

FCS 1500: *Human Development In Context Across the Lifespan*
<FULLY ONLINE VERSION>

COURSE SYLLABUS – SUMMER 2014

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NOTE: This is a fully online course—we never meet as a class. You should think of the course as progressing in two phases. The **first phase** will run from Monday, May 12 through Saturday, June 7. This four-week period will be devoted to the basics of information exchange and exams. More specifically, from May 12 to June 7, students will read from the textbook and from materials I will provide, and students will complete four exams. The **second phase** of this course will run until **June 21, 2014**, and will be devoted to students' completion of a written assignment (approximately 2-3 pages--you will have four different assignments to choose from). Your written assignment is due on June 21, and your completion and submission of this assignment will mark the end of the course.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

This course is directed toward the examination and understanding of the processes of human development from conception through old age, death and dying. The primary objectives of this course are to help each student develop:

1. An appreciation for, and an understanding of human beings at different levels of development and the nature of influences on development from various ecological systems;
2. A sensitivity to developmental tasks at various points throughout the lifespan, and a motivation to be responsive to the needs of individuals at different ages;
3. An understanding of different philosophies through studying the contributions of selected leaders in the field;
4. An understanding of him/herself as a person, and the processes of development as they have functioned, and continue to function in his/her own individual life situations.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Text: Berger, K. (2013). *Invitation to the Life Span (Second Edition)*, Worth publishers. All students should purchase this textbook as you are not likely to complete this course successfully without it. All chapters of this text will be covered in this course, and you are responsible for most of the materials presented in the textbook. I will do my best to make you aware of exceptions to this general rule.

****NOTE:** If the University of Utah bookstore is selling multiple (e.g., hardcover, paperback and/or loose-leaf) versions of this text, be aware that *all of these versions*

have the same content. Thus, the only differences between these versions should be cost and format. You should select the option that best suits you.

Lessons: The format of this online version of FCS 1500 is such that the course is divided into four sections that contain numerous *lessons*. Each lesson corresponds to a chapter or specific major section of a chapter in your textbook. You may think of these lessons as containing the information I would provide you in a lecture if the course were classroom based. It is each student's responsibility to read and extract information from the lessons in the same way he or she would listen to and extract information from a lecture. In some cases you will find that the lesson corresponds very closely with the relevant textbook material. Other times, you will see that the information presented in the lesson is quite different from that provided by the textbook. In either case, it is expected that you will learn the material presented in the lessons.

Please be aware that *all lesson content is copyrighted material. Any use of these materials beyond what is reasonably necessary for completion of this course is prohibited without written permission from the instructor.*

Exams: Four examinations will be given throughout the term for this course; each of these will cover materials presented in the text book and lessons. PLEASE NOTE that you will be responsible for all text book content regardless of whether it has been directly addressed in the lessons. (You will be informed of any exceptions to this general rule.)

Exams will consist of **multiple choice questions only**. The first three exams will contain approximately 50 questions; the final exam will contain approximately 80 questions. The first three exams will cover only the materials from the corresponding sections of the course. The final exam will cover the materials corresponding to the fourth section of the course, along with a small number of questions that will be cumulative (more on this at a later time). Each exam will be worth 100 points.

Reviews for each exam will be provided. Additionally, practice questions for the first exam will be available some time during the first week.

*****All testing will be online, and it is YOUR responsibility to complete each exam during the time it will be available to you to complete.*** The first two exams will be available to you during the first two weeks of the course, and you must complete both of them by 11:59 p.m. on Saturday, May 24. The third and fourth exams will be available to you during the second two weeks of the course (May 25-June 7) and you must complete both by 11:59 p.m. on Saturday, June 7. Please note that you will have ***only one opportunity*** to complete each exam (meaning that you cannot take the same exam more than once). Should you fail to complete any of the exams during the respective examination periods, you will receive a 0 (zero) as your score for that exam.

NOTE: You *MUST* take the exams as scheduled—there will be no make-ups.

Assignments: Once the exam-based portion of the course has been completed, I will post four (4) assignment options and you will be required (and allowed) to complete **one** (and only one) of these assignments. Assignments will be limited to about 3 typewritten pages. You will be required to submit your assignment through the Canvas system by **June 21, 2014**. The assignment you choose to complete will be worth 100 points.

