



North Central State College

MASTER SYLLABUS

2026-2027

- A. Academic Division: Liberal Arts
- B. Discipline: Psychology
- C. Course Number and Title: PSYC2010 Human Growth and Development
- D. Assistant Dean: Laura Irmer, MFA, MA
- E. Credit Hours: 3
- F. Prerequisites: PSYC1010
- G. Last Course/Curriculum Revision Date: Spring 2025 Origin date: 11/13/2010
- H. Textbook(s) Title:
- Open Education Resources (available for download or view)
- Lifespan Development*
- Authors: Lumen Learning
 - Copyright Year: 2019
 - Edition: n/a
 - ISBN: n/a (Digital)
 - OER Link: <https://courses.lumenlearning.com/wm-lifespandevelopment/>
- I. Workbook(s) and/or Lab Manual: None
- J. Course Description: This course presents an overview of the total lifespan of human growth and development from conception through death. Application of the scientific method to study physical/neurological, socio/emotional, and cognitive development across the lifespan. Please note outcomes are written to ODHE standards using ODHE language. Ohio Articulation Number OSS048. This course also meets the requirements for Ohio Transfer 36 - Social and Behavioral Sciences TMSBS.
- K. College-Wide Learning Outcomes:

College-Wide Learning Outcome	Assessments - - How it is met & When it is met All listed assignments are graded
Communication – Written	
Communication – Speech	
Intercultural Knowledge and Competence	
Critical Thinking	
Information Literacy	
Computation	

L. Course Outcomes and Assessment Methods:

Upon successful completion of this course, the student shall:

Outcomes	Assessments – How it is met & When it is met
1. Explain the biological, cognitive, cultural, environmental, and social factors that influence development throughout the lifespan.	Regularly throughout the term through writing assignments (reflection and/or application writings) and through quizzes or exams.
2. Evaluate current and past research in the study of the lifespan guided by theories within developmental psychology.	Research overview information assessed through quizzes or exams at the beginning of the term. Research examples provided throughout the course as different stages of development are explored. Subsequent research aspects may be assessed through writing assignments and/or quizzes or exams.
3. Apply developmental psychology principles to daily life throughout the lifespan.	Regularly throughout the term through writing assignments (reflection and/or application writings).
4. Distinguish myths and misconceptions from research evidence regarding human development throughout the lifespan.	Research overview information provided at the beginning of the term, including challenges and limitations to lifespan research. Assessed through discussion prompts and/or quizzes or exams.
5. Describe methodological approaches used to study human development across the lifespan.	At the beginning of the term through quizzes or exams. Subsequent course assignments will integrate methodological approach aspects through application of course content. Assessed through writing assignments, course assignments, and/or quizzes and exams.
6. Assess and critically analyze theories, research methodology and findings (outcomes), and applications developed by developmental psychologists and made available through academic and non-academic sources throughout the lifespan.	Throughout the term through discussion questions and/or writing assignments (reflections and/or application writings). Peer reviewed journal article assignment at the end of the term.
7. Core Knowledge: Students will be able to explain the primary terminology, concepts, and findings of lifespan development.	Regularly throughout the term by writing assignments, course assignments, and/or quizzes and exams.
8. Theory: Students will be able to explain the primary theoretical approaches used in lifespan development.	Main theories of development are introduced at the beginning of the term and subsequently applied to different stages of development (when applicable). Assessed through writing assignments, course assignments, and/or quizzes and exams.
9. Methodology: Students will be able to explain the primary quantitative and qualitative research methods used in lifespan development.	Research overview information assessed through quizzes or exams at the beginning of the term. Research examples provided throughout the course as different stages of development are explored. Subsequent research aspects may be assessed through writing assignments and/or quizzes or exams.

Outcomes	Assessments – How it is met & When it is met
10. Values: Students will be able to explain the primary ethical issues raised by the practice and findings of lifespan development.	Research method exploration notes ethical components related to lifespan development. These are noted at the beginning of the term and assessed through quizzes or exams. Questions on ethical components are addressed in subsequent development stage information and connection to some prior research examples. Assessment of these ethical aspects through writing assignments and/or quizzes and exams.
11. Evidence: Students will be able to explain the range of relevant information sources in lifespan development.	Through research exploration at the beginning of the term and subsequent course content and examples throughout the course. Assessed through writing assignments, course assignments, and/or quizzes and exams.

M. Recommended Grading Scale:

NUMERIC	GRADE	POINTS	DEFINITION
93–100	A	4.00	Superior
90–92	A-	3.67	Superior
87–89	B+	3.33	Above Average
83–86	B	3.00	Above Average
80–82	B-	2.67	Above Average
77–79	C+	2.33	Average
73–76	C	2.00	Average
70–72	C-	1.67	Average
67–69	D+	1.33	Below Average
63–66	D	1.00	Below Average
60–62	D-	0.67	Below Average
00--59	F	0.00	Failure

N. College Procedures/Policies:

North Central State College believes that every student is a valued and equal member of the community.* Every student brings different experiences to the College, and all are important in enriching academic life and developing greater understanding and appreciation of one another. Therefore, NC State College creates an inclusive culture in which students feel comfortable sharing their experiences. Discrimination and prejudice have no place on the campus, and the College takes any complaint in this regard seriously. Students encountering aspects of the instruction that result in barriers to their sense of being included and respected should contact the instructor, assistant dean, or dean without fear of reprisal.

