

## PSYC 25 Child and Adult Development Section 4880, Spring 2012

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**IMPORTANT NOTE:** When emailing your instructor ALWAYS put Psych 25 in the subject line.

**Online Course Website:** <http://pearsonmylabandmastering.com>      **NOTE: This class is NOT on MPC's online moodle system.** Directions on how to enter the website have been sent to you with this syllabus. The class is totally online and you must purchase access to the course website either when you buy the book, or when you buy the online text.

**Text:** Berk, Laura. Development Through the Lifespan, 5th edition (with My Development Lab/Course Compass), Allyn & Bacon, Publishers. Students must use My Development Lab. The ISBN number for the loose leaf edition of the book with the access code for the website is 9780205744480. The class will use the publisher website for all online work --- you must buy access either with the book or online. If you buy the 5th edition of the book from somewhere other than our MPC Bookstore without the My Development Lab online component, you can go to [www.pearsonmylabandmastering.com](http://www.pearsonmylabandmastering.com) where you can purchase access to the website. To get into the class online, you will need your **access code** (which is included in a small cardboard folder you get this when you buy the text or you are given it when you buy access online) and the **course ID number**.

**The course ID number is carney44404. You will be asked for this course ID when you access the course site online for the first time.**

**Course Description:** Introduction to theories and principles of developmental psychology correlating physical and emotional developmental patterns of physical, social and psychological growth.

**Advisory:** Eligibility for English 111 (201) recommended to be able to do the reading and writing required to be successful for the class.

**Course Objectives and Rationale:** The general objective of the course is to familiarize the student with the developmental issues relative to the physical, intellectual, psychological and social development of an individual at various stages of life. An important thesis found throughout the course is an emphasis on a fuller understanding of human development as providing a more effective basis for creating a healthy, positive way of living for ourselves and others.

**Student Learning Outcomes:** Upon completion of the course students will be able to:

1. Upon successful completion of this course, students will have demonstrated the ability to critically examine and comprehend human nature and behavior, social traditions, and institutions.
2. Apply the major theoretical perspectives of contemporary psychology to the study of child and adult development;
3. critique generalizations and popular opinion about human development, distinguishing opinion and values from scientific observations and study.

**Optional Orientation Meeting:** Saturday, January 28, 11-12, Room 102 Social Sciences Building. Class starts Monday, January 30 and ends May 31 at midnight. This class is conducted completely online.

**How the class works:** Each week you will read a chapter in the book and take an open book exam on the chapter. Some weeks you will also be required to read an online lesson, which might be something the instructor has written, or an article. Almost every week you will be asked to write and post a response to a question or assignment in the discussion forum section of the class and comment on what fellow students have posted. You will also choose one of four possible paper assignments and submit it by the due date for that assignment.

**How much time is required for the class:** Generally, for in-person college classes, you are expected to attend the class and spend at least 2 hours doing assignments for every hour you spend in class. For the in-person PSYC 25 class, this would mean 3 hours a week in class and 6 hours a week studying, a total of 9 hours a week. I think it would probably be closer to 6 or 7 hours a week for this online class, depending on how fast you read, technological abilities and reliability of your computer and internet access, and on how experienced you are in writing.

**Critically Important to succeed in the class:**

1. You must stay in touch with your instructor! If you have questions, concerns, or problems, LET ME KNOW AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. Email is the best way to reach me. I check my email generally once a day at least.
2. DO NOT FALL BEHIND. When you don't have to "come to class", it is easy to forget or put off logging into class. Establish a schedule and stick to it. That is what I have to do. Plan on logging in at least three times a week. Once to read what is posted for you to do for the week, once to take the chapter exam, and once to post your discussion forum contribution and respond to two other students' discussion forum postings. You might want to log in on Sunday just to see what fellow students and I said in response to your posting (you can respond to what people wrote if you would like to). Every week chapter exams are opened on Monday mornings and closed at noon on the following Monday.

**Requirements to pass the class** (this means all of the following need to be completed):

1. Read the text.
2. Post all required discussion forum entries, and for each respond to two people's postings.
3. Read online lessons and assigned articles.
4. Pass chapter exams.
5. Write one acceptable (at least C level) paper (you choose 1 of 4 possible choices).
  - a. Before you write the paper, you must read the introduction to American Psychological Association (APA) writing style format requirements and take a quiz about the APA format.

