

**Texas A&M University Central Texas**  
**PSYC 3307 (10279) Human Lifespan**  
**Spring 2020**

**COURSE DATES, MODALITY, AND LOCATION**

January 13<sup>th</sup>-May 8<sup>th</sup>, 2020

**Online:** *This is a 100% online course, and uses the A&M-Central Texas Canvas Learning Management System [<https://tamuct.instructure.com/>].*

**INSTRUCTOR AND CONTACT INFORMATION**

**Instructor:** Stephanie Weigel, Ph.D.

**Office:** Warrior Hall 318 P

**Phone:** 254.307.0622

**Email:** sweigel@tamuct.edu

**Office Hours:** Monday & Wednesday 2:00pm-4:00pm; Tuesday 11:00am-3:00pm

**Student-instructor interaction**

Learning is best supported by interaction. This is especially important in an online course. It is important that you feel comfortable asking questions and communicating during class discussions. This will help support your learning and that of your fellow students. Some questions are best saved for outside of the classroom. The best way to contact me for these discussions is via email. We can set up an appointment if needed or you can come by during my scheduled office hours. I will check my campus email daily on weekdays and do my best to respond within 48 hours.

**Participation and Attendance**

As stated above, interaction with the instructor and your peers is critical for learning and your academic success. Participation in an online course means actively participating in discussions each week and submitting assignments on-time. If you get behind it is very difficult to catch up in an online course. Participation in discussions are a portion of the points towards your final grade (see below).

**COURSE INFORMATION**

**Course Overview and description:**

This course is an overview of human development from birth to death. Topics include history, theory, and research, genetic and environmental foundations in chronological order of human development. This course covers the physical, cognitive, emotional, and social development in each of the different age groups from prenatal through adulthood.

## **Student Learning Outcomes**

Upon satisfactory completion of this course, students will

SLO 1. Demonstrate content-specific knowledge of the field of human development across the lifespan. Students will demonstrate knowledge of the theories, history, and specific concepts related to genetics, research and environmental foundations through exams, discussions, and application exercises.

SLO 2. Apply the developmental framework, including models and theories, for understanding human lives and developmental change. Students will apply developmental foundations through written application exercises describing real life environments, group discussions and article analyses.

SLO 3. Integrate how the three different areas of development -- physical, cognitive, and social - interact to form the developing person. Students will describe and discuss the integration of multiple perspectives of development in group discussions, written application exercises, and article analyses.

SLO 4. Relate their understanding of human development to their own lives and careers. Students will relate the course materials and concepts to their own lives in group discussions and written application exercises.

## **Required Reading and Textbook(s)**

Berk, L. E. (2017). Development through the lifespan (7th Ed.). Boston: Pearson.  
9780134419695

## **COURSE REQUIREMENTS**

### **WEEKLY GROUP DISCUSSIONS**

8 weeks-20 points per week=160 pts total

Each week the instructor will provide a prompt or discussion topic based upon the week's readings. Students will provide their response to the discussion prompt in the Canvas Discussions area. The student's original response is worth up to 10 points. In addition to the response, students are expected to respond to at least 2 peers as well (up to 10 points). In order to receive full credit, the original post and peer response must show knowledge of the readings as well as application to the student's life, career, experiences or perspective. In other words, the response must go beyond summarizing the text book.

### **ARTICLE ANALYSES**

3 articles 20 points each =60

To expand awareness of current developmental research and applications students will complete three Article Analyses. The instructor will provide articles for the student to choose

from for their analysis. Students will use the article to complete the Article Analysis Form provided in the Canvas classroom.

### APPLICATION EXERCISES

3 exercises 20 points each=60 pts total

Students will show their understanding of the three areas of development by completing 3 Application Exercises. For each activity students will select an individual from a specified age/developmental group for observation. The student will spend at least 1 hour observing the individual in an activity (or activities) that the person typically does (natural day to day activities). Upon completing the observation the student will provide a written summary including the following:

- 1) A general description of the person (age, appearance, health) (2 pts)
- 2) A summary of the activity (what types of activities, who was present, their mood, etc) (5pts)
- 3) Connections between *at least 2 concepts (see examples below) from each of the 3 developmental areas*. This should include a definition or description of the concept, then specific examples of how they saw this concept in the real life observation. (6 pts)
  - a. Physical development: fine motor skills, gross motor skills, eating habits
  - b. Cognitive development: language (babbling, gesturing), theory of mind, Piaget's stages
  - c. Social development: empathy, aggression, gender roles
- 4) Discuss how what you observed relates to normal or expected development-are they on track with expected developmental milestones, ahead, behind? (5 pts)
- 5) Clarity of writing and use of APA style (2 pts)

### EXAMS

2 exams 60 pts each= 120 pts total

Students will complete 2 exams. Each exam will have approximately 60 multiple choice questions related to the material from that section of the course. The exams will be completed online within the CANVAS course. Students may use their books and notes to complete the exam, but the exam must be completed individually by the student without the help of other students, tutors, etc.

