspectives don't have to disagree, they just have to be different takes on the issue you selected. Your discussion is a synthesis and summary of these different perspectives, complete with your final critical analysis of the issue.

Reflective Journaling: There will be 2 journal entries, each worth 2.5 points. The journal entries will be one paragraph in length, and will be based on a current event or personal experience that is related to lifespan development. They will be graded in terms of how they integrate the everyday experience of development and developmental issues

leave a detailed message, including your Rocket Number and phone number, and an Online Learning staff member will respond on the next business day.

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