**Evaluation:** Grades are determined by your written discussion postings, chapter exam scores, and your essay. The goal of all the assignments is for you to be able to connect course information to real life, and to be able to communicate to others your understanding about child and adult development. In order to pass the class, all assignments and requirements must be completed. This means that if you must take all 19 exams, post and respond to all discussion topics, and complete an acceptable paper after reading about the APA format and taking a quiz about it.

Late discussion postings will receive significantly lower scores than those turned in on time. The point of the discussions is for you to share your insights and thoughts with other students. If you are late in posting to a discussion, no one will

read it except me. If you are late in responding to another student's posting, that student will probably never read what you posted. So, to get the most out of the class try to complete your discussion postings as early as possible in the week.

## Grading

**Discussion Forum Grade:** This grade is made up of both your discussion forum postings (10 points possible) and your responses to your fellow students' postings (5 points possible for each of two required postings). So, for each discussion topic, you have the possibility of 20 points. Your Discussion Grade is 50% of your final grade in the class. On the course compass class site, there is a rubric on how the discussion forum postings and responses are graded under the "Syllabus" button. There are also a couple of examples which are graded. It is critical that you read this so you will get full credit for your discussions.

**Chapter Exam Grade:** This grade is a total of all your scores on the chapter exams. Each multiple choice exam is worth 125 points (5 points each question). Exams are open book and you have 3 hours to take the exam. The online site has pre- and post- tests and study guides for each chapter. These are optional but some students find them helpful to let them know what to study for the actual chapter exam. Your Chapter Exam Grade is 25% of your final grade in the class.

**Paper Grade:** You will write one paper, using American Psychological Association citation style format for citations and references. There is a mandatory lecture about the APA citation style and a required quiz about it that you must take BEFORE you write the paper. You will have 4 different topics to choose from to write about, each due at a different time during the semester. Your Paper Grade is 25% of your final grade in the class. I suggest you read over the general topics of the papers and decide which ONE you want to do. You might want to take into account when papers are due in your other classes. The complete detailed assignment for each paper will be posted two weeks before the essay is due (so don't start the paper before you get the specific essay assignment). No late papers will be accepted.

### More details about assignments

**Chapter Exams** will be available to take from Monday at noon to noon on the following Monday. You will have 3 hours to complete the exam once you start it. The exams should easily take less than 1 hour for you to complete if you have done the reading. It is okay and recommended to use your notes and the book for the exams. If you anticipate that 3 hours will not be enough time given English is your second language, or you have a learning disability, please let me know as soon as you read this syllabus so I can make accommodations for you. Answers to the exams will be available after everyone has taken the exam, until then you will only have the score on your exam reported to you under the "My Grades" button. Once the answers to the exam are revealed, if you feel a question was unclear or the answer was wrong, please let me know immediately so I can check it out and perhaps change points. Four times during the semester, you will have two chapters to read in a week, and you will have two exams those weeks. You will not have a discussion forum posting for those weeks.

**Discussion postings** are required. You post one of your own and you are required to respond to two other people's postings. Postings (and responses to 2 classmates' postings) must be completed by Sunday midnight each week. There are some examples of excellent postings and responses and a grading rubric posted on the course site under the "Syllabus" button. I will read posts and responses within a couple of days of your posting and will assign points to each post and two responses--you can access that information under the "My Grades" button. If you have any questions about the points I assign, please contact me immediately.

**Papers:** I have constructed four possible paper assignments. Each paper requires either observing children, interviewing adults and/or examining your own life. Each paper will require some additional research, and application of information from the text and/or online lessons. Papers are due two weeks after we have completed the study of that stage of development. You should read over the paper topics and decide which one interests you. That way you can plan your

time. Papers should be from 5-7 pages typed, double-spaced, not including references. The writing requirements and the topics are posted on the class website. I encourage you to do your paper assignment early in the semester so that you can get feedback from me and have time to rewrite it (without penalty), if necessary. The general topics of the writing assignments are listed under the "Writing Assignments" button. These may be modified, but the general topics will give you a general idea of what you might be required to do for the paper. You must read the APA explanation and take the APA exam BEFORE you turn in your paper. These are under the "Writing Assignments" button.