### RESEARCH EXPERIENCE REQUIREMENT

Research Experience Requirement: Students in selected psychology courses (PSYC 3307, PSYC 3309; PSYC 3330; PSYC 3312, PSYC 4320) are required to engage in research experience activities as part of the course. The research experience activity includes either writing summaries of peer-reviewed empirical research articles or participating in research studies directly related to psychology, or a combination of both.

Sign Up: To receive credit for a research experience activity, students must sign up to participate in a research study or write a research summary through the Counseling and Psychology Research Sign-Up System hosted by SONA (<https://tamuct.sona-systems.com>). It is the students' responsibility to ensure registration for Sona-Systems. Credits from previous

semesters are not permitted to be transferred for current semester use. Students that have not signed up for SONA will receive an email at their TAMUCT student email account from the SONA System Administrator Melissa Sanchez (ms057@my.tamuct.edu) when they have been registered to access the TAMUCT SONA system. Students must verify their account requests before being granted access to the system. Once the account is verified, students will be able to sign-up for research experience activities. A tutorial video is provided for using SONA ([https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=\\_1OnT2ZU6QQ](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_1OnT2ZU6QQ)). Students who have problems signing up for SONA or have questions should contact the SONA System Administrator.

Credits: Students are required to complete three research experience credits in this course. Credit is allotted as follows and is determined by the researcher (not the course instructor) based on estimated participation time:

- 1 credit for each hour (60 minutes) of research participation (in-person or online)
- 1/2 credit for each 1/2 hour (30 minutes) of research participation (in-person or online)
- One credit for each summary of a peer-reviewed, empirical research article.

Students who drop a class after having earned research experience credit cannot apply for any accumulated credit from that class towards the next time they take the course; however, credits in SONA can be transferred from one course to another in the same semester.

***Penalties: Any student who has not earned one research credit before the halfway point of the course (midterm) will be penalized one letter grade on the final course grade. Any student who has not earned all required research credits prior to the opening of the final exam period for the course will be penalized 1 letter grade on the final course grade for every research credit short of the required 3 research credits (e.g., missing 2 credits will result in a 2 letter grade reduction in the final course grade).***

#### Final Grading Criteria

##### WEEKLY GROUP DISCUSSIONS

8 X 20 points per week=160 pts

##### ARTICLE ANALYSES

3 X 20 points each = 60 pts

##### APPLICATION EXERCISES

3 X 20 points each =60 pts

##### EXAMS

2 X 60 pts each =120 pts

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**TOTAL Possible 400 points**

Final grades will be based upon the percentage of total points earned:

**A 90%-100% (360-400) B 80%-89% (320-359 points) C 70%-79% (280-319 points) D 60%-69% (240-279 points) F 59% or less (239 points and below)**

### Posting of Grades

All grades for the course will be posted in the Canvas Grade book. Grades for assignments and exams will be posted within 1 week of the due date or sooner. Feedback regarding the score will be provided as well, but I encourage you to ask questions about any grade or feedback for clarification.

### Grading Policy

In order to be successful in this course, it is critical for students to actively participate weekly and complete assignments on-time. If you are unable to complete an assignment by the due date contact your instructor immediately. Late assignments will receive an automatic 10% penalty and assignments more than 1 week late will not be accepted for credit.

### COURSE OUTLINE AND CALENDAR

Week	Topics & Assigned Readings	Assignments or Activities
<b>Week 1</b> Jan 13-19	Read Ch 1: History, theory and Research	<b>Sign up for SONA, introductions</b>
	Read Ch 2: Genetic and Environmental Foundations; Ch 3 Prenatal	Group Discussions
<b>Week 2</b> Jan 20-26	Infancy & Toddler Childhood Read Ch 3, 4, 5	Article Analysis #1
		Group Discussions
<b>Week 3</b> Jan 27- Feb 2	Toddler to Middle Childhood Read Ch 6,7,8	<b>Application Exercise: Early Childhood Due</b>
		<b>Exam 1;</b> Group Discussions
<b>Week 4</b> Feb 3-9	Adolescence Ch 11, 12	Article Analysis #2
		Group Discussions
<b>Week 5</b> Feb 10-16	Early Adulthood Ch 13, 14	<b>Application Exercise: Middle/Adolescence Due</b>
		Group Discussions
<b>Week 6</b> Feb 17-25	Middle Adulthood Ch 15, 16	Article Analysis #3
		Group Discussions
<b>Week 7</b> Feb 24- March 1	Late Adulthood Ch 17, 18	<b>Application Exercise: Adulthood Due</b>
		Group Discussions
<b>Week 8</b> March 2-6	Ch 19	<b>Exam 2</b>
		Group Discussions

