



CLARENDON COLLEGE

*Division of Liberal Arts
Psychology Department*

**Course Syllabus
Spring 2026 Online
PSYC2314: Lifespan Growth and Development
(3 credit hours)**

Faculty Information:

Dr. Laura Paul

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Availability:

My office hours **CLARENDON MW: 8-11a, TR: 8-9:30a, F:10-11a (Central Time)** If these times are not convenient for you, please let me know. I will be delighted to accommodate your schedule, if possible. I provide you with these times to make it easier to communicate with me and not to limit our contact.

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

Statement of Purpose:

This course satisfies the Behavioral Sciences requirement of the core curriculum. It also partially satisfies the requirements for psychology majors and is fully transferable to a senior college or university.

Required Instructional Materials:

Open Education Resource: OpenStax. (2024). Lifespan Development. Kendall Hunt Publishing. ISBN-13: 978-1711472935

Students will use OpenStax textbook, which is a FREE electronic textbook that never expires. If students prefer a hard copy of the text, they can purchase it for \$50.

The following steps will bring you to the online material:

1. Go to <https://openstax.org/>
2. Click the "subjects" link at the top of the page
3. Click the subject of the book you would like to view. Social Science
4. Click on the book cover. Lifespan Development
5. Once there, you can choose to view the entire textbook as a .pdf or on the web.
You can also download the .pdf to your computer.



Method of Instruction:

This online course uses OpenLMS as its online course management program. All instructions, tutorials, exams, and assignments are provided at the course website. All assignments will be submitted there. Due dates for all assignments are listed on the "Course Schedule" at the end of the syllabus.

The "Messages" feature and discussion forums in OpenLMS will handle most of your communication with your instructor and fellow classmates. Once you have officially registered for the course and added to it, you will be able to log into the course website. The course website will become available by the first day of the semester. If you register late, you will generally have access to the course within 24 hours after you do so. In order to be successful in completing this 3-credit-hour course, you should plan to spend between **6-9 hours per week on the course**.

The information explaining how to log into your course website can be obtained by going to [Clarendon College](#)'s home page and clicking the **Online Classes** button. If you have any difficulty logging in, email our help desk at: administrator@clarendoncollege.edu

Required Enrollment Verification Activity

Students who fail to complete the Syllabus Agreement EVA (Enrollment Verification Activity) by the official census date may not be able to continue in the course. This could result in an F for the course and forfeiture of financial aid. The census date for this term can be found on the Academic Calendar located at the Inside CC link on Clarendon College's home page. The Syllabus Agreement EVA is in the Class Orientation section of your course.

Core Objectives:

- **Critical thinking skills (CT)** –to include creative thinking, innovation, inquiry, and analysis, evaluation and synthesis of information
- **Communication skills (COM)**–to include effective written, oral, and visual communication
- **Empirical and quantitative skills (EQS)**–to include the manipulation and analysis of numerical data or observable facts resulting in informed conclusions
- **Social responsibility (SR)** – to include intercultural competency, knowledge of civic responsibility, and the ability to engage effectively in regional, national, and global communities



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Learning Outcomes:

Upon successful completion of this course, students will:

1. Describe the stages of the developing person at different periods of the life span from birth to death. (Assessed with embedded questions in chapter tests.)
2. Discuss the social, political, economic, and cultural forces that affect the development process of the individual. (Assesses CT, COM, EQS, and SR with Development Comparison project).
3. Identify factors of responsible personal behavior with regard to issues such as sexual activity, substance abuse, marriage, and parenting (Assessed with embedded questions in chapter tests.)
4. Explain the biosocial, cognitive, and psychological influences throughout the lifespan as an ongoing set of processes involving both continuity and change. (Assessed with Real-World Connections.)
5. Describe the different developmental perspectives of the major theories of development (i.e. cognitive, learning, humanistic, and psychodynamic). (Assessed with Real-World Connections)
6. Identify examples of some of the cultural and ethnic differences that influence development throughout the lifespan. (Assessed with embedded questions in chapter tests.)
7. Discuss the various causes or reasons for disturbances in the developmental process. (Assesses CT, COM, and EQS in Critical Analysis Paper.)

Grading Scale

The final semester grades will be figured according to the current catalog:

Grade	A	B	C	D	F
Percentage	90-100	80-89	70-79	60-69	59>

Your official final grade will be made available through your Student Portal at Clarendon College's website.

