



WACO, TEXAS

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**COURSE SYLLABUS  
AND  
INSTRUCTOR PLAN**

**LIFESPAN GROWTH & DEVELOPMENT  
PSYC\_2314-O080, O082 & O083**

**SHELLY ROGERS-SHARER**

**NOTE: This is a 16-week course.**

**NOTE: This is a Online course.**

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### **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.

### **Prerequisites and/or Corequisites:**

None.

### **Course Notes and Instructor Recommendations:**

Students will be expected to read all material thoroughly. This includes information in both Brightspace and Connect. Students are also encouraged to download course schedule, Power Points, and study guides provided in Brightspace. Grades are also available on Brightspace, and announcements here should be checked regularly as well.

### **Instructor Information:**

Instructor Name: Shelly Rogers-Sharer

MCC E-mail: srogers-sharer@mclennan.edu

Office Phone Number: 254-299-8965

Office Location: MAC 327

Office Conference Hours: Wednesday 9:00–11:00am

Tuesday and Thursday 8:30–9:30am & 12:30-1:00pm

Zoom meetings by appointment ONLY. (*Send me an email to schedule a virtual meeting*)

Other Instruction Information: Cell phone: 254-644-8267 (call or text during business hours)

### **Required Text & Materials:**

Title: A Topical Approach to Life-Span Development

Author: John W. Santrock

Edition: 2025 Release

Publisher: McGraw Hill Education

Connect Access Card w/ E-book: ISBN 9781264058945

**Note: The Connect Access Code is INCLUDED with your registration fee and does NOT require an additional purchase. This code contains an online version of the textbook and gives access to class assignments. Instructions for accessing these resources will be given on the first day of class. Please do NOT purchase this code. A hard copy loose leaf version of the textbook is available if you are a student who prefers a tangible textbook, but it is not required for the course.**

**MCC Bookstore Website:** <http://www.mclennan.edu/bookstore/>

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### **Methods of Teaching and Learning:**

Lecture and/or videos, along with the following:

#### **Assignments/Activities**

- Various assignments, activities, and discussion boards will be completed during class modules that are intended to expand and enhance the student's understanding about important topics.

#### **Objective Quizzes/Exams**

- These assessments will include objective questions in various formats over the primary characteristics (e.g. definitions, parts/features, relationships, etc.) of course topics from each chapter.

#### **Connect Practice Sets**

- Connect Practice Sets are 50 question assessments over the student's reading of the textbook chapters. These are conducted online through the McGraw Hill Connect portal.

### **Course Objectives and/or Competencies:**

Courses in this category focus on the application of empirical and scientific methods that contribute to the understanding of what makes us human. Courses involve the exploration of behaviors and interactions among individuals, groups, institutions, and events, examining their impact on the individual, society, and culture.

- **Critical Thinking (CT)** -- to include creative thinking, innovation, inquiry, and analysis, evaluation and synthesis of information
- **Communications Skill (COM)** -- to include effective written, oral, and visual communication.
- **Empirical & Quantitative Skills (EQS)** -- to include applications of scientific and mathematical concepts.
- **Social Responsibility (SR)** -- to include intercultural competency, civic knowledge, and the ability to engage effectively in regional, national, and global

### **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.
2. Discuss the social, political, economic, and cultural forces that affect the development process of the individual. Identify factors of responsible personal behavior with regard to issues such as sexual activity, substance abuse, marriage and parenting.
3. Explain the biosocial, cognitive and psychological influences throughout the lifespan as an ongoing set of processes, involving both continuity and change.
4. Describe the different developmental perspectives of the major theories of development (i.e. cognitive, learning, humanistic and psychodynamic).
5. Identify examples of some of the cultural and ethnic differences that influence development throughout the lifespan.
6. Discuss the various causes or reasons for disturbances in the developmental process.

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### **Course Attendance/Participation Guidelines:**

If a student is not in attendance in accordance with the policies/guidelines of the class as outlined in the course syllabus as of the course census date, faculty are required to drop students from their class roster prior to certifying the respective class roster. A student's financial aid will be re-evaluated accordingly and the student will only receive funding for those courses attended as of the course census date.