## Important University Dates:

January 13, 2020	Add, Drop and Late Registration Begins for 16- and First 8-Week Classes \$25 Fee assessed for late registrants
January 15, 2020	Deadline for Add, Drop, and Late Registration for 16- and First 8-Week Classes
January 20, 2020	Martin Luther King, Jr Day (University Closed)
January 21, 2020	Deadline to Drop First 8-Week Classes with No Record
January 29, 2020	Deadline to Drop 16-Week Classes with No Record
February 21, 2020	Deadline to Drop First 8-Week Classes with a Quit (Q) or Withdraw (W)
March 9-12, 2020	Spring Break (No Classes - Administrative Offices Open)
March 16, 2020	Add, Drop, and Late Registration Begins for Second 8-Week Classes \$25 Fee assessed for late registrants
March 16, 2020	Classes Begin for Second 8-Week Session
March 18, 2020	Deadline for Add, Drop, and Late Registration for Second 8-Week Classes
March 23, 2020	Deadline to Drop Second 8-Week Classes with No Record
March 27, 2020	Deadline for Graduation Application for Ceremony Participation
April 3, 2020	Deadline to Drop 16-Week Classes with a Quit (Q) or Withdraw (W)
April 6, 2020	Registration opens for all students for the Summer and Fall Semesters
April 24, 2020	Deadline to Drop Second 8-Week Classes with a Quit (Q) or Withdraw (W)
May 8, 2020	Deadline to Withdraw from the University for 16- and Second 8-Week Classes
May 8, 2020	Spring Semester Ends

[Copied from the Academic Calendar: <https://www.tamuct.edu/registrar/academic-calendar.html>]

## WARRIOR SHIELD

### Emergency Warning System for Texas A&M University-Central Texas

Warrior Shield is an emergency notification service that gives Texas A&M University-Central Texas the ability to communicate health and safety emergency information quickly via email, text message, and social media. All students are automatically enrolled in Warrior Shield through their myCT email account.

Connect to Warrior Shield by [911Cellular](https://portal.publicsafetycloud.net/Account/Login) [https://portal.publicsafetycloud.net/Account/Login] to change where you receive your alerts or to opt out. By staying enrolled in Warrior Shield, university officials can quickly pass on safety-related information, regardless of your location.

## TECHNOLOGY REQUIREMENTS AND SUPPORT

### Technology Requirements

This course will use the A&M-Central Texas Instructure Canvas learning management system. **We strongly recommend the latest versions of Chrome or Firefox browsers. Canvas no longer**

supports any version of Internet Explorer.

Logon to A&M-Central Texas Canvas [<https://tamuct.instructure.com/>] or access Canvas through the TAMUCT Online link in myCT [<https://tamuct.onecampus.com/>]. You will log in through our Microsoft portal.

Username: Your MyCT email address. Password: Your MyCT password

### **Canvas Support**

Use the Canvas Help link, located at the bottom of the left-hand menu, for issues with Canvas. You can select “Chat with Canvas Support,” submit a support request through “Report a Problem,” or call the Canvas support line: 1-844-757-0953. For issues related to course content and requirements, contact your instructor.

### **Other Technology Support**

For log-in problems, students should contact Help Desk Central 24 hours a day, 7 days a week

Email: [helpdesk@tamu.edu](mailto:helpdesk@tamu.edu)

Phone: (254) 519-5466

[Web Chat](http://hdc.tamu.edu): [<http://hdc.tamu.edu>]

*Please let the support technician know you are an A&M-Central Texas student.*

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## **UNIVERSITY RESOURCES, PROCEDURES, AND GUIDELINES**

### **Drop Policy**

If you discover that you need to drop this class, you must complete a [Drop Request Form](https://www.tamuct.edu/registrar/docs/Drop_Request_Form.pdf) [[https://www.tamuct.edu/registrar/docs/Drop\\_Request\\_Form.pdf](https://www.tamuct.edu/registrar/docs/Drop_Request_Form.pdf)].

