

Updated 08/03/2023



WACO, TEXAS

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**COURSE SYLLABUS**

**AND**

**INSTRUCTOR PLAN**

**LIFESPAN GRWOTH & DEVELOPMENT**

**PSYC\_2314\_0020**

**JONIE RABY**

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

**NOTE: This is a Face-to-Face course.**

# LIFESPAN GROWTH & DEVELOPMENT

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## **Course Description:**

Life-Span Growth and Development is a study of social, emotional, cognitive and physical factors and influences of 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 the course schedule, PowerPoints, and study guides provided in Brightspace. Grads are also available on Brightspace. Students should regularly check Brightspace announcements for important information and/or updates.

## **Instructor Information:**

Instructor Name: Jonie Raby

MCC Email: jraby@mclennan.edu

Office Phone Number: (254)299-6509

Office Location: Emergency Services Education Center (ESEC) #116

Office/Teacher Conference Hours: Tuesdays and Thursdays from 1:00-5:00 pm or by appointment.

Scheduling an appointment is the best way to ensure a meeting due to clinical obligations throughout the semester.

Zoom meetings are available by appointment ONLY (*send email to schedule a virtual meeting*).

## **Required Text & Materials:**

Title: A Topical Approach to Life-Span Development

Author: John W. Santrock

Edition: 2025 Release

Publisher: McGraw Hill Education

ISBN: Connect Access Card w/E-book: 978-1-265-75730-4

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 you access to class assignments. Instructions for accessing these resources will be given on the first day of class assignments. 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 is not required for the course.

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

**Methods of Teaching and Learning:**

In-Person Lectures, videos, class activities, along with the following:

**Assignments/Activities**

- Assignments, activities, and discussion boards will be completed during course units 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 25 concept 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 & Quantative 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, nation, 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.
3. Identify factors of responsible personal behavior with regard to issues such as sexual activity, substance abuse, marriage and parenting.
4. Explain the biosocial, cognitive and psychological influences throughout the lifespan as an ongoing set of processes, involving both continuity and change.
5. Describe the different development perspectives of the major theories of development (i.e. cognitive, learning, humanistic and psychodynamic).
6. Identify examples of some of the cultural and ethnic differences that influence development throughout the lifespan.
7. Discuss the various causes or reason for disturbances in the developmental process.

**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.

In accordance with the class attendance policy of McLennan Community College, regular and punctual attendance is expected of all EMS students. Each absence (in a course) will count toward attendance requirements in each course.

1. Before the 60% point of the semester, a student who is absent for 25% or more of a face-to-face 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 (decided on a case-by-case basis), or be assigned the final grade earned at the end of the semester after grades have been updated to reflect missing work.
2. Students are responsible for all material presented or assigned whether present or absent from class.

3. 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.
4. Instructors will follow the MCC attendance policy, strictly.

[Click Here for the MCC Attendance/Absences Policy](https://www.mclennan.edu/highlander-guide/policies.html)

(<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.

**Course Outline or Schedule:**

This schedule serves as an essential roadmap for your course. It provides you with clarity on key dates, weekly topics, and information that aligns with assignments in Brightspace. This schedule is subject to adjustment based on unforeseen circumstances. Any changes to the schedule will be communicated in person / via email / via class announcements in Brightspace.

