

PSYC288: Life Span Development

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PSYC288: Life Span Development

Course Welcome

Welcome to Life Span Development. This course focused on the advancement of life, one stage at a time. Be prepared to analyze your own life and connect it to the theories and viewpoints of life stage development theories. Be prepared to think critically about diversity of thought and culture!

Instructor Contact Information

Name

Phone

Email

Preferred contact method

Best time to contact / Office hours

Instructor Email Response Policy

Any course related email sent to the instructor will have a response either by email, phone, or through the LMS within 48 hours.

Course Description and Credit Hours

(3) A study of the basic principles and theories of human development with special emphasis given to the determinants of the human life span from the beginning of life through infancy, childhood, adolescence and adulthood to death and dying. Emphasis is placed on the transitional life processes as they occur at each stage, and attention is given to physical, intellectual, social and personality development in each stage of the life span. Special emphasis is also given to cultural diversity in human development.

Course Objectives

At the conclusion of the course, students should be able to:

1. Identify universal life stages and their physical, cognitive and social aspects through classroom discussions.
2. Describe characteristics of each human developmental stage by completing weekly quizzes.
3. Differentiate between the stages of Erikson's Psychosocial theory in weekly case studies.
4. Personalize the varying aspects of content in each module through a weekly reflection.

5. Analyze the difference between secular theories and religious thought throughout each development stage of the lifespan through integrated weekly assessments.
6. Respect cultural diversity by engaging in class discussions.

Program Core Competencies

At the completion of the program, the student should:

- Know how to think critically and analytically within their discipline.
- Be able to communicate concepts and ideas with their discipline effectively through both verbal and written communication skills.
- Be able to use knowledge and skills in a variety of settings, especially in employment situations.
- Understand how to apply a Christian worldview in a variety of settings,

Required Textbook / Materials

Title: Human Development (2nd Ed)
Author(s): Arnett (2015)
Publisher: Pearson
Published ISBN: 0133792420

Textbooks and other required course materials can be purchased from the [online campus bookstore](#).

Course Requirements

Any online course activities assigned to the course are performed within Canvas.

Additional web sites and related web-based activities, if assigned, will be accessed through the course or through web links provided for web sites located outside the course.

Final Grade Calculation

Grade Distribution

Assignment	Point Value
Online Discussions	145
Case Studies	70
Reflections	70
Quizzes	120
Final Exam	60
Total	465

Grading Scale

Letter Grade	Percent
A	100% - 94%
A-	< 94% - 90%
B+	< 90% - 87%
B	< 87% - 84%
B-	< 84% - 80%
C+	< 80% - 77%
C	< 77% - 74%
C-	< 74% - 70%
D+	< 70% - 67%
D	< 67% - 64%
D-	< 64% - 60%
F	< 60% and below

Netiquette Policy

In an online course, almost all your interactions with other people will be through the internet. This netiquette policy applies to all your interactions with the instructor and your fellow students, and you are expected to follow the guidelines outlined below.

Respect other people and be willing to share your ideas and thoughts in a respectful way. Simply, respect others' views. You may disagree with someone, but do so graciously and constructively. Pause before writing emails or posts when you are angry, and reread what you wrote carefully before clicking 'send.' Treat others the way you wish to be treated—with respect.

Do not post or communicate offensive or hateful content. Bethel University does not permit discussions that are obscene, harassing, sexually explicit, or derogatory toward individuals or groups. These will be deleted, and repeat offenders may be barred from future participation.

Do not post or share personal information. Do not post or share information such as addresses, telephone numbers, etc., and do not post or share someone else's personal information.

Learning Activities and Tests

Online Discussion

Class Participation

The following requirements are for online discussions:

The student will submit an initial discussion post per discussion topic. This initial discussion is a minimum of 250 words. This initial discussion post must include a level of detail, analysis and reflection related to the discussion topic. The student is expected to cite references to support their opinion. Any use of references must be properly cited using APA format.

Each student is required to reply to a minimum of two student initial posts. The reply post is a minimum of 100 to 150 words. This post must include a level of detail, analysis and reflection.

To receive the minimum points possible for a weekly discussion requires each student to post their initial discussion response on the regular night of the class session and two student reply posts by day four of the session – unless otherwise directed by the professor.