* *Inclusive of race, color, religion, gender, gender identity or expression, national origin (ancestry), military status (past, present or future), disability, age (40 years or older), status as a parent during pregnancy and immediately after the birth of a child, status as a parent of a young child, status as a foster parent, genetic information, or sexual orientation*

Important information regarding College Procedures and Policies can be found on the syllabus supplement located at

<https://ncstatecollege.edu/documents/President/PoliciesProcedures/PolicyManual/Final%20PDFs/14-081b.pdf>



North Central State College
SYLLABUS ADDENDUM

Academic Division:	Liberal Arts	Discipline:	Psychology
Course Coordinator:	Andrea Graves, PhD		
Course Number:	PSYC-2010-923B	Course Title:	Human Growth & Development
Semester / Session:	Fall 2026/ Session B	Start / End Date:	10/19/2026 thru 12/11/2026

Instructor Information

Name:	Amanda Whack	Credentials:	M.S.-Psychology
Phone Number:	614-260-9700	E-Mail Address:	awhack@ncstatecollege.edu
Office Location:	Contact me to coordinate a virtual meeting (ie. zoom, teams, or google meet)	Office Hours:	By appointment

I. Topical Timeline / Course Calendar (Subject to Change):

Weeks	Topics	Assignment	Due Date
1	What is human development? (Module 1)	Assignment #1 Discussion #1	10/21/26 & 10/23/26
2	Prenatal Development (Module 3)	Discussion #2 Assignment #1 Knowledge Check (Quiz) #1	10/27/26, 10/30/26, & 11/4/26
3	Infancy (Module 4) & Early Childhood (Module 5)	Discussion #3 Assignment #2 Journal #1 Knowledge Check #2 (Quiz)	11/2/26, 11/6/26, & 11/7/26
4	Middle Childhood (Module 6)	Discussion #4 Assignment #3 Journal #2	11/10/26, 11/13/26, & 11/14/26
5	Adolescence (Module 7)	Assignment #4 Journal #3 Knowledge Check #3 (Quiz)	11/16/26, 11/17/26, 11/21/26
6	Early Adulthood (Module 8)	Discussion #5 Assignment #5 Journal #4	11/23/26 &11/24/26
7	Middle Adulthood (Module 9)	Discussion #6 Journal #5 Knowledge Check #4 (Quiz)	12/1/26, 12/4/26 & 12/5/26
8	Late Adulthood (Module 10)	Discussion #7 Journal #6 Final Exam Final Knowledge Check	12/7/26, 12/8/26, 12/11/26

II. Grading and Testing Guidelines:

Final Grade Calculation

Activity	Qty	Points	Percentage
Discussions	7	150	15%
Assignments	8	200	20%

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Journals	6	150	15%
Knowledge Checks	6	200	20%
Culminating Projects & Final Knowledge Check	3	200	20%
Attendance	NA	100	10%
TOTAL	NA	1,000	100%

III. **Knowledge Checks Policy:**

- Knowledge Checks must be taken on the scheduled date. You will have 72 hours to take the knowledge check. The knowledge check will open on Friday at 12:00 am and close on Sunday at 11:59pm. Once you open it the timer will start and you must complete them within the 50 minute time frame. They are open-note/book and they are timed. There will NOT be enough time for you to look up every answer, so I highly recommend that you study just like you for a closed book test.
- Your lowest knowledge check grade will be dropped from the gradebook, this does NOT include the Final Knowledge Check. This dropped knowledge check can help if you are too sick or just forgot the take one as it will automatically be the one that is dropped from the gradebook.
- Knowledge Checks will be in multiple choice and short answer format covering the material that was covered after the last one. They will be conducted on the CANVAS system and should be taken from your home computer or computer in the library. The final knowledge check will contain information from the entire course.
- A make up knowledge check will only be given to students with an excused absence (hospitalization/car accident/ house burnt down) and have contacted me prior to the knowledge check ending on Sunday 11:59pm. There will be NO make-up test if you; miss at test/forget to take a test/were sick with a cold/have problems/can't get to a computer/was at a football game/you were traveling/were unable to log on/computer crashed/forgot to pay internet bill/spilled something on your computer/dog, cat, ferret ate my power cord and do not contact me within the three day time frame. I reserve the right to change, format, location, and time frame for any make-up tests.

