



**Syllabus for PSYC 205-001
Lifespan Development
Department of Psychology
Spring 2025
E-mail: jejewel@siue.edu**

Instructor: Dr. Jeremy Jewell
Office: AH 0139
Office Hours: M/W: 8-9 am

Term: Spring 2025
Class Location: Alumni Hall 0401
Class Meeting time: M/W 3:00-4:15 pm

Course Description and Objectives: This semester we will explore both classic and contemporary research and theory in developmental psychology, from conception through adulthood.

Textbook:

Santrock, J.W. (2022). *A topical approach to lifespan development* (11th Ed.) McGraw-Hill

Undergraduate students can rent textbooks from SIUE. Please visit the [Textbook Service website](#) for more information.

Other course materials

Additional readings may be assigned throughout the semester and will be posted to Blackboard.

Communicating with YOU:

I will send out many emails and announcements via Blackboard so it is your responsibility to check your SIUE email regularly, as well as Blackboard announcements. I STRONGLY encourage you to check your email and/or Blackboard at least once every business day to stay up to date.

Communicating with the instructor:

The most reliable way to contact me is via e-mail. I respond to e-mails I receive during the week (M-F, 9-5 p.m.) within 24-48 hours. If I receive an email outside of those business hours, please understand that that timeline may be even longer in response. If you need to speak with me personally, I am easy to find during my office hours in my office. If you are unable to attend office hours due to a scheduling conflict, please contact me for an appointment. Grades will not be discussed via email. If you have a question about a grade, please discuss with us in person.

E-Mail Guidelines:

E-mail is a wonderful tool when used properly. Please follow these simple guidelines when e-mailing me, so that I can identify you as one of my students quickly and address your concern.

1. ALWAYS sign your e-mail. Many of you have e-mail addresses that mask your identity.
2. Please treat your e-mails as professional communications. Please use proper grammar, spelling, and punctuation.

Course Requirements and Policies

Assignments are posted in Blackboard throughout the semester and will be due online at the scheduled date and time. The dates of each assignment can be found on Blackboard and in your course calendar at the end of your syllabus. It is your responsibility to make sure that all assignments are completed and turned in on time. Work turned in after the scheduled date and time is considered late work. All assignments will be submitted via Blackboard. No emailed assignments will be accepted. The following course requirements are listed below:

Movie Research Paper

For this paper you will watch a movie (of your choice) that discusses one or more important topics that cut across two or more periods of development (middle adulthood and teens, etc). If you are unsure whether a particular movie would be appropriate, ask me. The paper is to be 2,000 words or more NOT including references or other ancillary materials. You must submit your paper through the Turnitin assignment link on Blackboard. Page guidelines listed are approximate, remember that the paper must be 2,000 words not including references. Specific guidelines for the paper are noted at the end of the syllabus.

Reaction Papers (100)

There are 4 short written assignments called Reaction Papers in this class. There will be one for each unit that will be due before the unit exam. You will write a 500-700 word reaction paper to 4 research articles that are relevant to the topics we discuss in class. The articles are posted as PDF files on our Blackboard class page. You will turn in your responses via Blackboard. All grades and feedback will be posted on Blackboard. Assignments are graded on a 25-point scale. **Please see the reaction paper guidelines sheet posted on Blackboard for grading rules and tips on how to write the papers.**

A question or two on each exam may include questions from these articles so it is important you read it carefully.

Exams (300 + 200). There will be a total of 5 exams in this class: 3 mid-term exams that cover the first three units of the course, a final exam during Final Exam Week that covers the last unit of the course, and an *optional* comprehensive make-up exam on the last day of class that includes material from all four units. ALL EXAMS WILL BE TAKEN ONLINE. Exams will be open starting at noon on the noted day and close at 11:59 p.m. (just before midnight) on that same day (see course calendar for specific dates; please note the special dates for the final exam). *We will not have class on the day when an exam is open.* You will have **75 minutes** to take the exams and exams have between 54 and 70 items. Once the timer starts, you cannot leave the exam. All exams will also be open note and open book, though you won't likely have much time to look up the answers – so study accordingly. Any material presented in lecture, your textbook, or the articles you will read for your written assignments are fair game for an exam. Exams will be a combination of multiple choice and short-answer questions. Exams will be graded on a 100-point scale.

How the comprehensive make-up exam works: I do not schedule individual make-up exams for students who miss a test. If you miss an exam and wish to make it up, you may take the comprehensive make-up on the last day of class. You may also use the make-up exam to replace a low grade on one of the first three mid-terms. **You may not take the comprehensive make-up in place of the Final Exam!** The make-up includes questions from the entire semester.

You are welcome to view your graded exams with me during office hours. **I strongly encourage you to view your graded exams, especially if your grade was lower than you expected. You may not scan, copy, photograph, or in any way reproduce the exam questions.**

Your final exam will be open Wednesday at noon of finals week and will close at 11:59 p.m. that day. It will be just like your unit exams format. There will be no make-ups scheduled for the Final Exam.