Post / Response Guidelines

In an online classroom the majority of discussion among class members will take place in the discussion forum. Online discussion forums are designed to allow the class to engage in a healthy dialog on the lesson topic or question being presented. However, for the dialog to remain productive Bethel University requires each person to conduct themselves in a responsible manner by following the simple guidelines below. These help to maintain a collaborative and congenial environment by reminding us all that, when we communicate online, we are still engaging real people.

Stay on the discussion topic. Be respectful of participants and their time by staying on-topic and not commandeering a discussion with vague or unrelated comments. Contribute productive

information when participating in a discussion by stating a complete and logical idea or concept. The goal in the discussion is to delve into a topic and “learn,” so when you post a comment stay on topic and explain your point of view.

Access the discussions several times in the weekly sessions to remain current and active in the discussion.

Do not post copyrighted material without the expressed, documented permission of the copyright holder or following proper source citation of the information, just as you would when writing an essay or term paper. Cite a source if you use it.

Contact your instructor if you have any questions.

Weekly Assignments

Case Studies

You will be presented each week with a picture and quote from a Humans of New York (HONY) post. HONY is a platform showcasing the diverse stories of the people of New York City. Through their different social media accounts and website, pictures are taken with short vignettes describing an aspect of their life. Some of the questions the photographer asks include:

- How did your life turn out differently than you expected?
- What are you learning about yourself?
- What is your greatest struggle right now?
- What is your greatest accomplishment up until now?
- Give me one piece of advice
- What do you feel most guilty about?
- What was the happiest moment of your life?
- Identify the times in your life where you’ve felt these emotions the strongest?

Now your job is to look at their quote through the lens of human development. To do this, please address the following points in your analysis:

- Based on the differing weekly picture, where would you categorize their stage in life right now? You can focus on all the people in the picture or just one, it is up to you.
 - Give examples to support your decision. Be thorough.
- According to Erikson, what is the crisis experienced for those in this stage?
- Based on the quote, can you tell if the comments of the person or the people in this picture are related to Erikson's crisis for this stage? If so, has it been positively achieved or negatively achieved?

Length Between 2-4 paragraphs (4-6 sentences per paragraph), double-spaced, no APA formatting needed.

**An example assignment is available in the module assignment description.*

Each case study is worth 10 pts. Grading rubric is available in Canvas

Reflections

Reflections are a chance for each student to share some takeaways from each week, including the chapter readings, the devotion, the discussion and share any specific examples from the stage covered this week. In addition, each reflection will be a little bit different, so make sure to read each one carefully.

For this week, please address the following issues in a double-spaced, 1-2 page reflection.

- How you did or did not connect with the devotion.
- What questions you have from the readings and resources in this module.
- Your biggest take-away from this week.
- During this past week, share how you connected an aspect of this week's readings TV show, movie or real-life interaction. What was that term, theory, explanation and share the example of how you connected it?
- TBD: Specific text-related question

This assignment is 90% based on participation, so give it your best shot!
Finally, for consistency and simplicity, please have these papers double-spaced.

Each reflection is worth 10 pts. Grading rubric is available in Canvas

Online Discussions

Each week will consist of an online discussion. Each discussion is worth 20 pts. See rubric in Canvas.

Quizzes

A quiz will be given at the end of each week for the first six weeks. Your lowest quiz grade will be dropped. Each quiz will be worth 20 pts.

Final Exam

Your final exam will take place the last week and consist of questions gathered from each quiz as well as short answer and case studies. This exam is worth 60 pts.

Course Schedule

Week #	Required Reading	Assignment / Activity
1	Arnett, Chapters 1 & 2	Discussion, Reflection, Humans of New York, & Quiz
2	Arnett, Chapters 3 & 4	Discussion, Reflection, Humans of New York, & Quiz

3	Arnett, Chapters 5 & 6	Discussion, Reflection, Humans of New York, & Quiz
4	Arnett, Chapters 7 & 8	Discussion, Reflection, Humans of New York, & Quiz
5	Arnett, Chapters 9 & 10	Discussion, Reflection, Humans of New York, & Quiz
6	Arnett, Chapters 11 & 12	Discussion, Reflection, Humans of New York, & Quiz
7	Arnett, Chapters 13	Discussion, Reflection, Humans of New York, & Final Exam

Bethel University Policies and Resources

To view all Bethel University policies and information, please review the [Student Handbook](#).

