

## **Psychology 116**

### ***Lifespan Development***

*3 units; 3 hours lecture*

*Prerequisite: Psychology 101 or Psychology 101H with a minimum grade of C*

*Recommended Preparation: English 1 or eligibility for English 1A or qualification by appropriate assessment.*

*Degree applicable Transfer CSU, UC*

This course is the scientific study of human sexuality. Emphasis is placed on the analysis of sexuality from a psychological perspective. Topics include the history and the study of human sexuality, the scientific research methods used to study sexuality, the psychobiology of sex, sexual behavior and relationships, and sex as a social and health issue. Gender and sociocultural issues are also addressed.

### **Course Objectives:**

1. Compare and contrast the main focus, key concepts, and basic assumptions of the major theories of lifespan development.
2. Describe the steps of the scientific method and explain specific research methods used in the study of lifespan development.
3. Evaluate the bidirectional influences of genetic and environmental factors on various aspects of development.
4. Identify and appraise the influence of multiple contexts such as history, culture, and socioeconomic status on lifespan development.
5. Discuss the major developmental milestones of the prenatal periods and distinguish the specific effects of teratogens on each.
6. Discuss normative cognitive changes across the lifespan as suggested by Piaget and other developmental psychologists.
7. Outline the sequence of and influences on language development throughout the lifespan.
8. Describe gains and losses in intellectual functioning across the lifespan and explain factors that contribute to decline and thriving at each stage.
9. Trace the development of the brain from conception through the end of life, noting genetic and environment influences at different ages.
10. Assess the role of relationships with family and friends on the development of the individual.
11. Explain how research on temperament, personality, and attachment illustrate both stability and change in development.
12. Differentiate typical and atypical development across the lifespan.
13. Recognize how the physical, cognitive, and psychosocial domains of development interrelate.
14. Analyze the major psychological challenges of death, dying, and bereavement.

### **Student Learning Outcomes (SLO):**

#### **1. Logic of the Scientific Method**

On examination (e.g., m/c, T/F, fill-in, matching, essay), written essay, research paper, and/or oral presentation, students will be able to describe and contrast specific research methods in the study of lifespan development (e.g., longitudinal, cross-sectional, sequential designs) as well as assess the strengths and weaknesses of each.

2. Fundamental Principles

On examination (e.g., m/c, T/F, fill-in, matching, essay), written essay, research paper, and/or oral presentation, students will be able to identify, explain, and compare these aspects of the major theoretical perspectives of lifespan development: main focus, key concepts, and basic assumptions.

3. Everyday Application

On examination (e.g., m/c, T/F, fill-in, matching, essay), written essay, research paper, and/or oral presentation, students will be able to apply fundamental lifespan principles (e.g., temperament, attachment, personality, parental style, milestones, interpersonal and familial relationship) in their efforts to understand everyday life experiences (e.g., child rearing, bereavement).

**ADA Statement:**

El Camino College is committed to providing educational accommodations for students with disabilities upon the timely request by the student to the instructor. A student with a disability, who would like to request an academic accommodation, is responsible for identifying herself/himself to the instructor and to the Special Resource Center. To make arrangements for academic accommodations, contact the Special Resource Center.

**Student Code of Conduct**

<https://www.elcamino.edu/administration/board/2019-policies/AP%205500%20Student%20Conduct%20.pdf>

**Student Rights and Grievances Procedure 5530**

<https://www.elcamino.edu/administration/board/boarddocs/AP%205530%20STUDENT%20%20RIGHTS%20AND%20GRIEVANCES.pdf>