Please ensure that you have a reliable computer and Internet access when you choose to begin the exam as an exam cannot be reset due to technical problems.

Course Policies

Technology

This course will use Blackboard (<https://bb.siu.edu>) as the primary vehicle for disseminating class materials. Announcements, updates, grades, and other important course information will be posted to Blackboard. It is your responsibility to regularly check this course's Blackboard website throughout the semester. All assignments will be turned in on Blackboard (when applicable) unless otherwise instructed to do something differently by the instructor of this course.

Academic integrity/plagiarism

Plagiarism is the use of another person's words or ideas without crediting that person. Plagiarism and cheating will not be tolerated and may lead to failure on an assignment, in the class, or dismissal from the University, per the SIUE academic dishonesty policy. Students are responsible for complying with University policies about academic honesty as stated in the University's Student Academic Conduct Code.

Use of an AI Generator such as ChatGPT, iA Writer, MidJourney, DALL-E, etc. is **explicitly prohibited**. The information derived from these tools is based on previously published materials. Therefore, using these tools without proper citation constitutes plagiarism. Additionally, be aware that the information derived from these tools is often inaccurate or incomplete. It's imperative that all work submitted should be your own. Any assignment that is found to have been plagiarized or to have used unauthorized AI tools may receive a zero and / or be reported for academic misconduct. By submitting assignments in this class, you pledge to affirm that they are your own work and you attribute use of any tools and sources.

Turnitin

This course will utilize the Turnitin plagiarism detection software. Turnitin can also detect chatGPT or other AI sources of writing. A Turnitin link will be available anywhere written work is to be submitted in the course.

Grading

<u>Assignment</u>	<u>Points available</u>
Reaction Papers	100
Movie Research Paper	150
Mid-Term exams	300 (3 at 100 points each)
Final Exam	200
Total	750

A letter grade of A, B, C, etc. will be assigned based on the following scale:

A = 90% or better (675 points or higher); B = 80-89% (600-674 points or higher); C = 70-79% (525-599 points or higher); D= 60-69% (450-524 points or higher); F = anything lower than 59% (449 points or lower).

If you notice an error in your grade, you have ONE WEEK after the grade is posted to inquire with the professor. Grades will not be modified if more than one week has passed.

Final grades are not negotiable. I do NOT round up. There will not be an opportunity to receive extra credit in this course.

Department of Psychology Writing Policy

As a student in this course, you will be expected to display university-level writing, which includes completing course assignments that meet the following basic writing criteria.

Specifically, all written assignments completed for this course should include:

- clear transitions from sentence to sentence and idea to idea (e.g., paper is organized/flows well);
- verb tense consistency;
- clear and unambiguous sentences and ideas;
- writing that is free of typos, spelling errors, and major grammatical errors;
- properly formatted paper including headings, citations and references, per the 7th edition of the APA manual.

This is by no means an exhaustive list of basic writing skills, but will give you an idea of what we are looking for in our papers. If you feel you need help with your writing, you are encouraged to seek assistance from the writing center on campus (<http://www.siu.edu/is/writing>) or utilize one of the many online resources they have identified to help students (<http://www.siu.edu/lss/writing/resources.shtml>).

Late or Missed Assignments

Any **written assignment** must be completed and submitted via Blackboard by their assigned time. **NO LATE WORK WILL BE ACCEPTED. Students are responsible for anticipating that technology can often fail and should be in communication with the instructor if necessary, PRIOR to the deadline.** Any assignments turned in via email past the time they are due will be considered late and not accepted. You are encouraged to confirm that your assignment has been received via blackboard.

University Policies

Services for Students Needing Accommodations

Students needing accommodations because of medical diagnosis or major life impairment will need to register with Accessible Campus Community & Equitable Student Support (ACCESS) and complete an intake process before accommodations will be given. Students who believe they have a diagnosis, but do not have documentation, should contact ACCESS for assistance and/or appropriate referral. The ACCESS office is located in the Student Success Center, Room 1203. You can also reach the office by emailing us at myaccess@siue.edu or by calling 618-650-3726. If you feel you would need additional help in the event of an emergency situation, please notify your instructor to be shown the evacuation route and discuss specific needs for assistance.

Additional Support

Academic and Other Student Services

As an enrolled SIUE student, you have a variety of support available to you, including:

- [Lovejoy Library Resources](#)
- [The Writing Center](#)
- [Academic Advising](#)
- [Campus Events](#)
- [Counseling Services](#)

If you find that you need additional support, please reach out to me and let me know.

Cougar Care

Dealing with the fast-paced life of a college student can be challenging, and I always support a student's decisions to prioritize mental health. Students have access to counseling services on campus (Student Success Center, 0222). Make an appointment by visiting cougarcare.siue.edu or by calling 618-650-2842.