Grading Policies:

The final grade in this course will be determined by the following:

- Participation and Attendance (10%)
- Handwritten Notes (15%)
- Real-World Connection (20%)
- Impact Projects (25%)
- Development Comparison (10%)
- Exams (20%)



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- **NO LATE** assignments will be accepted.

Personal Policies

Due Dates, Attendance, and Make-up Policy:

Regular weekly attendance is mandatory in all online courses. Specific activities will be identified (**) on the course schedule that must be completed for students to be considered "in attendance." Attendance will be posted to the Student Portal.

Failure to complete these assignments can result in forfeiture of financial aid and failure of the class.

Due dates will be given with plenty of time, allowing students to work ahead. If you participate in school activities that may conflict with due dates, you must arrange it before the day of absence. **NO LATE assignments will be accepted.**

My personal attendance policy:

For this course, I will submit an attendance report for **each attendance (**) activity and on the census date**. Students can be placed on academic probation or lose financial aid for chronic non-attendance or failure to progress through the course assignments. Students who are following the attendance policy are marked "present."

Excused Absences:

Approved participation in college-sponsored activities are considered an excused absence. It is your responsibility to inform the instructor prior to the school-sponsored activity. It is also your responsibility to make arrangements for material and assignments. An absence MAY, at the discretion of the instructor, be excused.

Participation:

Students are required to participate in class. Participation includes the student's preparation for class, inquiry about the material, discussion, collaborative learning, active listening, completion of assignments, and communication with the instructor.

Plagiarism:

Read the following explanations carefully and be sure that you understand them.

1. **Word-for-word plagiarism:** The student quotes his or her source without using quotation marks. Even if the student cites the source, he or she is still plagiarizing because proper quotation procedures were not used.



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2. **Paraphrased plagiarism:** The student uses a source and with the exception of changing a few words or phrases essentially quotes the original. Even if the source is properly cited, the writing is still plagiarized because the student has used the author's style, vocabulary, and content and claimed it as his or her own.
3. **Improper citations:** If a student uses someone's information apart from his or her own, the source of the material must be properly cited. Failure to do so is plagiarism.
4. **Improper use of ideas:** Ideas are as equally protected as words. If the student uses someone's ideas but expresses them in his or her words, the student plagiarizes if he or she does not cite the source of the idea.
5. **Internet use:** Copying and pasting content from the Internet or AI tools constitutes a violation of academic integrity and is **classified as plagiarism**. Using programs similar to ChatGPT, Grammarly, courseology, and many others falls under **AI programs** and are not permitted. Purchasing papers from a paper mill is **plagiarism**.
6. **Student sharing:** While students are certainly free to work together and study together, an assignment that calls for individual work must reflect the student's personal effort. If a student borrows or copies another student's work, that is plagiarism. **Please password protect your computer and/or your flash drive.**

If a student has another student write a paper, that is plagiarism. If two students collaborate on an individual assignment and turn in the same work, that is plagiarism. Plagiarism is a serious academic offense. This practice raises legal issues regarding the improper use of materials that do not belong to the student. Plagiarism is unethical. A student must do his or her own work; otherwise, the learning process is compromised. Plagiarism is unfair to fellow students who take the time and effort to do their own work. Essentially, plagiarism is cheating and will not be tolerated.

College Policies

Student Academic Integrity and Classroom Ethics

Clarendon College is committed to a philosophy of honesty and academic integrity. It is the responsibility of all members of the Clarendon College community to maintain academic integrity at Clarendon College by refusing to participate in or tolerate academic dishonesty. Any act of academic dishonesty will be regarded by the faculty and administration as a serious offense. Academic dishonesty violations include, but are not limited to:

1. obtaining an examination, classroom activity, or laboratory exercise by stealing or collusion;
2. discovering the content of an examination, classroom activity, laboratory exercise, or homework assignment before it is given;



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3. observing the work of another during an examination or providing answers to another during the course of an examination;
4. using an unauthorized source of information during an examination, classroom activity, laboratory exercise, or homework assignment;
5. entering an office, classroom, laboratory, or building to obtain an unfair advantage;
6. taking an examination for another person;
7. completing a classroom activity, laboratory exercise, homework assignment, or research paper for another person;
8. altering grade records;
9. using any unauthorized form of an electronic communication device during an examination, classroom activity, or laboratory activity; and/or,
10. plagiarism. (Plagiarism is defined as the using, stating, offering, or reporting as one's own an idea, expression, or production of another person's work without proper credit. This includes, but is not limited to, turning in a paper purchased or acquired from any source, written by someone other than the student claiming credit, or stolen from another student.)