Professors cannot drop students; this is always the responsibility of the student. The Registrar’s Office will provide a deadline on the Academic Calendar for which the form must be completed, signed and returned. Once you return the signed form to the Registrar’s Office, you must go into Warrior Web and confirm that you are no longer enrolled. If you still show as enrolled, FOLLOW-UP with the Registrar’s Office immediately. You are to attend class until the procedure is complete to avoid penalty for absence. Should you miss the drop deadline or fail to follow the procedure, you will receive an F in the course, which may affect your financial aid and/or VA educational benefits.

### **Academic Integrity**

Texas A&M University -Central Texas values the integrity of the academic enterprise and strives for the highest standards of academic conduct. A&M-Central Texas expects its students, faculty, and staff to support the adherence to high standards of personal and scholarly conduct to preserve the honor and integrity of the creative community. Academic integrity is defined as a commitment to honesty, trust, fairness, respect, and responsibility. Any deviation by students

from this expectation may result in a failing grade for the assignment and potentially a failing grade for the course. Academic misconduct is any act that improperly affects a true and honest evaluation of a student's academic performance and includes, but is not limited to, cheating on an examination or other academic work, plagiarism and improper citation of sources, using another student's work, collusion, and the abuse of resource materials. All academic misconduct concerns will be reported to the university's Office of Student Conduct. Ignorance of the university's standards and expectations is never an excuse to act with a lack of integrity. When in doubt on collaboration, citation, or any issue, please contact your instructor before taking a course of action.

For more [information regarding the Student Conduct process](https://www.tamuct.edu/student-affairs/student-conduct.html),  
[https://www.tamuct.edu/student-affairs/student-conduct.html].

If you know of potential honor violations by other students, you may [submit a report](https://cm.maxient.com/reportingform.php?TAMUCentralTexas&layout_id=0),  
[https://cm.maxient.com/reportingform.php?TAMUCentralTexas&layout\_id=0].

### **Academic Accommodations**

At Texas A&M University-Central Texas, we value an inclusive learning environment where every student has an equal chance to succeed and has the right to a barrier-free education. The Office of Access and Inclusion is responsible for ensuring that students with a disability receive equal access to the university's programs, services and activities. If you believe you have a disability requiring reasonable accommodations please contact the Office of Access and Inclusion, WH-212; or call (254) 501-5836. Any information you provide is private and confidential and will be treated as such.

For more information please visit our [Access & Inclusion](https://tamuct.instructure.com/courses/717) Canvas page (log-in required)  
[https://tamuct.instructure.com/courses/717]

### **Important information for Pregnant and/or Parenting Students**

Texas A&M University-Central Texas supports students who are pregnant and/or parenting. In accordance with requirements of Title IX and related guidance from US Department of Education's Office of Civil Rights, the Dean of Student Affairs' Office can assist students who are pregnant and/or parenting in seeking accommodations related to pregnancy and/or parenting. Students should seek out assistance as early in the pregnancy as possible. For more information, please visit [Student Affairs](https://www.tamuct.edu/student-affairs/index.html) [https://www.tamuct.edu/student-affairs/index.html]. Students may also contact the institution's Title IX Coordinator. If you would like to read more about these [requirements and guidelines](http://www2.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ocr/docs/pregnancy.pdf) online, please visit the website [http://www2.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ocr/docs/pregnancy.pdf].

Title IX of the Education Amendments Act of 1972 prohibits discrimination on the basis of sex and gender—including pregnancy, parenting, and all related conditions. A&M-Central Texas is able to provide flexible and individualized reasonable accommodation to pregnant and parenting students. All pregnant and parenting students should contact the Associate Dean in the Division of Student Affairs at (254) 501-5909 to seek out assistance. Students may also



contact the University's Title IX Coordinator.

### **Tutoring**

Tutoring is available to all A&M-Central Texas students, both on-campus and online. Subjects tutored on campus include Accounting, Advanced Math, Biology, Finance, Statistics, Mathematics, and Study Skills. Tutors are available at the Tutoring Center in Warrior Hall, Suite 111. Tutor.com tutoring **will not** offer writing support beginning August 1, 2019.

If you have a question regarding tutor schedules, need to schedule a tutoring session, are interested in becoming a tutor, or have any other question, contact Academic Support Programs at (254) 519-5796, or by emailing Dr. DeEadra Albert-Green at [deeadra.albertgreen@tamuct.edu](mailto:deeadra.albertgreen@tamuct.edu).