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DATE	REQUIRED READING	ASSIGNMENTS/TASKS
1/13/2026	Print off Syllabus	Syllabus Overview
<b>UNIT 1 - Introduction to Lifespan Development (Chapter 1)</b>		
1/15/2026	Chapter 1 – pgs 1-20	Begin Chapter 1 – The Lifespan Perspective
1/20/2026	Chapter 1 – pgs 21-28	Continue Chapter 1 - Theories of Development and Research
1/22/2026	Chapter 1 – pgs 29-46	Finish Chapter 1 – Research Throughout the Lifespan
1/27/2026	Dev Disorders PowerPoint	Developmental Disorders through the Lifespan
1/29/2026	Brightspace Test	Take Test #1 on Brightspace (Due Friday 01/30/2026)
1/30/2026	Friday Due Date!	Test #1 (Chapter 1 ) is due! Chapter 1 Practice Set AND Gabi (9mo) Scenario!
<b>UNIT 2 -Physical Development (Chapters 2-5)</b>		
2/3/2026	Chapter 2 – pgs 47-89	Genes, Environment, Interaction, & Prenatal Dev
2/5/2026	Chapter 3 – pgs 90-127	Physical Development and Biological Aging
2/10/2026	Chapter 4 – pgs 128-157	Health
2/12/2026	Chapter 5 – pgs 158-172	Begin Chapter 5 – Motor Development & Visual Perception
2/17/2025	Chapter 5 – pgs 173-186	Finish Chapter 5 – Sensation & Perception Throughout Lifespan
2/19/2026	Brightspace Test	Take Test #2 on Brightspace (Due Friday 02/20/2026)
2/20/2026	Friday Due Date!	Test #2 (Chapters 2-5) is due! Connect Practice Sets 2-5 are due AND Abby (7yr) Scenario!
<b>UNIT 3 - Cognitive Development (Chapters 6-9)</b>		
2/24/2026	Chapter 6 – pgs 187-198	Begin Chapter 6 – Cognitive Development Piaget Stages 1-3
2/26/2026	Chapter 6 – pgs 198-213	Finish Chapter 6 – Piaget Stage 4 & Vygotsky
3/3/2026	Chapter 7 – pgs 214-252	Memory and Information Processing
3/5/2026	Chapter 8 – pgs 253-280	Intelligence and Creativity
3/09/2026- 03/13/2026	SPRING BREAK	SPRING BREAK
3/17/2026	Chapter 9 – pgs 281-306	Language
3/19/2026	Brightspace Test	Take Test #3 on Brightspace (Due Friday 3/20/26)
3/20/2026	Friday Due Date!	Test #3 (Chapters 6-9) is due! Connect Practice Sets 6-9 are due AND Kate (17yr) Scenario!

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UNIT 4 - Individual / Intrapersonal Development (Chapters 10-13)		
3/24/2026	Chapter 10 – pgs 308-337	Emotion and Temperament / Begin Attachment
3/26/2026	Chapter 10/11 – p 338-372	Finish Chapter 10 –Attachment & Begin Chapter 11 –Self & Identity
3/31/2026	Chapter 11 – pgs 373-384	Personality Development and Theories
4/2/2026	Chapter 12 – pgs 385-423	Begin Chapter 12 – Gender Development
4/7/2026	Chapter 13 – pgs 424-445	Finish Chapter 12 – Sexuality & Begin Chapter 13 – Moral Dev
4/9/2026	Chapter 13 – pgs 446-459	Finish Chapter 13 – Moral Dev, Prosocial Behavior & Spirituality
4/10/2026	Friday Due Date!	Test #4 (Chapters 10-13) is due! Connect Practice Sets 10-13 are due AND Felisha(47yr) Scenario!
UNIT 5 - Social / Interpersonal Development (Chapters 14-17)		
4/14/2026	Chapter 14 – pgs 460-502	Families, Lifestyles, and Parenting
4/16/2026	Chapter 16 – pgs 541-576	Schools, Achievement, and Work
4/21/2026	Chapter 15 – pgs 503-540	Peers and Friendships
4/23/2026	Chapter 17 – pgs 577-596	Death, Dying, and Grieving
4/24/2026	Friday Due Date!	Connect Practice Sets 14-17 are due AND Emillio Scenario
4/28/2026	Review for Final Exam	Final Exam (Cumulative, emphasis on Chapters 14-17)
4/30/2026	Review for Final Exam	Final Exam (Cumulative, emphasis on Chapters 14-17)
FINAL EXAM		
5/5/2026	FINAL EXAM (In Class)	Bring Scantron 882-E!!!

### **Course Grading Information:**

Throughout the course grades will be evaluated based on an average of 4 test scores, a final exam, 17 Connect Practice Sets, 5 Connect Lifespan Scenarios, and class participation and attendance.

**Tests:** The 4 unit tests will be conducted on Brightspace. COMPLETION OF TESTS BY DUE DATE 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 his/her discretion. Each test will be weighted at 10% of the final grade.

**Final Exam:** The final exam will be held on . This exam will be given in person, IN CLASS. Attendance is mandatory and final exams will NOT be given early. **Students must bring a scantron 882-E** with them for this exam. The final exam is comprehensive with emphasis on chapters 14-17. The final exam will be weighted at 20% of the final grade.

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**Connect Practice Sets:** The average of 18 chapter quizzes will make up another 20% of the final grade. The quizzes are conducted online through Connect. It is the student's responsibility to obtain a Connect registration code with their book. Quizzes have strict due dates and therefore CANNOT be made up! Due dates for these can be found on the course calendar.

