

**Syllabus
Developmental Psychology
Spring 2024**

Professor:	Nicholas Maxwell, PhD	Course #:	PSYC 3233, Sec. 201
Office:	OD 118	Time:	9:00am – 9:50am; MWF
email:	nicholas.maxwell@msutexas.edu	Location:	PY101
		Office Hours:	MWF: 10:00am – 11:00am; W: 1:00 – 3:00

Required Texts:

Life Span Development in Context: A Topical Approach (2nd Edition) by Tara L. Kuther

Course Objectives:

After completing this course, you will have a greater understanding of:

1. The different stages of human development, from infancy to old age.
2. How Social, Emotional, and Cognitive factors change over the course of the lifespan.
3. The challenges that come with healthy aging as well as age-related disorders (e.g., Alzheimer's Disease, memory loss, etc.).

Attendance:

This course has been planned as a face-to-face course for Fall 2023. I will use D2L for posting syllabi, course communication, course schedule, attendance, and gradebook. You should regularly check D2L and the email hosted via D2L for important course information.

Class attendance is **required**. If you do miss class, you will be responsible for the material you missed when absent. No make-up exams will be given **except in the case of an emergency**, such as a serious illness, a serious accident, or a death in the family. *You must verify your emergency with documentation. You must contact me via email no later than 24 hours after the missed exam.* If you miss an exam without a valid excuse, you will receive a zero for the assignment. Students with more than four absences will be dropped from the course with a failing grade.

Course Requirements:

1. **Exams:** Students will complete **four** exams during the semester. Each exam will be worth 100 points for a total of 400 points (~60% of your final grade).
2. **Quizzes:** Students will complete 14 quizzes throughout the semester (1 per chapter). Quizzes are administered online via D2L and are designed to help you prepare for the exams. Quizzes are open-note/open-book and are worth 10 points each. Your lowest quiz grade will be dropped. Thus, quizzes count 130 points towards your overall course grade (~ of your final grade 20%). ***Late quiz submissions will lose 10% of their point value per day they are late.*** This means that you have up to ten days after each quiz is due to submit for partial credit. ***You will not receive credit for submitting your quiz more than 10 days past the deadline, so please don't send me an email about it***

3. **Class participation:** Students get the most out of their college experience when they show up to class and actively participate. To facilitate class participation, we will randomly complete activities and/or discussions in class. Your participation grade will be based on your ***participation in class discussions, general attendance, and completion of in-class activities***. Participation is worth **70** points towards your final grade (~10% of your final grade)

Grades:

Your final grade in the course will be calculated based on **600** total points.

600-540:	A
539-480:	B
479-420:	C
419-360	D
< 360:	F

Email Policy:

You are required to use your MSU Texas email accounts for this class. I will not send emails to any other email accounts. I will also not send out class information to any other email address other than your university email account. **Before emailing me about your question, make sure that your question has not been answered/addressed in the syllabus or elsewhere!** When emailing me, please put the course number (PSYC 3233) AND section number (Sec. 201) in the subject line. This will immediately let me know which class you are in so I can respond faster.

I will try my best to get back to you within 24-hours (during the week) or within 3 days (weekends, holidays, if you decide to email me at 10:00pm on Friday...). ***If you email me with no context, I will not respond***

Cell Phones:

Unless you anticipate that you might receive an emergency communication, please turn off your cell phones in class. If you receive an **emergency** phone call or text in class, please excuse yourself and quietly leave the classroom to take the message.

Cheating Policy:

Cheating will not be tolerated. Any evidence of cheating on exams or written assignments will result in dismissal from this class with a grade of "F" and referral to the Dean of Students. Cheating includes, but is not limited to, using unauthorized notes of any kind during an exam, looking on another's exam, allowing another student to look on your exam, plagiarism, and self-plagiarism.

Desire-to-Learn (D2L):

This course utilizes the MSU D2L program for assignment submission. Relevant course materials will also be posted on D2L. Each student is expected to be familiar with this program as it provides a primary source of communication regarding general course information. You can log into [D2L](#) through the MSU Homepage. If you experience difficulties, please contact the technicians listed for the program.

Disability Services:

Any student who, because of a disability, may require special arrangements in order to meet the course requirements should contact the instructor as soon as possible to make necessary arrangements. Students must present appropriate verification from Disability Support Services (DSS) during the instructor's office hours. Please note that instructors are not allowed to provide classroom accommodation to a student until appropriate verification from DSS has been provided.

Midterm Grade Reports:

In order to help students keep track of their progress toward course objectives, the instructor for this class will provide a Midterm Progress Report through each student's WebWorld account. **Midterm progress reports will only be provided for students with a grade of C or less in the course.** Midterm grades will not be reported on the students' transcripts, nor will they be calculated in the cumulative GPA. They simply give students an idea of where they stand at the midpoint of the semester.