### **Example of Study Schedule for a typical week**

(The reason I am putting this in the syllabus is to support you in being planful about the course and to help you succeed. Another kind of schedule might work better for you--the important thing is that you have a study schedule and stick to it.)

The week will always start on Monday at noon and ends at noon Monday of the next week.

**Monday:** Log in and read discussion topic for the week and any online lesson. Begin reading Chapter.

**Tuesday:** Finish reading Chapter and take practice chapter test (optional)

**Wednesday:** Post your discussion forum contribution. Review Chapter for Chapter exam.

**Thursday:** Take Chapter Exam.

**Friday:** Respond to 2 other students' discussion forum postings.

**Saturday**

**Sunday:** Check responses to your discussion forum postings.

If you wait until Saturday or Sunday to do everything, you will end up sitting in front of the computer for a long, long time. Be kind to yourself and space out your computer time. If you end up sitting for long periods of time be sure to take at least a 10 minute break each hour and do some stretches.

**Assistance:** There are several resources available to you as an MPC student and as someone taking this class using the publisher's website. First resource is your teacher. If I cannot help with a problem you are having, I may be able to refer you to someone who can help. Second are the many services and programs that MPC offers students. You can find out about all of them at our "College Success" website. Just go to [www.mpc.edu](http://www.mpc.edu) and at the top of the page there is are some tabs. Once says "College Success", click on it and it not only has information about all of MPC services and programs, but also has tips for taking tests, time management, and taking note. You can go to it directly at [www.mpc.edu/GotSuccess](http://www.mpc.edu/GotSuccess). The Pearson publisher website also has a pretty good technical help section which can help with questions about logging on to the site, when posts don't show up, etc. The website also has a feature called "Research Navigator" which has a huge number of sources for articles for all kinds of topics (not just Psychology). You can use these for any class you are taking. Our MPC library has some of the same resources, but not as many as our course website because of budget cuts. Please remember that everyone at MPC wants you to have a successful experience and achieve your educational goals. College is complicated. It is a system each new student has to learn. And you learn by asking questions. So, please take advantage of all the resources available to you.

### Class Assignment Schedule.

(Remember, choose only one Paper to write, and be sure to check for any online lesson you are required to read)

<b>Week</b>	<b>Reading</b>	<b>Discussion Posting</b>	<b>Exam or Paper Due</b>
Week 1: 1/30-2/6	Syllabus, Welcome Lecture, APA Format Lecture (under "Writing Assignments" button)	Yes –introduce yourself and respond to your classmates' introductions (mandatory, but not graded)	APA Format Quiz
Week 2: 2/6 -2/13	Chapter 1	No	Chapter 1
Week 3: 2/13-2/20	Chapter 2	No	Chapter 2
Week 4: 2/20-2/27	Chapter 3	Yes	Chapter 3
Week 5: 2/27-3/5	Chapter 4	Yes	Chapter 4
Week 6: 3/5-3/12	Chapter 5	No	Chapter 5 First paper option Due 3/11
Week 7: 3/12 – 3/19	Chapter 6	Yes	Chapter 6
Week 8: 3/19 – 3/26	Chapter 7	Yes	Chapter 7
Week 9: 3/26 – 4/2	Chapter 8	No	Chapter 8 Second paper option Due 4/1
Week 10: 4/2 – 4/9	Chapter 9 & 10	No	Chapters 9 & 10
Week 11: 4/9- 4/16	Chapters 11 & 12	No	Chapters 11 & 12
Week 12: 4/16 –4/23	Chapter 13	Yes	Chapter 13 Third Paper Option Due 4/22
Week 13: 4/23 -4/30	Chapter 14	Yes	Chapter 14 Fourth paper option due 4/29
Week 14: 4/30-5/7	Chapters 15 & 16	No	Chapters 15 & 16
Week 15: 5/7 – 5/14	Chapter 17 & 18	2 weeks discussion due 5/21	Chapters 17 & 18
Week 16: 5/14 – 5/21	Chapter 19		Chapter 19
Week 17: last day of class 5/31		Farewell posting (mandatory but not graded)	