Before the 60% point of the semester, a student who is absent for 25% or more of a face-to-face or blended course or who miss 25% or more of assigned work for an online course will be withdrawn from the course with a grade of W. A student may also request to be withdrawn with a grade of W before the 60% point of the semester. After the 60% point of the semester, the student may request to be withdrawn if the student is passing, or be assigned the final grade earned at the end of the semester after grades have been updated to reflect missing work.

### **Additional Attendance Info:**

Regular and punctual attendance is expected of all students. The instructor will maintain a complete record of attendance for the entire length of each course. Students will be counted absent from class meetings missed, beginning with the first official day of classes. Students, whether present or absent, are responsible for all material presented or assigned for a course and will be held accountable for such materials in the determination of course grades. Instructor will follow the MCC attendance policy strictly. For this semester, the 60% course date is October 27, 2024. A student who has missed 9 graded tasks (of any kind) by this date will be automatically withdrawn with a W. Students who miss more than 25% of course work after this date will receive the grade earned in the class once all completed work is graded and all missed assignments have been graded as 0. A student may only be withdrawn from this class after the 60% date by student request, and at the discretion of the instructor.

\* [Click Here for the MCC Attendance/Absences Policy](#)

(<https://www.mclennan.edu/highlander-guide/policies.html>)

Click on the link above for the college policies on attendance and absences. Your instructor may have additional guidelines specific to this course.

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**Course Outline or Schedule:**

Week #	Dates for the Week	Material Covered	Weekly Tasks & Their Location	Due Date for Each Week
<b>Week #1</b>	Aug 25 – Aug 31	Orientation & Syllabus	Smartbook Orientation (Asmt #1) ( <i>Connect</i> ) Orientation Assignment (#2) ( <i>Brightspace</i> ) Introduction Discussion ( <i>Brightspace</i> )	Sun, 8-31-25
<b>Week #2</b>	Sept 1 – Sept 7	Chapter 1 ( <i>Intro to Lifespan</i> )	Read Chapter 1 & Module Overview Chapter 1 Practice Set ( <i>Connect</i> ) Experiment-Theories Assign. (#3) ( <i>Brightspace</i> )	Sun, 9-07-25
<b>Week #3</b>	Sept 8 – Sept 14	Developmental Disorders PP	Read Disorders PP & Module Overview Disorders Assignment (#4) ( <i>Brightspace</i> ) <b>Test #1 OPENS Friday, September 12</b>	Sun, 9-14-25
<b>Week #4</b>	Sept 15 – Sept 21	<b>Test #1</b> Chapter 2 ( <i>Genetics Prenatal Dev</i> )	<b>Test #1 (Chapter 1 &amp; Dev DOs)</b> ( <i>Brightspace</i> ) Read Chapter 2 & Module Overview Chapter 2 Practice Set ( <i>Connect</i> ) Prenatal Assignment (#5) ( <i>Brightspace</i> )	<b>Fri, 9-19-25 Test Deadline!</b> Sun, 9-21-25 (All other tasks)
<b>Week #5</b>	Sept 22 – Spet 28	Chapters 3-4 ( <i>Physical &amp; Health</i> )	Read Chapters 3-4 & Module Overview Chapter 3 & 4 Practice Set ( <i>Connect</i> ) Staying Healthy Discussion ( <i>Brightspace</i> )	Sun, 9-28-25
<b>Week #6</b>	Sept 29 – Oct 5	Chapter 5 ( <i>Sensation &amp; Perception</i> )	Read Chapter 5 & Module Overview Chapter 5 Practice Set ( <i>Connect</i> ) Infant Reflex Assignment (#6) ( <i>Brightspace</i> ) <b>Test #2 OPENS Friday, October 3</b>	Sun, 10-05-25
<b>Week #7</b>	Oct 6 – Oct 12	<b>Test #2</b> Chapter 6 ( <i>Cognitive Development</i> )	<b>Test #2 (Chapters 2-5)</b> ( <i>Brightspace</i> ) Read Chapter 6 & Module Overview Chapter 6 Practice Set ( <i>Connect</i> ) Cognitive Dev Assignment (#7) ( <i>Brightspace</i> )	<b>Fri, 10-10-25 Test Deadline!</b> Sun, 10-12-25 (All other tasks)
<b>Week #8</b>	Oct 13 – Oct 19	Chapters 7-8 ( <i>Memory &amp; Intelligence</i> )	Read Chapters 7-8 & Module Overview Chapter 7 & 8 Practice Set ( <i>Connect</i> ) Intelligence Assignment (#8) ( <i>Brightspace</i> )	Sun, 10-19-25
<b>Week #9</b>	Oct 20 – Oct 26	Chapter 9 ( <i>Language Development</i> )	Read Chapter 9 & Module Overview Chapter 9 Practice Set ( <i>Connect</i> ) Genie’s Story Discussion ( <i>Brightspace</i> ) <b>Test #3 OPENS Friday, October 24</b>	Sun, 10-26-25
<b>Week #10</b>	Oct 27 – Nov 2	<b>Test #3</b> Chapter 10 ( <i>Emotion &amp; Attachment</i> )	<b>Test #3 (Chapters 6-9)</b> ( <i>Brightspace</i> ) Read Chapter 10 & Module Overview Chapter 10 Practice Set ( <i>Connect</i> ) Attachment Assignment (#9) ( <i>Brightspace</i> )	<b>Fri, 10-31-25 Test Deadline!</b> Sun, 11-02-25 (All other tasks)

