SYLLABUS
Richland College
School of Learning Enrichment and Academic Development (LEAD)
Crockett Hall, C243, (972) 238-6230

PSYCHOLOGY 2314-8420
LIFESPAN GROWTH AND DEVELOPMENT (Online)
Fall 2012

Instructor Information:
Name: Dr. Sue Jones
Office: B223
E-mail: sjones@dccc.edu
Virtual Office Hours: 10:30-11:30 a.m., Monday through Friday
The best way to contact me is by e-mail. If you contact me at a time other than my virtual office hours, I will respond within 24 hours.

Required Textbook & Software:
For our course you will need a textbook and a software access code.
Access code for MyDevelopmentLab or MyVirtualChild
- MyDevelopmentLab (www.mydevelopmentlab.com) is software that contains MyVirtualChild as well as many other helpful tools such as an e-book, study guide, practice tests, etc.
- MyVirtualChild (www.myvirtualchild.com) is the computer program alone without the other helpful tools; it is all that is REQUIRED for the course.

You may:
1. Purchase *Exploring Lifespan Development*, 2d ed., by Laura Berk, bundled with an access code for MyDevelopmentLab. My understanding is that Follett Bookstore at Richland College (http://www.bkstr.com/webapp/wcs/stores/servlet/StoreCatalogDisplay?catalogId=10001&langId=-1&storeId=10678&demoKey=d) has both new and used texts available, both of which are bundled with the MyDevelopmentLab access code.
2. Purchase a new or used copy of the textbook from another vendor and buy access to MyDevelopmentLab at www.developmentlab.com or MyVirtualChild at www.myvirtualchild.com.
3. Rent the textbook (if available--check with Follett Bookstore) and buy access to MyDevelopmentLab at www.developmentlab.com or MyVirtualChild at www.myvirtualchild.com.

NOTE: If you want to have a study guide and practice tests, you need to choose an option that includes MyDevelopmentLab. Students find these study tools to be very helpful in preparing for the chapter quizzes.

Course Description:
This is a Texas Common Course Number. This is a DCCCD Core Curriculum Course.

Prerequisite: Developmental Reading 0093 or English as a Second Language (ESOL) 0044 or have met the Texas Success Initiative (TSI) standard in Reading and Psychology 2301 recommended.
This course is a study of human growth, development, and behavior. Emphasis is on psychological changes during life. Processes of life from prenatal beginnings through adulthood and aging are included.

Course Objectives:
Students who successfully complete this course will be able to:
1. Describe genetic, biological, environmental, and socio-cultural influences on each major stage of development from prenatal through aging.
2. Distinguish the major approaches in developmental theory and research.
3. Differentiate between normal and exceptional development.
4. Utilize the principles of development to enhance their own lives.
5. Meet educational requirements for careers in medical, teaching, and psychology-related fields.

Evaluation:
Your course grade will be determined by your performance on the following:

Orientation Quiz – This quiz covers the material contained in the course Orientation. It consists of 15 multiple choice questions worth one point each. (Total maximum points for this activity = 15.)

Discussion Forums – There are 5 Discussion Forums, each worth 30 points maximum. There are two parts to each Discussion Forum, each worth 15 points maximum:

In Part I you will post your original response to the prompt. Your response should be thorough (completely answering all prompt(s) or question(s)), clearly communicated, and reference the text, other readings, and podcasts as appropriate. Be sure to properly cite the source(s) of your information. Use correct grammar, punctuation, and spelling, and write in complete sentences. Do not use “text” language or other abbreviations that are not appropriate for a college paper.

In Part II you will reply to at least 3 or more of your classmates. At a minimum, you will reply to the classmate who posts just before you and the classmate who posts just after you, plus one other post that you choose. Your reply should directly address the posting and contribute to the discussion. Provide thoughtful and logical responses. Avoid simple replies such as “Great post.” “I agree with you totally.” “Good thinking, keep up the good work.” “Your post really made me think about this.”

Each Discussion Forum has two (2) due dates—one (1) for your original response and one (1) for your replies to classmates. Discussion Forum due dates are firm. (Total maximum points for this activity = 150.)

MyVirtualChild – There are 4 papers associated with the “MyVirtualChild” project. These papers cover prenatal development through adolescence. Each paper is worth a maximum of 40 points. Your papers should provide evidence that you completed all of the assigned tasks in the “MyVirtualChild” program. Be sure to answer all of the questions in the assignments. Follow the guidelines for clear communication and college-level writing given for the Discussion Forums (above). Paper due dates can be found under Calendar/Due Dates in the Course Menu. You may submit any paper up to one (1) day following the due date. After that the paper will not be accepted. (Total maximum points for this activity = 160.)