**Connect Lifespan Scenarios:** The average of 5 Connect Lifespan scenarios will be worth 10% of the final grade. These scenarios are conducted online through Connect. They involve a scenario of a particular Lifespan periods, in which the student will play the role of that period, interacting with various people and objects to enhance understanding about the concepts of that period. The student will be required to complete objectives to pass each scenario. Due dates will be strictly followed!

## Course Grading Information:

<b>Assessment</b>	<b>Chapters / Details</b>	<b>Weight</b>
Test 1	Chapter 1 & Developmental Disorders	10%
Test 2	Chapters 2–5	10%
Test 3	Chapters 6–9	10%
Test 4	Chapters 10–13	10%
Final Exam	All Chapters	20%
Connect Practice Sets	17 Sets	20%
Lifespan Scenarios	5 Scenarios	10%
Attendance & Participation	—	10%
<b>Total</b>		<b>100%</b>

Theory course grade values are as follows:

A = 90-100%

B = 80-89%

C = 70-79%

D = 60-69%

F = Below 60%

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

No assignments, discussion boards, or practice sets can be submitted after their assigned due date. Only one test may be made up, and only with the instructor's permission. The final exam must be taken at the scheduled time (in person).

**Incomplete Grade:**

Only students who have completed and passed 80% of the course requirements will be eligible for an incomplete grade. 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:**

**Respect and Professionalism**

All students are expected to treat their peers and instructors with dignity and professionalism at all times. Disrespectful behavior, including disruptive actions or language, will not be tolerated.

**Focus and Engagement**

During lectures and all class activities, students are expected to remain fully engaged and focused on the subject matter. This includes participating actively in class discussions and activities. No use of cell phones or electronic devices during lectures or class room activities.

**Positive Attitude and Commitment to Learning**

Approach each class session with a positive and proactive attitude. Take full advantage of this educational opportunity by coming prepared, staying engaged, and showing enthusiasm for the subject matter. A willingness to learn and contribute to discussions fosters a productive and supportive learning environment.

Students are required to comply with the McLennan Community College general conduct policy. In accordance with that policy, "includes, but is not limited to: cheating, plagiarism, collusion, falsifying academic records, misrepresenting facts, and any act designed to give an unfair academic advantage to the person."

- **Cheating:** copying from another student's test; using unauthorized materials or devices during a test or assignment; failing to comply with instructions given by the person administering the test; possessing materials during a test that are not authorized by the person administering the test, such as class notes, textbooks, electronic devices or unauthorized aids; possessing/using contents of an administered test, test key, or other materials without the instructor's permission; seeking or receiving aid during a test or assignment without the instructor's permission; discussing test contents with another

student who has taken or will take the examination without the instructor's permission; substituting or permitting another student to take an examination or complete an assignment in the place of another student without the instructor's permission; paying or otherwise offering valuables to obtain items such as tests or test keys, computer program/software materials, homework solutions or other items without the permission of the instructor; falsifying research data or other academic work offered for credit; or taking, keeping, misplacing or damaging property of the College or of another that the student knows to gain an unfair academic advantage.

- **Plagiarism:** obtaining material attributable to another and presenting it as one's own academic work being offered for credit or personal gain on or off campus.
- **Collusion:** collaborating with another person to prepare academic assignments offered for credit; or collaborating with another person to commit a previously described behavior related to academic dishonesty.
- **Falsifying academic records** includes but is not limited to: altering or assisting in the alteration of any official college record and/or submitting false information; omitting requested information that is related to submission of any academic record (such as application for admission, awarding a degree, grade reports, test papers, or information requested by the Office of Student Records) and may result in revocation of the student's college admission status.
- **Misrepresenting facts** includes but is not limited to: providing false grades or academic information; giving false or misleading information to receive a postponement or extension on a test or assignment to obtain an academic or financial benefit for oneself or another individual; or providing misleading information intended to injure another individual student academically or financially.

Note: information for this "Academic Dishonesty" section comes directly from the College's General Conduct Policy effective December 7, 2023. More information regarding academic integrity can be found at:

[Click Here for the MCC Attendance/Absences Policy](https://www.mclennan.edu/highlander-guide/policies.html)

(<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.

- **Instructor Preference:** The use of AI tools, including but not limited to ChatGPT, Gemini, Claude, or any other generative AI software, is **strictly prohibited** for all graded

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assignments, quizzes, exams, discussion posts, or any work submitted for evaluation in this course.

Using AI to generate, edit, or complete coursework will be considered **academic dishonesty**.

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.