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<b>Week #11</b>	Nov 3 – Nov 9	Chapters 11-12 ( <i>Personality &amp; Gender</i> )	Read Chapters 11-12 & Module Overview Chapter 11-12 Practice Set ( <i>Connect</i> ) Gender Video Discussion ( <i>Brightspace</i> )	Sun, 11-09-25
<b>Week #12</b>	Nov 10 – Nov 16	Chapter 13 ( <i>Moral Dev</i> )	Read Chapter 13 & Module Overview Chapter 13 Practice Set ( <i>Connect</i> ) Moral Development Assign (#10) ( <i>Brightspace</i> ) <b>Test #4 OPENS Friday, November 14</b>	Sun, 11-16-25
<b>Week #13</b>	Nov 17 – Nov 23	<b>Test #4</b> Chapter 14 ( <i>Family</i> )	<b>Test #4 (Chapters 10-13)</b> ( <i>Brightspace</i> ) Read Chapter 14 & Module Overview Chapter 14 Practice Set ( <i>Connect</i> ) Parenting/Family Assign. (#11) ( <i>Brightspace</i> )	<b>Fri, 11-21-25 Test Deadline!</b> Sun, 11-23-25
<b>Week #14</b>	Nov 24 – Nov 30	Chapter 15 ( <i>Peers &amp; Friendship</i> )	Read Chapter 15 & Module Overview Chapter 15 Practice Set ( <i>Connect</i> ) Peers Assignment (#12) ( <i>Brightspace</i> )	Sun, 11-30-25
<b>Week #15</b>	Dec 1 – Dec 7	Chapters 16-17 ( <i>School/Work &amp; Death/Dying</i> )	Read Chapters 16-17 & Module Overview Chapters 16 & 17 Practice Set ( <i>Connect</i> ) Death and Dying Discussion ( <i>Brightspace</i> )	Sun, 12-07-25
<b>Week #16</b>	<b>Dec 8 – Dec 9</b>	<b>FINAL EXAM</b>	<b>FINAL EXAM (25% Cumulative w/ 75% emphasis on Chapters 14-17)</b> ( <i>Brightspace</i> )	<b>Tues, 12-09-25 Test Deadline!</b>

### Course Grading Information:

The final grade will be based on the student's average of 4 Unit Test Scores, a Final Exam, 13 Connect Practice Sets, 12 Assignments, and 5 Discussion Boards.