Quizzes – There are 7 chapter quizzes that cover adulthood, aging, and death and dying (Chapters 13-19 of our textbook). Each quiz has 25 multiple choice questions worth one point each and may be taken only once. There
is a 40-minute time limit on chapter quizzes. Quiz due dates can be found under Calendar/Due Dates in the Course Menu. You may take any quiz (including the Orientation Quiz) up to one (1) day following the Due Date. After that the quiz will no longer be available. (Total maximum points for this activity = 175.)

NOTE: A “due date” refers to 11:59:59 p.m. on that date.

Your final grade is based upon your Total Points for the semester and applied to the following scale:

**Grading Scale:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Points Range</th>
<th>Percentage Range</th>
<th>Grade</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>450 - 500</td>
<td>(90%-100%)</td>
<td>A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>400 - 449</td>
<td>(80%-89%)</td>
<td>B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>350 - 399</td>
<td>(70%-79%)</td>
<td>C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>300 - 349</td>
<td>(60%-69%)</td>
<td>D</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0 - 299</td>
<td>(0%-59%)</td>
<td>F</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Course Drop Date:**

If you are unable to complete this course, it is your responsibility to withdraw formally. The withdrawal request must be received in the Registrar’s Office by **Friday, October 5, 2012**. Failure to do so will result in your receiving a performance grade, usually an “F.” If you drop a class or withdraw from the college before the official drop/withdrawal deadline, you will receive a “W” (Withdraw) in each class dropped.

Students sometimes drop courses when help is available that would enable them to continue and successfully complete the course. I hope you will discuss your plans with me if you are considering dropping the course.

**Academic Dishonesty:**

Scholastic dishonesty is a violation of the Code of Student Conduct. Scholastic dishonesty includes, but is not limited to, cheating on a test, plagiarism, and collusion. Please refer to the attached “Richland College Statement on Academic Honesty.”

All papers submitted in this course will automatically be put through an electronic originality check to determine that they are your own original work. Please do not be offended by this--it protects the students who are doing their own work in case another student turns in something he/she did not write and compromises the integrity of the course.

You will be asked to check a box that allows the paper to go into a database that protects it from being used by another student. It in no way compromises the copyright of the material. In fact, if another student should submit it at a later date, your earlier submission will help prove that you are the original writer of the piece.

Papers will still go through the originality check whether you choose to submit your paper to the Global Reference database or not.

Note that not only does the originality check determine if this material is published, but also if it has been turned in by another student (anywhere in the country). A paper bought on the Internet might well have been purchased by another student previously.

**Institutional Policies:**

For Richland College policies, please consult: [www.richlandcollege.edu/syllabusinfo/syllabiInformation.pdf](http://www.richlandcollege.edu/syllabusinfo/syllabiInformation.pdf)

**Academic Progress:**

Students are encouraged to discuss academic goals and degree completion with their professors. Specific advising is available throughout the semester. Check **Step 6 - Advisement and Registration** at [www.richlandcollege.edu/admissions/process.php](http://www.richlandcollege.edu/admissions/process.php) for more details.