Change of Schedule:

A student dropping a course (but not withdrawing from the University) within the first 12 class days of a regular semester or the first four class days of a summer semester is eligible for a 100% refund of applicable tuition and fees. Dates are published in the Schedule of Classes each semester.

Important Dates

Last day for Spring 24 schedule changes: **1/19**

Deadline to file for **MAY** graduation: **2/12**

Last Day to drop with a grade of "W": **3/25**

Refer to: [Drops, Withdrawals & Void](#)

Course Schedule

A note on the schedule: This schedule represents an ideal outline of what we'll cover in the course. That being said, we may occasionally get behind (or ahead!) of it. If that happens, I will modify the schedule and any exam content accordingly. Updated schedules may be periodically posted on D2L. I will try to send out announcements, but it's important that you regularly attend class!

The Current Schedule

Week	Date	Topic	Reading	Assignment Due
1/15 – 1/19	1/15	MLK Day (No Class)		
	1/17	Course Overview	Chapter 1	Read the syllabus!
	1/19	Understanding Human Development	Chapter 1	Quiz 1 due 1/19 @ 11:59pm
1/22 – 1/26	1/22	Biology, Prenatal Development, and Birth	Chapter 2	

	1/24	Biology, Prenatal Development, and Birth	Chapter 2	
	1/26	Biology, Prenatal Development, and Birth	Chapter 2	Quiz 2 due 1/26 @ 11:59
1/29 – 2/2	1/29	Biology, Prenatal Development, and Birth	Chapter 2	
	1/31	Physical Development and Aging	Chapter 3	
	2/2	Physical Development and Aging	Chapter 3	Quiz 3 due 2/2 @ 11:59
2/5 – 2/9	2/5	Exam 1	Chapters 1-3	
	2/7	Brain, Perception, and Motor Development	Chapter 4	
	2/9	Brain, Perception, and Motor Development	Chapter 4	
2/12 – 2/16	2/12	Brain, Perception, and Motor Development	Chapter 4	Quiz 4 due 2/12 @ 11:59pm
	2/14	Health and Wellness	Chapter 5	
	2/16	Health and Wellness	Chapter 5	Quiz 5 due 2/16 @ 11:59pm
2/19 – 2/23	2/19	Cognitive Development	Chapter 6	
	2/21	Cognitive Development	Chapter 6	
	2/23	Cognitive Development	Chapter 6	Quiz 6 due 2/23 @ 11:59pm
2/26 – 3/1	2/26	Information Processing	Chapter 7	
	2/28	Information Processing	Chapter 7	
	3/1	Information Processing	Chapters 7	Quiz 7 due 3/1 @ 11:59pm
3/4 – 3/8	3/4	Exam 2	Chapters 4-7	
	3/6	Intelligence	Chapter 8	
	3/8	Intelligence	Chapter 8	Quiz 8 due 3/8 @ 11:59pm
3/11 – 3/15	3/11	Spring Break (No Class!)		
	3/13	Spring Break (No Class!)		
	3/15	Spring Break (No Class!)		

3/18 – 3/22	3/18	Language	Chapter 9	
	3/20	Language	Chapter 9	
	3/22	Language	Chapter 9	Quiz 9 due 3/22 @ 11:59pm
3/25 – 3/29	3/25	Emotion	Chapter 10	
	3/27	Emotion	Chapter 10	
	3/29	No Class (Gone to Conference!)		Quiz 10 due 3/29 @ 11:59pm
4/1 – 4/5	4/1	Exam 3	Chapters 8 - 10	
	4/3	Self, Identity, & Personality	Chapter 11	
	4/5	Self, Identity, & Personality	Chapter 11	Quiz 11 due 4/5 @ 11:59pm
4/8 – 4/12	4/8	No Class!		
	4/10	Moral Development	Chapter 12	
	4/12	Moral Development	Chapter 12	Quiz 12 due 4/12 @ 11:59pm
4/15 – 4/19	4/15	Social Relationships	Chapter 14	
	4/17	Social Relationships	Chapter 14	
	4/19	Social Relationships	Chapter 14	Quiz 13 Due 4/19
4/22 – 4/26	4/22	Death and Dying	Chapter 16	
	4/24	Death and Dying	Chapter 16	
	4/26	Death and Dying	Chapter 16	Quiz 14 Due 4/26
4/29 – 5/3	4/29	Exam 4	Chapters 11 – 12, 14, 16	
	5/1	No Class!		
	5/3	No Class!		
Final	No Final 			