Unit Tests: The 4 unit tests will be conducted on Brightspace. **COMPLETION OF TESTS BY DUE DATES IS MANDATORY!!** If a student is unable to complete a test, the student must inform the instructor prior to the due date. **ONLY 1 TEST MAY BE MADE-UP! If a second test is missed, it will be considered an automatic 0 for the grade.** No project can replace a(n) test/exam score. If these guidelines are not followed, the instructor has the right to reduce possible grades and/or fail the student for lack of compliance with course requirements. The instructor also holds the right for alternatives at her discretion. Each test will be weighted at 10% of the final grade.

Final Exam: The final exam will cover the lessons, power points, and reading of the last 4 chapters (chapters 14-17). However, 25% of this final will also cover previous material and be cumulative of the course. The final will be available after the material has been covered and will be due at midnight on **Tuesday, Dec 9**. **No exceptions will be made for taking this test early or late!** The final exam will comprise 10% of the student's final grade.

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Connect Practice Sets: The average of 13 chapter practice sets will make up another 20% of the final grade. The Connect practice sets are progressive learning, so number of questions depends on students accuracy of their first answers given. **Practice Sets have strict due dates and therefore CANNOT be made up!**

Discussion Boards: This course has an introductory discussion board and 4 other discussion boards (one in each unit). Each DB requires a 100-word primary post and a 50-word reply post. Each DB is worth 100 points and the average of these comprises 15% of the student's overall grade. **DBs will NOT be opened after they close!**

Assignments: The final 15% of your final grade will be the average of your scores from your weekly assignments. These are various assignments (i.e. short quizzes, individual projects, etc.) that you complete by Sunday night of each week. They are usually connected to some topic or activity to be covered during the week. Each assignment is worth 100 points and the average of these will make up 15% of your total, final grade. (Note: There are 12 assignments.)

**Assignments also CANNOT be made up past their due date!**

Grading Summary:

Test 1 (Chapters 1-2) =	10%
Test 2 (Chapters 3-6) =	10%
Test 3 (Chapters 7-10) =	10%
Test 4 (Chapters 11-13) =	10%
Final – Test 5 (Chapters 14-17 & Cumulative) =	10%
13 Connect Chapter Practice Set Average =	20%
5 Discussion Boards Average =	15%
<u>12 Assignment Tasks Average =</u>	<u>15%</u>
<b>FINAL GRADE =</b>	<b>100%</b>

The traditional score equivalency will be used in this class:

A = 90-100%

B = 80-89%

C = 70-79%

D = 60-69%

F = BELOW 60%

**Late Work, Attendance, and Make Up Work Policies:**

No assignment, DB, or practice set is allowed to be made up after its due date and only 1 test may be made up with instructor permission. The final exam MUST be attended as scheduled.

**Incomplete Grade:**

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Only students who have completed and passed 80% of the course requirements will be eligible for an incomplete. Illness, death in the family, or other extenuating circumstances needs to be present; and consultation with the instructor is mandatory.

### **Student Behavioral Expectations or Conduct Policy:**

Each student is strongly recommended to participate in class. Due to the diversity of the students, many different viewpoints will be held. Students may not only disagree with each other at times, but the students and instructor may also find that they have different views on sensitive and volatile topics. It is my hope that these differences will enhance the class and create an atmosphere where students and instructor alike will be more encouraged to think and learn. Therefore, be assured that your grade will not be adversely affected by any beliefs and/or ideas expressed in class or assignments. Respect will be given for the views of others when expressed in classroom discussions. The instructor expects students to also treat each other with respect and manifest appropriate classroom behavior.

If the instructor becomes aware of cheating or plagiarism, an automatic 0 will be given for that task. These behaviors will be reported as per MCC policy. See MCC's policy on Academic Integrity for more information.

