



PSYC 2314. –Lifespan F2F

Course Syllabus: Fall 2026

“Northeast Texas Community College exists to provide personal, dynamic learning experiences empowering students to succeed.”

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Weekday	Office Hours
Monday	11:00am-12:20pm; 1:30-4:00pm
Tuesday	By request
Wednesday	11:00am-12:20pm; 1:30-3:00pm
Thursday	1:30-4:30pm
Friday	None

This syllabus serves as the documentation for all course policies and requirements, assignments, and instructor/student responsibilities.

Information relative to the delivery of the content contained in this syllabus is subject to change. Should that happen, the student will be notified.

Course Description:

Life-Span Growth and Development is a study of social, emotional, cognitive and physical factors and influences of a developing human from conception to death.

Prerequisite(s): None

Student Learning Outcomes:

1. Describe the stages of the developing person at different periods of the life span from birth to death.
2. Discuss the social, political, economic, and cultural forces that affect the development process of the individual.
3. Identify factors of responsible personal behavior with regard to issues such as sexual activity, substance abuse, marriage and parenting.
4. Explain the biosocial, cognitive and psychological influences throughout the lifespan as an ongoing set of processes, involving both continuity and change.
5. Describe the different developmental perspectives of the major theories of development (i.e. cognitive, learning, humanistic, and psychodynamic).

6. Identify examples of some of the cultural and ethnic differences that influence development throughout the lifespan.
7. Discuss the various causes or reasons for disturbances in the developmental process.

Evaluation/Grading Policy:

The breakdown of the course requirements is as follows:

Points	Requirement
100	Empirical Data Sets (4)
300	Observation Papers (3)
400	Exams
100	Quizzes (2)
95	Participation
105	Self-Improvement
1100	Total Points

The grading scale below will be used to determine your final grade. In general, a course grade of a "C" represents an acceptable level of work. A course grade of "B" represents substantial effort and achievement. It is clearly a grade for the better than average product and effort. An "A" is awarded only in the case of both outstanding efforts and quality in the required products.

Semester grades will be earned as follows

Points	Percentage	Letter Grade
990-1100	90% and above	A
880-989	80 %–89%	B
770-879	70 %–79%	C
660-769	60%–69 %	D
Below 659	59.9% and below	F

Evaluation/Grading Policy:

There will be 2 quizzes and 4 exams over the textbook: All quizzes and exams will be in a multiple-choice format with possibly one essay question on each. If you should miss an exam or quiz, there will be no make-up. The first quiz will cover chapters 1 and 2 and will be worth 50 points and will be taken in the testing center. The remaining quizzes and exams will be taken in class. The second quiz will cover chapter 19, occur at the end of the semester, and will be worth 50 points. The regular exams and final exam will each count 100 points. The final exam is optional (and will replace one previous exam grade) and students will receive an email invitation if the final exam might raise their grade. The final exam will be comprehensive and may be taken to replace the score on one previous exam. Dates listed on calendar.

There will be 4 empirical data sets that as a class you will generate by answering survey questions. Individually you will be responsible for analyzing, graphically depicting and discussing the importance of the data as it impacts development. Each empirical data set will be worth 25 points. These papers should be typed, double spaced, written in 3rd person, in complete sentences and cited correctly. Students would benefit from learning to make graphs in Word, but you may hand draw the graphs. No late work will be accepted. A zero will be entered for work not completed by due date. Papers that are turned in 7 days early can earn 5 bonus points. Due dates listed on calendar. Always put your name, class and section on every paper submitted.

There will be three Observations papers each will be worth 100 points. You will write one observation paper from each pair for the current Unit: either infancy or toddlerhood (ch. 4, 5 & 6), either early childhood (ch. 7 & 8) or middle childhood (ch. 9 & 10), either adolescence (ch. 11 & 12) or early adulthood (ch. 13 & 14), and either middle adulthood (ch. 15 & 16) or late adulthood (ch. 17 & 18). Each observation paper will correspond to the age periods and chapters we are currently discussing in class. Please note there are four possible pairs, so you could write four observation papers. If you write all 4 papers, I will only count the 3 highest scores toward your total points. These papers should be typed, double spaced, written in 3rd person, in complete sentences and cited correctly. No late work will be accepted. A zero will be entered for work not completed by due date. Papers that are turned in 7 days early can earn 5 bonus points. Due dates listed on calendar. Always put your name, class and section on every paper submitted.

Discussion questions are provided for each chapter. A participation grade will be determined by a student's preparation for and ability to participate in class discussion. Each set of Discussion question will be worth up to 5 points each (19 chapters x 5 points). There will be 4 sets of discussion questions for each chapter. In each Unit, students will be assigned to one of the four sets. Students are required to be prepared to answer questions from their assigned set. A student should write their answers down and have the answers available for their own benefit (and as evidence of preparation) on the day that chapter is discussed in class. It is in all students' best interest to be able to answer all 4 sets of discussion questions, but students will only be graded on their assigned sets. Students who are absent will earn 0 points for that day's discussion.