Grading: Grades will be based on the **average** of your points accumulated across the four exams and one assignment completed throughout the semester. Generally speaking, point accumulations *averaging* between 93 and 100% will be awarded an A, 90-92 an A-, 87-89 a B+, 83-86% a B, 80-82 a B-, 77-79 a C+, 73-76 a C, 70-72% a C-, 67-69% a D+, 63-66 a D, 60-62 a D-, and point accumulations below 60% awarded an E. *Please be aware that incompletes will not be given.*

Standard University Policy Issues Relevant to this (and all) Course(s)

The following language (or its equivalent) is relatively standard in accordance with University of Utah policy and should appear on all of your course syllabi:

Students with Special Needs: The University of Utah seeks to provide equal access to its programs, services and activities for people with disabilities. If you will need accommodations in the class, reasonable prior notice needs to be given to the [Center for Disability Services](#), 162 Union Building, 581-5020 (V/TDD). CDS will work with you and the instructor to make arrangements for accommodations.

Academic Honesty: All honesty and plagiarism policies established by the University of Utah will be upheld in this class. Academic misconduct includes, but is not limited to, representing another's work as your own, collaborating on individual assignments, and **submitting the same work for more than one course without the permission of both instructors**. Any of these actions will not be tolerated. If you include information from outside the class or quotes in your written assignments (with the exception of exams), you must provide citations and a reference list. Avoid the urge to over-rely on quotes; a written assignment that is substantially made up of quoted material will not be considered to be your own work, even if you have used correct citations.

If it is discovered that you have engaged in academic misconduct of any type in this course, **the Family & Consumer Studies departmental policy states that you will be given a failing grade in the course** and be reported to the Dean and the VP for Academic Affairs, who will keep your name on record. Should you be reported more than once, you may face expulsion from the University.

For further information about the University of Utah's policies regarding academic misconduct, please refer to the online "Code of Student Rights and Responsibilities:" <http://www.regulations.utah.edu/academics/6-400.html>

University Drop and Withdrawal Policies: You may *drop* this class without penalty or permission until the third day of the session: Wednesday, May 14, 2014. If you have any questions regarding this policy, please contact the Office of Admissions and Registrar at (801) 581-5808.

Note: The syllabus is not a binding, legal contract. It may be modified by the instructor when the student is given reasonable notice of the modification.

In order to maintain a positive, civil environment for learning I expect that all students will strive to meet the goals described in the University of Utah's Student Code, which states *"the mission of the University of Utah is to educate the individual and to discover, refine and disseminate knowledge. The University supports the intellectual, personal, social and ethical development of members of the University community. These goals can best be achieved in an open and supportive environment that encourages reasoned discourse, honesty, and respect for the rights of all individuals. Students at the University of Utah are encouraged to exercise personal responsibility and self-discipline and engage in the rigors of discovery and scholarship."*

Course Content Breakdown

As noted, the course is divided into four content sections with an exam for each section. Below is a listing of the Chapters and corresponding Lessons comprising each section, along with a reminder of the required completion date for each exam. (Recognize that you may complete an exam prior to the required completion date, but *you will not be able to complete an exam beyond the required completion date.*)

Section I: Introduction, Background, Prenatal Development, Infant Development
(May 12-) Readings: Chapters 1-4/Lessons 1-9

Chapter 1/Lessons 1, 2 and 3

Chapter 2/Lessons 4, 5 and 6

Chapter 3/Lessons 7 and 8

Chapter 4/Lesson 9

- **EXAM 1 – must be completed by May 24 (but you would be well advised to complete it earlier since you also must complete the second exam by this same date)**

Section II: Early Childhood (Play Years), Middle Childhood (School Years)
(Feb 8 – Mar 8) Readings: Chapters 5-8/Lessons 10-15

Chapter 5/Lessons 10 and 11

Chapter 6/Lesson 12

Chapter 7/Lessons 13 and 14

Chapter 8/Lesson 15

- **EXAM 2 – must be completed by May 24**

Continued...

Section III: Adolescence, Emerging Adulthood

(Mar 8 – Apr 5) Readings: Chapters 9-11/Lessons 16-21

Chapter 9/Lessons 16 and 17

Chapter 10/Lesson 18

Chapter 11/Lessons 19-21

- **EXAM 3 - must be completed by June 7 (but you would be well advised to complete it earlier since the fourth exam also must be completed by this date)**

Section IV: Adulthood and Late Adulthood; Death and Dying

(Apr 5 – Apr 28) Readings: Chapters 12-15 and Epilogue/Lessons 22-28

Chapter 12/Lessons 22 and 23

Chapter 13/Lesson 24

Chapter 14/Lessons 25 and 26

Chapter 15/Lesson 27

Epilogue/Lesson 28

- **EXAM 4** (1/4 of final will be comprehensive: see review for details) – **must be completed by June 7**

The four assignments for this course will be posted on June 8. You are required to complete only one of these assignments. Your assignment must be submitted by 11:59 p.m. on **June 21, 2014**.