06/24/2025



## ACADEMIC RESOURCES/POLICIES

### **Accommodations/ADA Statement:**

Any student who is a qualified individual with a disability may request reasonable accommodations to assist with providing equal access to educational opportunities. Students should contact Accommodations (Disability Services) as soon as possible to begin the steps for requesting accommodations. Once that process is completed, appropriate verification will be provided to the student and instructor. Please note that instructors are not required to provide classroom accommodations to students until appropriate verification has been provided by Accommodations (Disability Services). For additional information, please visit [www.mclennan.edu/disability](http://www.mclennan.edu/disability)

Students with questions or who require assistance with disabilities involving physical, classroom, or testing accommodations should contact:

[disabilities@mclennan.edu](mailto:disabilities@mclennan.edu) (254)299-8122  
Room 319, Student Services

### **Title IX:**

Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 is a Federal civil rights law that prohibits discrimination on the basis of sex in educational programs and activities that receive Federal funds. We care about your safety and value an environment where students and instructors can successfully teach and learn together. If you or someone you know experiences unwelcomed behavior, we are here to help. Individuals who would like to report a Title IX incident are encouraged to immediately contact the Title IX Coordinator at [titleix@mclennan.edu](mailto:titleix@mclennan.edu) or by calling, Dr. Claudette Jackson, (Accommodations/Title IX) at (254) 299-8465.

Additionally, Title IX provides rights and protections for pregnant and newly parenting students which can include educational accommodations such as excused absences

and the opportunity to make up assignments and tests. Lactation spaces are also available on campus. Please email [titleix@mclennan.edu](mailto:titleix@mclennan.edu) for more information.

MCC employees are mandatory reporters and must report incidents immediately to the Title IX Coordinator. Faculty and Staff may email [titleix@mclennan.edu](mailto:titleix@mclennan.edu) to submit a report.

Individuals may also contact the MCC Police Department at (254) 299-8911 or the MCC Student Counseling Center at (254) 299-8210. The MCC Student Counseling Center is a confidential resource for students. Any student may report sexual harassment anonymously by visiting <https://www.lighthouse-services.com>

Visit McLennan's Title IX webpage at <https://www.mclennan.edu/titleix/> to learn more about Title IX protections, reporting, and resources.

### **Student Support/Resources:**

MCC provides a variety of services to support student success in the classroom and in your academic pursuits to include counseling, tutors, technology help desk, advising, financial aid, etc. A listing of these and the many other services available to our students is available at <http://www.mclennan.edu/campus-resource-guide/>

Paulanne's Pantry (MCC's food pantry) provides free food by appointment to students, faculty and staff. To schedule an appointment, go to <https://calendly.com/paulannespantry-mcc/15min>.

Academic Support and Tutoring is here to help students with all their course-related needs. Specializing in one-on-one tutoring, developing study skills, and effectively writing essays. Academic Support and Tutoring can be found in the Library and main floor of the Learning Commons. This service is available to students in person or through Zoom. You can contact the Academic Support and Tutoring team via Zoom or email ([ast@mclennan.edu](mailto:ast@mclennan.edu)) by going to our website (<https://www.mclennan.edu/academic-support-and-tutoring/>)

### **Success Coaching Services is here for you.**

We know life can be overwhelming sometimes—and that challenges outside the classroom can impact your success inside it. That's why our Success Coaches provide personalized support to help you navigate it all.

Success Coaching is available to every MCC student, no matter where you're starting from. Whether you're looking for direction, need quick advice, or just want someone to talk to, our coaches are here to listen, celebrate your strengths, and help you move forward with confidence. At Success Coaching Services, your voice is heard, your goals matter, and your future is our focus.

To learn more or schedule an appointment, visit [www.mclennan.edu/successcoaching](http://www.mclennan.edu/successcoaching), call 254-299-8226, or email [success@mclennan.edu](mailto:success@mclennan.edu).

College personnel also recognize that food, housing, and transportation are essential for student success. If you are having trouble securing these resources and other essential resources, we encourage you to contact the CREW - Campus Resources Education Web by calling 254-299-8561 or emailing [crew@mclennan.edu](mailto:crew@mclennan.edu).

