

CASPER COLLEGE COURSE SYLLABUS
PSYC 2360 Lifespan: Adulthood & Aging

Semester/Year: Fall 2015

Lecture Hours: 1

Lab Hours: NA

Credit Hours: 1

Class Time: Online

Days: Online

Room: NA

Instructor's Name: Kim Talbott

Instructor's Contact Information: LH175 (office)

Office Phone: 307-268-3068

Email:
ktalbott@caspercollege.edu

Office Hours: MW, 10:00-11:50; TTh, 11:00-11:50; and by appointment.

Course Description: An overview of the lifespan from adulthood to later maturity, the theoretical bases for adult development, and the psychological, physical, social and emotional aspects of adult transitions. Current research methodology on adulthood will be emphasized.

NOTE: The Casper College Addictionology / Psychology Programs have adopted the American Psychological Association [APA] Publication Manual as our official writing style for all written work in our courses.

Statement of Prerequisites: Prerequisites: [PSYC 2300](#), or concurrent enrollment with consent of instructor.

Goal: The goal of this course is to provide students with an opportunity to gain a better understanding of the many changes that occur between early adulthood and death, and the factors that are thought to influence these changes. The overarching goal is that students will acquire a better understanding of the developmental changes occurring within themselves and others, and apply this knowledge in their daily lives.

Outcomes: Through active course participation, students will be able to:

1. Demonstrate effective written communication.
2. Demonstrate knowledge of diverse cultures and historical perspectives.
3. Describe the value of personal, civic, and social responsibilities.

Course Objectives: This course is designed to introduce students to the many aspects of development, from early adulthood to end of life. Over the course of the semester, students will be introduced to such topics as-

- History, theory, and research strategies
- The physical, cognitive, and social/emotional changes that accompany each developmental stage
- Cultural similarities and differences
- The influence of biology and environment on development
- Key developmental terms, concepts, and principles

Methodology: Online consisting of PowerPoint lecture slides, textbook readings, videos, forum discussion, and activities. Also, students will learn course material through the activity of living a “virtual life”. Your feedback is valuable as the instructor uses course evaluations in determining course methodology.

Evaluation Criteria:

Exams (40 points each): There will be a total of two (2) exams consisting of multiple-choice questions. Exams will be worth a total of 80 points. No make ups will be allowed without documentation.

Virtual Life forum (30 pts): Students will post to the forum how their “virtual self” developed during each stage, any challenges they faced, and their successes and failures. Students will then comment on another student’s post. More specific instructions will be posted on Moodle.

Virtual Life Assignments (40 points total): Student’s will work on a semester-long assignment in which they live a virtual life in *MyVirtualLife*. *MyVirtualLife* can be accessed through the *MyDevelopmentLab* home page. Students will make life decisions from 18-years old to late adulthood and answer 4 sets of essay style questions. Each of these assignment sets is worth 10 points for a total of 40 points. Due dates will be posted in the “Announcements” section of Moodle and assignments will be collected through *MyVirtualLife*. No late assignments without documentation.

Extra-credit Participation (15 pts): You can earn 15 points by participating in extra credit activities. Extra credit activities consist of completing three hours of service learning or research participation. In order to earn extra credit all other graded assignments must be turned in. These points are truly extra credit and points earned cannot be used in lieu of a required assignment. Contact me for more information about these opportunities.

Casper College may collect samples of student work demonstrating achievement of the above outcomes. Any personally identifying information will be removed from student work.

Grading Rubric

% Points	Points	Letter Grade
90-100	135 - 150	A
80-89	120 - 134	B
70-79	105 - 119	C
60-69	90 - 104	D
Below 60	<90	F

Required Text, Readings, and Materials:

Berk, L. E. (2014). *Exploring lifespan development (w/ MyDevLab)*. (3rd Ed.). Boston: Pearson.

Class Policies:

1. You are responsible for all assigned readings. While many topics will be covered in class, not all concepts from the readings will be covered. Nonetheless, students are responsible for all assigned readings.
2. You are responsible for turning in assignments on time. The course schedule includes the week that assignments are due. The specific due date will be posted on Moodle during the week in which it is due. Late assignments are not accepted without documentation.
3. It is your responsibility to log in to Moodle every day, Monday-Friday, so that you are aware of any announcements that may be made. It is also your responsibility to let me know if you are having difficulty grasping any of the course material.
4. Withdrawing from class: Students may withdraw from this class up to November 12th, the official withdraw deadline date. Students who continue the class into finals week may not withdraw from the class. It is the student's responsibility to withdraw. The Instructor will not initiate withdrawals.

Student Rights and Responsibilities: Please refer to the Casper College Student Conduct and Judicial Code for information concerning your rights and responsibilities as a Casper College Student.

Chain of Command: If you have any problems with this class, you should first contact the instructor to attempt to solve the problem. If you are not satisfied with the solution offered by the instructor, you should then take the matter through the appropriate chain of command starting with the Department Head/Program Director, the Dean, and lastly the Vice President for Academic Affairs.

Academic Dishonesty: (Cheating & Plagiarism) Casper College demands intellectual honesty. Proven plagiarism or any form of dishonesty associated with the academic process can result in the offender failing the course in which the offense was committed or expulsion from school. See the Casper College Student Code of Conduct for more information on this topic.

Official Means of Communication: Casper College faculty and staff will employ the student's assigned Casper College email account as a primary method of communication. Students are responsible to check their account regularly. This is also, where you will find course evaluation links during course evaluation periods.

ADA Accommodations Policy: If you need academic accommodations because of a disability, please inform me as soon as possible. See me privately after class, or during my office hours. To request academic accommodations, students must first consult with the college's Disability Services Counselor located in the Gateway Building, Room 344, (307) 268-2557, bheuer@caspercollege.edu. The Disability Services Counselor is responsible for reviewing documentation provided by students requesting accommodations, determining eligibility for accommodations, and helping students request and use appropriate accommodations.

Course Schedule (tentative):

WEEK	WEEK OF:	TOPIC	READING & ASSIGNMENT
1	8/24	Syllabus & enrolling in MyDevLab Theory & research in human development	Ch. 1
2	8/31	Theory & research in human development	Ch. 1
3	9/7	EARLY ADULTHOOD: Physical development (Monday is Labor Day)	Ch. 13
4	9/14	EARLY ADULTHOOD: Cognitive development	Ch. 13
5	9/21	EARLY ADULTHOOD: Emotional development	Ch. 14
6	9/28	EARLY ADULTHOOD: Social development	Ch. 14
7	10/5	MIDDLE ADULTHOOD: Physical and cognitive development	Ch. 15 Exam 1 [1, 13, 14, 15]
8	10/12	MIDDLE ADULTHOOD: Emotional development (Midterm Week)	Ch. 16
9	10/19	MIDDLE ADULTHOOD: Social development (Fall Break falls on Monday & Tuesday)	Ch. 16
10	10/26	LATE ADULTHOOD: Physical development	Ch. 17
11	11/2	LATE ADULTHOOD: Cognitive development	Ch. 17
12	11/9	LATE ADULTHOOD: Emotional development	Ch. 18
13	11/16	LATE ADULTHOOD: Social development	Ch. 18
14	11/23	THE END OF LIFE: Death, dying, and bereavement (Thanksgiving Break starts on Wednesday)	Ch. 19
15	11/30	THE END OF LIFE: Death, dying, and bereavement	Ch. 19
16	12/7	<i>MyVirtualLife</i>	Virtual Life forum
17	12/14	Final Exam Week	Exam 2 [16, 17, 18, 19]

** Virtual Life assignments and due dates will be announced on Moodle and posted on the MyVirtualLife website.