Students are responsible for reporting known acts of academic dishonesty to a faculty member, the program coordinator, the vice president, and/or dean. Any student with knowledge of a violation who fails to report it shall him/herself be in violation and shall be considered to have committed an act of academic dishonesty.

While academic integrity and honesty are the responsibility of the individual student, each individual faculty member, teaching assistant, and/or laboratory instructor is responsible for classroom management and for maintaining ethical behavior within the classroom and/or

laboratory. Faculty who discover or suspect a violation should discuss the matter with the suspected violator(s) and attempt to resolve the case at that point. In cases of convincing evidence, the faculty member should take appropriate action. The faculty member and student should complete a Counseling Sheet regarding the violation. (The Counseling Sheet should contain at a minimum the date and time of the violation, the course, the instructor's name, the student's name, an explanation of the infraction or facts of the case, and the resolution to the incident.) This form should be signed by the student, faculty member, program coordinator, and the Vice President of Academic Affairs. The Vice President of Academic Affairs will maintain a file on all violations. If a faculty member prefers to report the case directly to Vice President of Academic Affairs, it remains his/her prerogative to do so. Additionally, if the faculty member and the accused student cannot reach a resolution or if the faculty member believes that suspension from school is the only fair sanction, the case should immediately be reported, by the faculty member, in writing, to the Vice President of Academic Affairs. If the Vice President of Academic Affairs observes any trends in student behavior which involve more than one violation or act of academic dishonesty, the Vice President of Academic Affairs is responsible for notifying all faculty members involved, for contacting the student(s) involved, and after consultation with the faculty member(s) involved for taking the appropriate action. The Vice President of Academic



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Affairs is responsible for the timely notification (normally within two weeks) to all parties of an action taken.

Students wishing to appeal a disciplinary decision involving academic integrity or acts of academic dishonesty may do so through the Student Appeals and Grievance Procedure.

Withdrawing from (Dropping) a Course:

If you decide that you are unable to complete this course or that it will be impossible to complete the course with a passing grade, you may drop the course and receive a “W” on your transcript instead. (The last day to drop a course is available on the Academic Calendar, located at the Student link on the Clarendon College website.) Withdrawal from a course is a formal procedure that you must initiate. If you do not go through the formal withdrawal procedure, you will receive whatever grade you have earned.

Whether to drop a class or not requires a lot of thought. According to Texas state law, a student is only allowed to drop the same class twice before he/she will be charged triple the tuition amount for taking the class a third time or more. Furthermore, starting with the Fall 2007 semester, students in Texas may only drop 6 courses throughout their undergraduate career. After the 6th dropped classes, he/she will no longer be able to withdraw from any classes.

Withdrawal from College:

When a student must withdraw from school before the end of the semester, they should obtain a withdrawal form from the Office of Student Services. Students may also withdraw from the college by sending a written request for such action to the Registrar’s Office. The request must include the student’s signature, the student’s current address, social security number, and course information details. Students who withdraw after the census date for the semester and on or before the end of the 12th week of a long semester, or on or before the last day to drop a class of a term as designated in the college calendar will be assigned a grade of “W.”

Accommodations Statement/Americans with Disabilities Act Statement:

In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, any student who feels that he or she may need any special assistance or accommodation because of an impairment or disabling condition should contact the Associate Dean of Enrollment



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Services at 806-874-4837 or janean.reish@clarendoncollege.edu or visit the Clarendon campus at Clarendon College. It is the policy of Clarendon College to provide reasonable accommodation as required to afford equal educational opportunity. It is the student's responsibility to contact the Associate Dean of Enrollment Services. <https://www.clarendoncollege.edu/accommodations>

Nondiscrimination Policy

Clarendon College, in accordance with applicable federal and state law, prohibits discrimination, including harassment, on the basis of race, color, national or ethnic origin, religion, sex, disability, age, sexual orientation, or veteran status. It is the policy of Clarendon College not to discriminate based on gender, age, disability, race, color, religion, marital status, veteran's status, national or ethnic origin, or sexual orientation. Harassment of a student in class, i.e., a pattern of behavior directed against a particular student with the intent of humiliating or intimidating that student, will not be tolerated. The mere expression of one's ideas is not harassment and is fully protected by academic freedom, but personal harassment of individual students is not permitted.