IV. **Class Attendance:**

Class Attendance will be included in your final grade. Since this is an online course your attendance will be determined by your participation in discussions, assignment, and knowledge check. Late work also counts towards an absence in the course. If are unable to participate in a discussion on time, it is your responsibility to let me know (preferably before that date), it will not affect your attendance points as long as your absences are not excessive

Late Work is acceptable BUT there is a 10% penalty for everyday that work is submitted late. Knowledge checks will NOT be accepted late. You have the opportunity to request 5 extensions on due dates for work that you will not be able to submit on time.

V. **Assignments & Discussions:**

Throughout the course you will be assignment and discussions. All assignments and discussions should be original work for this class. If any of the assignments are unclear, please do not hesitate to ask for clarification. You can information about the due dates on the following Canvas locations; Modules, Assignments, Syllabus, and Calendar.

The due dates are not arbitrary. The course's pacing is designed to help you make steady and productive progress towards the learning objectives, so all work should ideally be submitted by the specific due dates found on Canvas. A 10% per day penalty may be applied to any work not submitted at the specified due date unless I have been notified in advance of the due date (or as soon as possible after the due date if there are extenuating circumstances) via the form located in Canvas under the Important information module. Assignment extensions are not available for any group projects, knowledge checks, culminating projects and other limitations apply, see the form for more information. The form can be located in Canvas-Modules-Important information section.

There will be one discussion every week that will cover the information for the topic that week. You are required to participate in these discussion topics and answer the questions that are presented. You are also required to respond to at least two of your fellow classmates responses. Your responses to your classmates in the discussions are always due by Sunday. Please respond professionally and DO NOT just respond with "I agree or I disagree". You may agree/disagree, but you MUST tell us why. This also means that you act in a professional manner and treat all members of the class with respect.

There are a total of 5 assignment extensions available for this course. All you need to do is fill out the form and submit it required

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information. If it is accepted the due date will change on that assignment. Please limit extensions to 7 days. Assignment extensions must be submitted before an assignment is late to avoid any late penalties. Assignment extensions are not available for any group projects and other limitations apply, see the form for more information. Assignment extensions are not available for test, quizzes, or any assignments that are due the week before final exams.

There are a total of 5 assignment resubmit that may be used on any assignment that receives a 80% or lower score within 1 week of receiving the grade. For more information see form located in Canvas-Modules-Important information section.

VI. Student Interactions and Behavior:

Please remember that even though there are “no walls” to our classroom it is still an academic environment with the same standards. While this is not an English class and know that spell check is not perfect, please do not use “slang abbreviations” in class. Please try to use correct grammar and spelling when replying to discussion topics so that everyone gets a clear picture of what you are trying to communicate.

I ask that you act in a professional manner and treat all members of the class with respect. During the discussions it is important that you listen to everyone and respect their experiences and opinions. We all come to this course with a variety of experiences, responsibilities, needs, and feelings. This means we have much to learn from each other, but it also means that we may all learn differently and at different paces. I practice a “whole learner” approach to instruction. This means that all learners in our classroom (myself included) are not just students/instructors, but people with outside lives that will both inform and possibly sometimes interfere with this class. As such, the course policies below offer options for seeking extensions and making up missed classes. All of these policies offer flexibility, but also ask for accountability. Both are integral to creating a productive learning experience for our entire classroom community.

VII. Academic Integrity, Plagiarism, Cheating, and AI usage:

Many tools and resources exist to help and support students in their academic careers. Your course instructor has included resources to help with your learning and engagement with course content. While it may be beneficial for students to obtain additional information on course content beyond those provided in the course or by North Central State College, when it comes to submitted coursework and assignments, students are held to and expected to adhere to NCSC Institutional policies and procedures, including the Academic Integrity (Plagiarism, Cheating, and AI) Policy. Here is a link to the entire policy:
<https://ncstatecollege.edu/documents/President/PoliciesProcedures/PolicyManual/Final%20PDFs/14-65.pdf>

- As noted in this policy: The student’s work should be the product of the student’s own efforts, unless the student clearly indicates otherwise (for example through citations and references). Students should clarify any questions on proper citation with faculty. Academic honesty is an important element of mature, responsible learning. (North Central State College, 2023, 3357:13-14-65)
- Thus, all coursework and assignments submitted are to be the student's own work and effort. Any questions about coursework should be directed to your course instructor. Violations of this policy are handled through the Academic Integrity Procedure which can be found here: <https://ncstatecollege.edu/documents/President/PoliciesProcedures/PolicyManual/Final%20PDFs/14-651.pdf>

AI usage: The use of generative AI tools (ChatGPT, Dall-e, etc) is permitted in this course for the following activities: Brainstorming and refining your ideas, fine tuning your research questions, finding information on your topic, drafting an outline to help organize your thoughts and checking grammar and style. The use of generative AI tools is NOT permitted in this course for the following activities: Impersonating you in classroom context, completing group work that your group has assigned to you, writing a draft of any assignments, writing entire sentences, paragraphs or papers to complete class assignments. You are responsible for the information you submit based on an AI query. Your use of AI tools must be properly documented and cited in order to stay with academic honesty policies.