

## STANDARDIZED COURSE OUTLINE

### SECTION I

SUBJECT AREA COURSE NUMBER: PSY\*208

COURSE TITLE: Psychology of Adult Development and Aging

COURSE CATALOG DESCRIPTION: A study of behavior dynamics and developmental processes from young adulthood through old age. The physical, cognitive, and psychosocial aspects of aging are studied.

LECTURE HOURS PER WEEK: 3

CREDIT HOURS: 3

LAB HOURS PER WEEK (if applicable): N/A

PREREQUISITE(S): PSY\*111 recommended. Corequisite: ENG\*043.

### SECTION II

A. SCOPE: This course will provide students insight into the psychological development of adults. Topics to be covered will include: research techniques; theories of adult development; the physical, cognitive, and psychosocial aspects of development; developmental stages of young adulthood, middle adulthood, and late adulthood; cultural and subcultural factors that impact development; aging processes and associated problems; as well as dying, death, bereavement, and grief.

**This course fulfills a Designated Core Competency in the area of Social Phenomena Knowledge / Understanding (SP).**

**This course fulfills an Embedded Core Competency in the area of Appreciation of Ethical Dimensions of Humankind (ED).**

**This course fulfills an Embedded Core Competency in the area of Scientific Reasoning (SR).**

B. REQUIRED WORK: Determined by the instructor as described in the course syllabus.

C. ATTENDANCE AND PARTICIPATION: Students are expected to attend each class, be punctual, take exams at the scheduled time, and participate in the learning process. (Specific instructor policies are included on the course syllabus.)

D. METHODS OF INSTRUCTION: Each instructor determines the methods of instruction for the course. These may include lectures structured to permit open discussion and critical reflection

grounded on scholarly readings. Videotapes, charts and other audiovisual aids may be used to emphasize certain topic areas and to make the course material more relevant and understandable to the students. In addition, relevant empirical articles may be assigned to ensure critical and in-depth discussion of various topics.

E. OBJECTIVES, OUTCOMES, and ASSESSMENT: The following objectives and outcomes represent the department's core requirements for student achievement.

<b>LEARNING OBJECTIVES</b>	<b>LEARNING OUTCOMES</b>	<b>ASSESSMENT METHODS</b>
<b>To demonstrate an understanding of:</b>	<b>Students will:</b>	<b>As measured by:</b>
1. How the scientific method applies to the study of human development.	Explain the scientific methods used in conducting research in developmental psychology, with a particular emphasis on adult development. Explain how specific studies address or fail to address ethical issues. Interpret graphs and/or tables of information on issues relevant to human development, and evaluate the validity of such research and/or infer reasonable limits for interpretations. (SP 2, 3, SR 1, 4, 5)	In-class test, homework assignment, group project, and/or research paper.
2. A variety of theoretical approaches to the study of adult development.	Summarize the disparate views and ideas that have been espoused to explain adult development and examine their strengths and weaknesses in applying these theories to the real world. (SP 1, 2, 5)	In-class test, homework assignment, group project, and/or research paper.

3. The physical, cognitive, and psychosocial domains of development.	Explain the various changes that occur in the physical, cognitive, and psychosocial domains of development, and describe how these changes are exemplified in real life situations. Recognize that different beliefs and cultures can yield a variety of acceptable solutions to issues that arise at any stage in adulthood. (SP 1, 2, 5, ED 1, 4)	In-class test, homework assignment, group project, and/or research paper.
4. The three major stages of adult development (early, middle, & late adulthood).	Summarize the various stages of development and how the psychological experiences of each stage affect the overall development. (SP 2)	In-class test, homework assignment, group project, and/or research paper.
5. Cultural and subcultural factors that impact development.	Explain some of the cultural and subcultural factors involved in human development. (SP 1, 2, 4)	In-class test, homework assignment, group project, and/or research paper.
6. Aging processes and associated problems.	Explain some of the gerontological problems associated with aging. (SP 2, 5)	In-class test, homework assignment, group project, and/or research paper.
7. Dying and death.	Identify and explain ethical and practical issues involved in the process of dying. (SP 3, ED 1)	In-class test, homework assignment, group project, and/or research paper.

**Core Competency Assessment Artifact(s):**

Assignments from this course that address learning outcomes noted above may be collected to assess student learning across the school.

F. TEXT(S) AND MATERIALS: College level introductory textbook in adult development and aging, study guides, and supplementary reading.

G. INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY: Basic knowledge of the use of computers to write papers as well as on-line search and use of internet resources. Extent of use of information technology will vary by instructor.