There will be self-improvement grades: Syllabus quiz worth 10 points, APA Quiz worth 16 points, email to professor 4 points, Office visit to review first Quiz worth 5 points, Office visit to review each of the 4 exams worth 5 points (20 pts total), office visit to review first Observation Papers and first empirical data set worth 5 points each (all reviews need to be completed within 1 week of grade being posted on Blackboard), visit with professor to check APA in-text citation and Reference on first Empirical Data paper at least 2 days prior to the due date, 2 SLO worksheets each worth 15 points and Enrichment

Opportunity worth 5 points.

A maximum of 20 extra credit points are available in this course. Studying the text, coming to class, and doing the assignments are assumed to be sufficient work for this class. However, if bonus points are given for any reason, you will simply add all points together to get your final grade. Grades will be assigned on the basis of your points from assignments, quizzes, and major exams.

Required Instructional Materials:

Format: Waymaker / OHM Courseware with eText embedded Course Name: Introduction to Psychology

Publisher: Lumen Learning

ISBN Number: 978-1-07189-519-1

Optional Instructional Materials:

None

Minimum Technology Requirements:

You must have access to a computer to take this course. Your computer needs to have Windows XP SP3 or later or MAC OS X10.3 or higher. You will need Office 2003 or higher, and you will need broadband internet access. You can check your operating system by right clicking on the My Computer icon on the home screen. You can check your word processing program by going to Start and clicking on All Programs. You will find your Office program there. As a student, you can download Microsoft Office for free.

Required Computer Literacy Skills:

- 1) The ability to properly use email, attach documents to email, and open, download, and save attachments
- 2) The ability to properly update personal computer settings
- 3) The ability to properly utilize online help when needed
- 4) The ability to properly use a word processing application
- 5) The ability to properly print an electronic file to a printer
- 6) The ability to properly submit files in the Blackboard assignment windows
- 7) The ability to properly save documents in a .docx or .pdf format and save in an electronic form in multiple places, e.g. computer hard drive, portable flash drive, cloud storage, etc.
- 8) The ability to properly connect to a broadband internet system
- 9) The ability to properly search for and locate information on the internet
- 10) The ability to properly scan documents for electronic submission. NOTE: Free mobile phone applications are available that can substitute for a scanner. Scanned assignments must be submitted in pdf format through Blackboard.

Course Structure and Overview:

PSYC 2314 will be delivered in a traditional face-to-face format. This means you will spend approximately 3 hours per week in class. You should expect to spend no less than 9 hours a week outside of class in preparation for this course. Please complete the assigned reading and answer the Chapter Discussion questions before that Chapter is covered in class. Expect to read everything! Time management is key to being successful in this course.

Class attendance is required. Students are responsible for completing all assignments regardless of when they enroll or if they were absent. If you miss a class, you will be responsible for all information provided/discussed that day. The instructor will not repeat the lecture. It is the students' (including

student athletes) responsibility to inform the instructor if they will be absent with as much advanced notice as is logistically possible. The instructor considers 3 absences excessive. A student may be dropped from class due to excessive absences (3) or disruptive behavior prior to the drop date.

Students that have classroom accommodations from the Advising Office according to NTCC's ADA guidelines are responsible for ensuring that their accommodations have been received by the instructor and are responsible for communicating with the instructor about their accommodations. See also later in this syllabus for the official ADA Statement.

Our class is found on Blackboard, and the content is organized into four Units. Unit 1 will only open after you score 100% on the syllabus quiz (found in the START HERE folder). After that all units will be open. You are encouraged to look and work ahead.

Please see the Due Date calendar (found in the START HERE folder) for specific unit and assignment due dates. Within each unit you will find everything necessary to complete requirements for that Unit including Discussion questions, video lectures, Empirical Data and Observation submission links.

Communications:

NTCC email is the official form of communication used by the college. The best way to contact me is from your NTCC email address to my email address kskaar@ntcc.edu. You should check your NTCC email daily. Email communications from non-NTCC email addresses will not be answered. Emails will be responded to within 24 hours Monday through Thursday. If you do not receive a response within 24 hours, then the email was not received. When you email the professor, include your class and section number in the subject line. I will also post reminder information through Blackboard announcements. DO NOT message your professor through Blackboard or Teams (you will receive no reply).

Institutional/Course Policy:

No late work will be accepted. All due dates are set prior to the beginning of the semester and can be found on the Due Date calendar in the START HERE folder. It is your responsibility to know when assignments are due and submit them on time. All writing assignments, discussions, and exams are listed on the Due Date calendar. A zero will be entered for work not completed by the due date.

All writing assignments must be typed and double spaced. You may either 1) print a hard copy and turn in at the beginning of class or 2) if you upload, you must have saved the document as a pdf. No late work will be accepted. A student cannot earn a grade higher than a "C" in the class without turning in all writing assignments. Writing assignment due dates are listed in Due Date calendar found in the START HERE folder.

AI is prohibited (this means do not use) unless instructions specifically outline how to use AI for the assignment.