Chat live with a tutor 24/7 for almost any subject from on your computer! Tutor.com is an online tutoring platform that enables A&M-Central Texas students to log in and receive online tutoring support at no additional cost. This tool provides tutoring in over 40 subject areas. Access Tutor.com through Canvas.

### **University Writing Center**

Located in Warrior Hall 416, the University Writing Center (UWC) at Texas A&M University–Central Texas (TAMUCT) is a free workspace open to all TAMUCT students from 10:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. Monday thru Thursday with satellite hours in the University Library Monday thru Thursday from 6:00-9:00 p.m. This semester, the UWC is also offering online only hours from 12:00-3:00 p.m. on Saturdays.

Tutors are prepared to help writers of all levels and abilities at any stage of the writing process. While tutors will not write, edit, or grade papers, they will assist students in developing more effective composing practices. By providing a practice audience for students' ideas and writing, our tutors highlight the ways in which they read and interpret students' texts, offering guidance and support throughout the various stages of the writing process. In addition, students may work independently in the UWC by checking out a laptop that runs the Microsoft Office suite and connects to WIFI, or by consulting our resources on writing, including all of the relevant style guides. Whether you need help brainstorming ideas, organizing an essay, proofreading, understanding proper citation practices, or just want a quiet place to work, the UWC is here to help!

Students may arrange a one-to-one session with a trained and experienced writing tutor by visiting the UWC during normal operating hours (both half-hour and hour sessions are available) or by making an appointment via [WOnline](https://tamuct.mywconline.com/) [https://tamuct.mywconline.com/]. In addition, you can email Dr. Bruce Bowles Jr. at [bruce.bowles@tamuct.edu](mailto:bruce.bowles@tamuct.edu) if you have any questions about the UWC and/or need any assistance with scheduling.

## **University Library**

The University Library provides many services in support of research across campus and at a distance. We offer over 200 electronic databases containing approximately 250,000 eBooks and 82,000 journals, in addition to the 85,000 items in our print collection, which can be mailed to students who live more than 50 miles from campus. Research guides for each subject taught at A&M-Central Texas are available through our website to help students navigate these resources. On campus, the library offers technology including cameras, laptops, microphones, webcams, and digital sound recorders.

Research assistance from a librarian is also available 24 hours a day through our online chat service, and at the reference desk when the library is open. Research sessions can be scheduled for more comprehensive assistance, and may take place on Skype or in-person at the library. Assistance may cover many topics, including how to find articles in peer-reviewed journals, how to cite resources, and how to piece together research for written assignments.

Our 27,000-square-foot facility on the A&M-Central Texas main campus includes student lounges, private study rooms, group work spaces, computer labs, family areas suitable for all ages, and many other features. Services such as interlibrary loan, TexShare, binding, and laminating are available. The library frequently offers workshops, tours, readings, and other events. For more information, please visit our [Library website](http://tamuct.libguides.com/index) [http://tamuct.libguides.com/index].

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## **POLICY STATEMENTS**

### **A Note about Sexual Violence at A&M-Central Texas**

Sexual violence is a serious safety, social justice, and public health issue. The university offers support for anyone struggling with these issues. University faculty are mandated reporters, so if someone discloses that they were sexually assaulted (or a victim of Domestic/Dating Violence or Stalking) while a student at TAMUCT, faculty members are required to inform the Title IX Office. If you want to discuss any of these issues confidentially, you can do so through Student Counseling (254-501-5955) located on the second floor of Warrior Hall (207L).

Sexual violence can occur on our campus because predators often feel emboldened, and victims often feel silenced or shamed. It is incumbent on ALL of us to find ways to actively create environments that tell predators we don't agree with their behaviors and tell survivors we will support them. Your actions matter. Don't be a bystander; be an agent of change. For additional information on campus policy and resources visit the [Title IX webpage](https://www.tamuct.edu/departments/compliance/titleix.php) [https://www.tamuct.edu/departments/compliance/titleix.php].

### **Behavioral Intervention**

Texas A&M University-Central Texas cares about the safety, health, and well-being of its students, faculty, staff, and community. If you are aware of individuals for whom you have a concern, who are exhibiting behaviors that pose a threat to safety, or individuals causing a

significant disruption to our community, please make a referral to the Behavioral Intervention Team. You can complete the [referral](#) online [https://cm.maxient.com/reportingform.php?TAMUCentralTexas&layout\_id=2].

Anonymous referrals are accepted. Please see the [Behavioral Intervention Team](#) website for more information [https://www.tamuct.edu/student-affairs/bat.html]. If a person's behavior poses an imminent threat to you or another, contact 911 or A&M-Central Texas University Police at 254-501-5800.

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