Success Coaching Services, the CREW, and Paulanne's Pantry are located on the second floor of the Student Services building in Success Coaching Services, suite 249.

The Student Counseling Center offers confidential mental health counseling to currently enrolled students at no charge. Counselors are trained to help students with problems related to personal, social, and emotional concerns. Sessions focus on short-term goals in order to facilitate students college success and adjustment. This service is available to students in person or through Zoom.

Make an appointment to meet with a counselor by visiting the center in the Wellness & Fitness building, room 101, calling 254-299-8210, or emailing [counseling@mclennan.edu](mailto:counseling@mclennan.edu).

**MCC Foundation Emergency Grant Fund:**

Unanticipated expenses, such as car repairs, medical bills, housing, or job loss can affect us all. Should an unexpected expense arise, the MCC Foundation has an emergency grant fund that may be able to assist you. Please go to <https://www.mclennan.edu/foundation/scholarships-and-resources/emergencygrant.html> to find out more about the emergency grant. The application can be found at <https://www.mclennan.edu/foundation/scholarships-and-resources/emergencygrant.html>

**MCC Academic Integrity Statement:**

Please view our [Academic Integrity statement](#) for more information about academic integrity, dishonesty, and cheating. The unauthorized use of artificial intelligence (AI) for classwork can be a violation of the College's General Conduct Policy. Whether AI is authorized in a course and the parameters in which AI can be used in a course will be outlined by each instructor.

**Minimum System Requirements to Utilize MCC's D2L|Brightspace:**

For online and blended/hybrid courses, students must have access to a reliable computer and internet. For more information on the minimum system requirements needed to reliably access your courses in MCC's D2L|Brightspace learning management system go to: <https://www.mclennan.edu/center-for-teaching-and-learning/Faculty-and-StaffCommons/requirements.html>

**Minimum Technical Skills:**

Students should have basic computer skills, knowledge of word processing software, and a basic understanding of how to use search engines and common web browsers.

**Backup Plan for Technology:**

In the event MCC's technology systems are down, you will be notified via your MCC student email address. Please note that all assignments and activities will be due on the date specified in the Instructor Plan, unless otherwise noted by the instructor.

**Email Policy:**

McLennan Community College would like to remind you of the policy (<http://www.mclennan.edu/employees/policy-manual/docs/E-XXXI-B.pdf>) regarding college email. All students, faculty, and staff are encouraged to use their McLennan email addresses when conducting college business.

A student's McLennan email address is the preferred email address that college employees should use for official college information or business. Students are expected to read and, if needed, respond in a timely manner to college emails. For more information about your student email account, go to [www.mclennan.edu/studentemail](http://www.mclennan.edu/studentemail).

**Instructional Uses of Email:**

Faculty members can determine classroom use of email or electronic communications. Faculty should expect and encourage students to check the college email on a regular basis. Faculty should inform students in the course syllabus if another communication

method is to be used and of any special or unusual expectations for electronic communications.

If a faculty member prefers not to communicate by email with their students, it should be reflected in the course syllabus and information should be provided for the preferred form of communication.

**Email on Mobile Devices:**

The College recommends that you set up your mobile device to receive McLennan emails. If you need assistance with set-up, you may email [Helpdesk@mclennan.edu](mailto:Helpdesk@mclennan.edu) for help.

You can find help on the McLennan website about connecting your McLennan email account to your mobile device:

- [Email Setup for iPhones and iPads](#)
- [Email Setup for Androids](#)

**Forwarding Emails:**

You may forward emails that come to your McLennan address to alternate email addresses; however, the College will not be held responsible for emails forwarded to an alternate address that may be lost or placed in junk or spam filters.

For more helpful information about technology at MCC, go to [MCC's Tech Support](#) or email [helpdesk@mclennan.edu](mailto:helpdesk@mclennan.edu).

**Disclaimer:**

The resources and policies listed above are merely for informational purposes and are subject to change without notice or obligation. The College reserves the right to change policies and other requirements in compliance with State and Federal laws. The provisions of this document do not constitute a contract.