**Disclaimer:**
The professor reserves the right to amend this syllabus as necessary.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ASSIGNMENTS/ACTIVITIES</th>
<th>DUE DAYS/DATES</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Orientation Quiz</td>
<td>Thursday, August 30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Initial responses to Discussion Forum 1</td>
<td>Saturday, September 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Responses to others’ posts (Discussion Forum 1)</td>
<td>Monday, September 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>My Virtual Child Paper 1</td>
<td>Thursday, September 6</td>
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<tr>
<td>Initial Responses to Discussion Forum 2</td>
<td>Saturday, September 8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Responses to others’ posts (Discussion Forum 2)</td>
<td>Monday, September 10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>My Virtual Child Paper 2</td>
<td>Thursday, September 13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Initial responses to Discussion Forum 3</td>
<td>Saturday, September 15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Responses to others’ posts (Discussion Forum 3)</td>
<td>Monday, September 17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>My Virtual Child Paper 3</td>
<td>Thursday, September 20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>My Virtual Child Paper 4</td>
<td>Tuesday, September 25</td>
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<tr>
<td>Quiz – Chapter 13</td>
<td>Thursday, September 27</td>
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<tr>
<td>Quiz – Chapter 14</td>
<td>Saturday, September 29</td>
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<tr>
<td>Quiz – Chapter 15</td>
<td>Wednesday, October 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>DROP DATE – FRIDAY, OCTOBER 5</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Quiz – Chapter 16</td>
<td>Saturday, October 6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Initial responses to Discussion Forum 4</td>
<td>Saturday, October 6</td>
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<tr>
<td>Responses to others’ posts (Discussion Forum 4)</td>
<td>Monday, October 8</td>
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<tr>
<td>Quiz – Chapter 17</td>
<td>Tuesday, October 9</td>
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<td>Quiz – Chapter 18</td>
<td>Friday, October 12</td>
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<tr>
<td>Quiz – Chapter 19</td>
<td>Monday, October 15</td>
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<tr>
<td>Initial responses to Discussion Forum 5</td>
<td>Tuesday, October 16</td>
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<tr>
<td>Responses to others’ posts (Discussion Forum 5)</td>
<td>Thursday, October 18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>SEMESTER ENDS – FRIDAY, OCTOBER 19</strong></td>
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The Richland College Statement on
Academic Honesty

This statement clarifies academic honesty for the Richland College teaching-learning community. It identifies appropriate student behavior and describes teachers' expectations of students.

We—the Richland College faculty, administration, and staff—are committed to honesty and fairness as we work with our students. We also expect our students to be honest and fair in the work they submit to us. This statement on academic honesty describes:

1) what we expect from students.
2) the consequences of their failing to meet those expectations.

Note: As we use the terms "honesty" and "dishonesty," we are referring to actions and behaviors; we are not judging the character of our students.

The Richland College faculty believes only a small minority of students "cheat," However, we believe academically dishonest students cheat the academically honest students. Therefore, we expect students who are aware of cheating to act honorably and report instances of academic dishonesty to the faculty or the appropriate academic dean.

Expectations

1. We believe academic honesty is essential, and students should avoid actions that misrepresent academic success. We believe Richland College students are academically honest, and they want to be fair and honest in the assignments they submit.

These guidelines apply to all testing situations—test administered in the classrooms, tests administered in the Testing Center, and tests administered by someone other than the professor.

2. All forms of cheating on tests are academically dishonest. Students cheat when they:
   ► participate in any activity that falsely represents their ability to answer test questions.
   ► copy, with or without permission, from another student's test.
   ► use notes (either written or electronically stored in calculators or computers) or any other unauthorized materials.
   ► request answers or assist other students with answers without authorization.
   ► obtain test questions prior to the test (soliciting or in any other way obtaining test questions, answers, or portions of tests).

3. Student's presenting another person's work as one's own is unacceptable. Often, academic work permits and even encourages students to use another person's words or ideas, but students must document those words and ideas correctly. Therefore, students cheat when they:
   ► Summarize, paraphrase, or quote another person without giving proper credit.
   ► Submit papers written by someone else.
   ► Copy verbatim (word for word) from other sources (books, Internet, and other similar materials).
When they have questions about when and how to credit other sources, students must seek clarification from the faculty. These matters are the student's responsibility.

4. **Unauthorized collaboration on assignments or tests is unacceptable.** Richland College supports authorized collaborative, cooperative learning. Therefore, we encourage study groups when students are preparing for tests, but students cheat when they:
   - Provide other students with answers on homework assignments.
   - Present work completed by someone else.

If they have a question about the appropriateness of collaboration, students should seek clarification from the faculty. **These matters are the student’s responsibility.**

**Consequences**

1. Faculty determine the appropriate consequences for students who fail to be academically honest. Even if the course syllabus fails to address the matter, students are obliged to be academically honest. By enrolling in a course, students are promising to be academically honest.

2. As consequences for academic dishonesty, faculty may:
   - assign a performance grade of "F" for the assignment or test.
   - document the incident in the student's Richland College file.
   - assign additional work.
   - take other appropriate disciplinary actions.

Repeated violations may result in the student's expulsion or suspension from the college. Students must understand that academic dishonesty carries serious consequences. However, if they believe they have received unfair treatment, students can file a grievance as described in the "Student Code of Conduct" in the Richland College Catalog or published in the DCCCD Catalog at [http://www1.dcccd.edu/cat0506/ss/code.cfm](http://www1.dcccd.edu/cat0506/ss/code.cfm)