Online Attendance

Online attendance is recorded each time that you log into the learning management system. The academic week is seven days for an online session and is based on the night the class normally meets (i.e. if the class meets on Monday night then the online session will be from Monday night through Sunday night of the following week). To receive full credit for attending online, you must login AND one of the following items must be completed as directed by the instructor:

- Submit an academic assignment.
- Submit a quiz or exam.
- Participate in a posted online academic discussion.

Note that the following actions will not count as attendance:

- Logging into class without active participation does not constitute attendance.
- Work done in a lab or other outside environment will not count toward online attendance.
- Assignments completed the week after the online assignment is due will not count toward attendance for the previous week.

Students are strongly encouraged to log into the course a minimum of three days during the week the course is “online” in order to understand the subject fully and to be successful in class.

An online absence is counted the same as an in-class absence.

Late or Make Up Work

It is important for students to submit work on time as scheduled in the class. This allows the instructor time to grade the material and provide feedback if necessary. Circumstances may interfere with the ability to submit an assignment on time. However, as a student you agree to take the class and therefore agree to submit work on time.

Students are encouraged to work ahead to avoid late assignments. Please communicate with your professor promptly if you have extenuating circumstances that may contribute to a late assignment.

Assignments (excluding discussion questions) will be accepted late, subject to a 10% deduction off the earned grade per day late (24-hour period), for up to 3 days. No assignments will be accepted after 3 days. Discussion posts and responses that are not posted by the due date will receive 0 points and are not accepted past the due date.

All work must be completed and submitted by the end of Week 7 of the course. No work will be accepted after the last day of the course.

Class Cancellation / Weather Policy for Online Courses

In the advent of in-classroom meeting cancellation due to a campus scheduled holiday or severe weather, the online course schedule will be maintained. Campus closures do not affect the online course schedule.

Plagiarism

Any act of deceit, falsehood or stealing by unethically copying or using someone else's work in an academic situation is prohibited. A student found guilty of plagiarism will receive an "F" for that paper, assignment or exam. The professor will have an interview with the student and submit a written report to the Program Director or Coordinator for the area in which the student is enrolled. If a second offense should occur, the student will be required to appear before the professor, the director and the vice president for adult and graduate studies. At this point the student's continuation in the course and academic career are in jeopardy. Students are encouraged to refer to the Bethel Library's [online help for proper citation](#).

Disability Services

The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) is a law that provides civil rights protection for people with disabilities. Bethel University is compliant with equal access laws and requests students with disabilities. The Center for Academic Success (CAS) is located in the lower level of the Miller/Moore Academic Center.

If you have a disability, or think you have a disability, please make an appointment by calling Disability Services at the Center for Academic Success at (574) 807-7460 or (574) 807-7462 or email academicsuccess@betheluniversity.edu.

Bethel's website offers more detailed information under CAS. Please check out the [Student Guide for Disability Services](#).

Information Technology Help Desk

The Help Desk is open Monday-Thursday from 7:30 a.m. - 6 p.m. and Friday, 7:30 a.m. - 5 p.m., during the fall and spring semesters, and 8 a.m. - 5 p.m. during the summer (starting May 1). Hours may vary on holidays and breaks.

Contact the Help Desk at helpdesk@betheluniversity.edu or by calling (574) 807-7777.

Library

Bethel's Bowen Library offers a range of resources and services, both online and physical, to all students enrolled at Bethel University. All online resources are available at the [library website](#).

Almost all periodicals and journals are available online, and there is a wide selection of e-books available as well. Off-campus access to these resources requires an active Bethel login account. For assistance in locating information, librarians are available to answer questions via email ([Ask a Librarian](#)), phone, or in person during regular business hours. For physical resources, students are able to use the [library catalog](#) to locate books and resources that are

held either by Bethel or any other library. Students may use the catalog to request books from another library and have them delivered to the Bowen Library.

Students may also go to any [PALNI](#) library or to Notre Dame or Holy Cross and check material out in person with a valid student ID. PALNI is a consortium of several academic libraries in Indiana of which Bethel is a member; some nearby member libraries include Saint Mary's, Associated Mennonite Biblical Seminary, Goshen, and Grace. In addition, physical books and journals, the Bowen Library provides study spaces, computers, and printers (included a web print station) to all students.

Syllabus Acknowledgment

Enrollment in this course is considered an acknowledgment that the student will review and follow the course syllabus and additional university policies as stated within the student handbook, university catalog and student information provided by the university through the campus website.

This syllabus is not a legal contract, but serves as a general outline for the semester. The professor reserves the right to make adjustments to the course as the need arises.