Students may not record any portion of the lecture without prior permission of the instructor. If permission is granted, all recorded materials are for the sole purpose of aiding the student in the completion of requirements for the course. Content recorded remains the property of NTCC and may not be duplicated for distribution and may not be provided to or sold to another party or uploaded to the internet.

Students that have enrolled in the course after the start of the semester are still responsible for all course material from the start of the semester. Due dates will not be changed for late-enrolled students. Late assignment policies will apply.

Alternate Operations During Campus Closure and/or Alternate Course Delivery Requirements:

In the event of an emergency or announced campus closure due to a natural disaster or pandemic, it may be necessary for Northeast Texas Community College to move to altered operations. During this time, Northeast Texas Community College may opt to continue delivery of instruction through methods that include, but are not limited to, online through the Blackboard Learning Management System, online conferencing, email messaging, and/or an alternate schedule. It is the responsibility of the student to monitor NTCC's website (<http://www.ntcc.edu/>) for instructions about continuing courses remotely, Blackboard for each class for course-specific communication, and NTCC email for important general information.

Additionally, there may be instances where a course may not be able to be continued in the same delivery format as it originates (face-to-face, fully online, live remote, or hybrid). Should this be the case, every effort will be made to continue instruction in an alternative delivery format. Students will be informed of any changes of this nature through email messaging and/or the Blackboard course site.

Statement Regarding the Use of Artificial Intelligence (AI) Technology:

Employees and students shall be permitted to explore artificial intelligence (AI) and implement its use in and out of the classroom in accordance with policy and administrative regulations. The use of AI shall only be as a support tool to enhance student outcomes or as necessary to engage in research and shall never take the place of faculty, staff, and student decision-making. Any use of AI must comply with law, policy, and administrative regulations relating to student and employee privacy and data security. A student shall only use AI tools with faculty permission and shall be expected to produce original work and properly credit sources, including AI tools used in creating the work.

Example:

APA (7th edition)

OpenAI. (2026). ChatGPT (March 25 version) [Large language model]. <https://chat.openai.com/>

MLA (9th edition)

OpenAI. ChatGPT. 25 Mar. 2026, <https://chat.openai.com/>.

Employees or students who use AI tools to deceptively harm, bully, or harass others shall be disciplined in accordance with policy. [See DH, DIA series, FFD series, FFE, FLB, and the FM series] AI Use by Employees and Students. Northeast Texas Community College 225500 TECHNOLOGY RESOURCES CRB ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE (LOCAL) DATE ISSUED: 12/8/2025 1 of 1 UPDATE 50 CRB(LOCAL)-AJC Adopted: 12/16/2025

NTCC Academic Honesty/Ethics Statement:

NTCC upholds the highest standards of academic integrity. The college expects all students to engage in their academic pursuits in an honest manner that is beyond reproach using their intellect and resources designated as allowable by the course instructor. Students are responsible for addressing questions about allowable resources with the course instructor. Academic dishonesty such as cheating, plagiarism, and collusion is unacceptable and may result in disciplinary action. This course will follow the NTCC Academic Honesty and Academic Ethics policies stated in the Student Handbook. Refer to the student handbook for more information on these subjects.

ADA Statement:

It is the policy of NTCC to provide reasonable accommodation for qualified individuals who are students with disabilities. This College will adhere to all applicable federal, state, and local laws, regulations, and guidelines with respect to providing reasonable accommodation as required to afford equal educational opportunity. It is the

student's responsibility to request accommodation. An appointment can be made with the Academic Advisor/Coordinator of Special Populations located in Student Services and can be reached at 903-434-8264. For more information and to obtain a copy of the Request for Accommodations, please refer to the special populations page on the NTCC website.

Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA):

The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) is a federal law that protects the privacy of student education records. The law applies to all schools that receive funds under an applicable program of the U.S. Department of Education. FERPA gives parents certain rights with respect to their children's educational records. These rights transfer to the student when he or she attends a school beyond the high school level. Students to whom the rights have transferred are considered "eligible students." In essence, a parent has no legal right to obtain information concerning the child's college records without the written consent of the student. In compliance with FERPA, information classified as "directory information" may be released to the general public without the written consent of the student unless the student makes a request in writing. Directory information is defined as: the student's name, permanent address and/or local address, telephone listing, dates of attendance, most recent previous education institution attended, other information including major, field of study, degrees, awards received, and participation in officially recognized activities/sports.

Tentative Course Schedule:

Week 1: Syllabus and Module 1 (Psychological Foundations) and Module 2 (Psychological Research)

Week 2: Module 3 (Biopsychology)

Week 3: Module 4 (States of Consciousness) and Module 5 (Sensation and Perception)

Week 4: Module 6 (Memory) and Module 7 (Learning)

Week 5: Module 8 (Lifespan Development), Module 9 (Motivation and Emotion), and Module 10 (Social Psychology)

Week 6: Module 11 (Psychological Disorders) and Module 12 (Therapy and Treatment)

Week 7: Module 13 (Stress, Lifestyle and Health)

Week 8: Final