Grievance/Appeals:

If you have a dispute concerning your grade or policies in this class, it is the student's responsibility to contact the instructor to discuss the matter. Should things remain unresolved, please follow the procedures described in the Clarendon College Student Handbook or College Policy Manual.

Student Rights and Responsibilities

Student Rights and Responsibilities are listed on the College website at: [www.clarendoncollege.edu/Resources/Legal/24-25/FLA\(LEGAL\).pdf](http://www.clarendoncollege.edu/Resources/Legal/24-25/FLA(LEGAL).pdf)

Final Exams:

The schedule of final exams times is published at the beginning of the semester. You can find the schedule for final exams at: <https://www.clarendoncollege.edu/inside> CC. Do not make plans to leave school before your scheduled final exam. Faculty members cannot on their own authorize a student to take a final exam early. In exceptional circumstances if a student needs to take a final exam early, he/she may request early final exams by filling out the form at: <https://www.clarendoncollege.edu/Resources/Admin/Request%20for%20Early%20Final%20Exams.pdf>

<i>Other important dates to remember:</i>	
Last day to Add/Drop	1/22
Financial Settlement	1/29
Census Day	2/4



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Midterms	3/13
Spring Break: No Classes	3/16-3/20
Good Friday: No Classes	4/3
Last day to Withdraw	4/9
Commencement	5/8
Final Exams	5/11-5/13
End of Semester (Grades Posted to Transcript) 2p	5/14



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PSYC2314 Life-Span Growth and Developmental Psychology

The course schedule is tentative and subject to change.

Activities used to determine attendance

Orientation: 8/25-8/31	DUE DATES
EVA	8/28
Syllabus Quiz	8/28
Contact Info	8/28
Autobiography **	8/31
Backup Plan	8/31
Proper Message	8/31
Academic Integrity Quiz	8/31
Developmental Theories: 9/1-9/7	
Labor Day: NO SCHOOL	9/1
Handwritten notes**	9/7
Reflection	9/7
Genetic, Prenatal, and Perinatal Health: 9/8-9/14	
Handwritten notes**	9/14
Reflection	9/14
Lifeline Project	9/14
Infants and Toddler (Physical and Cognitive): 9/15-9/21	
Real-World Connection	9/16
Handwritten notes**	9/21
Infants and Toddler (Socioemotional): 9/22-9/28	
Real-World Connection	9/23
Handwritten notes**	9/25
Reflection	9/28
Unit 1 Test	9/28
Early Childhood (Physical and Cognitive): 9/29-10/5	
Real-World Connection	9/30
Handwritten notes**	10/2



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Early Childhood (Socioemotional): 10/6-10/12	
Real-World Connection	10/7
Handwritten notes**	10/9
Reflection	10/12
Middle Childhood (Physical and Cognitive): 10/13-10/19	
Columbus & Ingenious People Day: NO SCHOOL	10/13
Real-World Connection	10/15
Handwritten notes**	10/17
Critical Analysis Paper	10/19
	MIDTERMS
Middle Childhood (Socioemotional): 10/20-10/26	
Real-World Connection	10/21
Handwritten notes**	10/23
Reflection	10/23
Unit 2 Test	10/26
Adolescence: 10/27-11/2	
Real-World Connection	10/28
Handwritten notes**	10/30
Projection Forward Discussion	11/2
Handwritten notes	11/2
Reflection	11/2
Early Adulthood: 11/3-11/9	
Real-World Connection	11/4
Handwritten notes**	11/6
Handwritten notes	11/9
Reflection	11/9
Unit 3 Test	11/9
Middle Adulthood: 11/10-11/16	
Veterans Day	11/11
Real-World Connection	11/12
Handwritten notes**	11/14



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Handwritten notes	11/16
Reflection	11/16
Development Comparison Project	11/16
Late Adulthood: 11/17-11/26	
Real-World Connection	11/19
Handwritten notes**	11/21
Handwritten notes	11/24
Reflection	11/26
Thanksgiving Break: NO SCHOOL	11/26-11/28
Death, Dying, Grieving: 12/1-12/7	
Impact Letter	12/3
Real-World Connection: Reflection on change Leaving a Legacy	12/3
Handwritten notes**	12/5
Reflection	12/5
Classroom feedback	12/5
Commencement	12/5
FINALS : 12/8-12/9	
**FINAL UNIT 5 TEST	12/8-12/9
Institutional Feedback	12/9