Outline of Instruction

Division:      Science/Mathematics
Course Number: PSYCH 254
Prerequisite:  PSYCH 151
Corequisite:  NONE

Area:      Psychology
Course Name: Life Span Psychology

Course Description/Purpose

This course will explore the developmental stages of human behavior during the life cycle. The stages of infancy; childhood; adolescence; and early-, middle- and late-adulthood; late-late adulthood; death and dying will be covered. Various issues and concepts will be dealt with related to the typical psychological, sociological and biological changes that occur during each phase or stage of life. The purpose of this course is to provide the student with the opportunity to explore their own stages and those of their family, relatives, friends and others.

Major Units

• Study of Human Development: Theories, Methods, and Research
• Conception and Genetic Foundations: Prenatal and Birth Processes
• The Neonate: Physical, Motor, Sensory, and Cognitive
• Infancy: Personality, Social, Self-development
• Pre-School Years: Physical, Cognitive, Language
• Middle Childhood: Physical, Cognitive Growth, Information Processing
• Middle Childhood: Personality, Socialization, Problems with Adjustment
• Adolescence: Physical, Sexual, Cognitive
• Adolescence: Personality, Social Development, Identity, Peer Relations, Problem Behaviors, Vocational Choices
• Early Adulthood: Physical, Cognitive, Personality and Adjustment, Intimacy and Attachment, Identity
• Early Adulthood: Family Life, Marriage, Adjustment, Divorce, Parenting, Non-Marital Lifestyle, Occupational
• Middle Adulthood: Physical, Cognitive, Personality, Developmental Tasks
• Middle Adulthood: Marriage, Family Life, Occupational
• Late Adulthood: Physical, Cognitive, Personality
• Late Adulthood: Family Life, Social Relations, Retirement
• Death - Final Stage of Life: Dying Process and Stages, Issues in Care of the Dying, Bereavement Process

Educational/Course Outcomes

Student learning will be assessed by a variety of methods, including, but not limited to, quizzes and tests, journals, essays, papers, projects, laboratory/clinical exercises and examinations, presentations, simulations, portfolios, homework assignments, and instructor observations.
**Cognitive**  Each student will be expected to *Identify/Recognize* . . .

- the full range of the field of life span psychology;
- the basic attitude of the science of life span psychology;
- the intrinsic interest in the subject matter;
- the newest developments in the field of life span psychology.

**Performance**  Each student will be expected to *Demonstrate/Practice* . . .

- and communicate the facts and findings in life span psychology;
- communicate, and understand the newest developments in the field of life span psychology;
- an integrated approach to learning about the life span;
- more verbal, and psychological self-confidence through group verbalizations and experiential periods wherein course content can be related to the student’s self-understanding.