Academic Integrity

Students are reminded that the expectations and academic standards outlined in the Student Academic Code (3C2) apply to all courses, field experiences and educational experiences at the University, regardless of modality or location. The full text of the policy can be found here: <https://www.siue.edu/policies/3c2.shtml>.

Recordings of Class Content

Faculty recordings of lectures and/or other course materials are meant to facilitate student learning and to help facilitate a student catching up who has missed class due to illness or quarantine. As such, students are reminded that the recording, as well as replicating or sharing of any course content and/or course materials without the express permission of the instructor of record, is not permitted, and may be considered a violation of the University's Student Conduct Code (3C1), linked here: <https://www.siu.edu/policies/3c1.shtml>.

Potential for Changes in Course Schedule or Modality

As seen during the COVID-19 pandemic, there could be circumstances that may require us to change our course schedule or modality. Potential changes include alterations to distancing requirements, course modality (e.g., transition from face-to-face to online, hybrid, or hy-flex, mask wearing, in-course activities, etc). These changes would be implemented to ensure the successful completion of the course while preserving health and safety. In these cases, students may be provided with an addendum to the class syllabus that will supersede the original version. If the course schedule or modifications significantly alter expectations, a new syllabus will be issued.

Course Calendar

Note: All assignments will be due at 11:59pm on their assigned date through Blackboard.

Day	Date	Topic	Reading	Assignments due at 11:59p.m.
M	1/13	Syllabus	Syllabus	
W	1/15	Introduction to Development	Chapter 1	
M	1/20	NO CLASS – MLK DAY		
W	1/22	Biological Beginnings	Chapter 2	
M	1/27	Physical Development & Biological Aging	Chapter 3	
W	1/29	Physical Development & Biological Aging		
M	2/3	Motor, Sensory and Perceptual Development	Chapter 5	Reaction Paper 1 due
<i>W</i>	<i>2/5</i>	<i>ONLINE EXAM 1 No Class Meeting</i>		
M	2/10	Cognitive Developmental Approaches	Chapter 6	
W	2/12	Cognitive Developmental Approaches	Chapter 6	
M	2/17	Information Processing	Chapter 7	
W	2/19	Information Processing	Chapter 7	

M	2/24	Intelligence	Chapter 8	
W	2/26	Language Development	Chapter 9	
M	3/3	Language Development	Chapter 9	Reaction Paper 2 due
W	3/5	<i>ONLINE EXAM 2 No Class Meeting</i>		
M	3/10	Spring Break		
W	3/12	Spring Break		
M	3/17	Emotional Development and Attachment	Chapter 10	
W	3/19	Emotional Development and Attachment	Chapter 10	
M	3/24	Self, Identity, & Personality	Chapter 11	
W	3/26	Self, Identity, & Personality	Chapter 11	
M	3/31	Gender & Sexuality	Chapter 12	
W	4/2	Gender & Sexuality	Chapter 12	Reaction Paper 3 due
M	4/7	<i>ONLINE EXAM 3 No Class Meeting</i>		
W	4/9	Moral Development	Chapter 13	
M	4/14	Moral Development	Chapter 13	
W	4/16	Family, Lifestyles and Parenting	Chapter 14	Reaction Paper 4 due
M	4/21	Family, Lifestyles and Parenting	Chapter 14	
W	4/23	Peer Relations	Chapter 15	
M	4/28	Peer Relations	Chapter 15	
W	4/30	COMPREHENSIVE OPTIONAL MAKEUP EXAM No Class meeting		Movie Research Paper Due via TurnItin
<i>Finals Week</i>	5/7	<i>FINAL EXAM Available 5/7 from noon to 11:59 pm</i>		

Subject to change notice

All material, assignments, and deadlines are subject to change with prior notice. It is your responsibility to stay in touch with your instructor, review the course site regularly, or communicate with other students, to adjust as needed if assignments or due dates change.

Movie Research Paper Guidelines For PSYC 205

For this paper you will watch a movie (of your choice) that discusses one or more important topics that cut across one or more periods of development (middle adulthood and teens, etc). If you are unsure whether a particular movie would be appropriate, ask me. The paper is to be 2,000 words NOT including references or other ancillary materials. You must submit your paper through the Turnitin assignment link on Blackboard. Page guidelines listed below are approximate, remember that the paper must be 2,000 words not including references.

Section I: Brief Synopsis of the Movie (1 page). Write a brief summary of the movie. Make sure this summary is in your own words.

Section II: Messages in the Movie (1 page). While watching the movie, look for messages the movie communicates to the audience. I am defining “messages” as phrases or short sentences (not single words or paragraphs). Some messages may be a major part of the plot (e.g., “You can always count on your family”) whereas some messages may be minor or even subliminal (e.g., “Working in fast food is hard”). On the first sheet of paper LIST between 10 to 20 messages you found during the movie. You will be able to explain the messages in more detail later (i.e., see “Section II”). Here is what I mean by “*list* the movies”, using positive messages as an example....

1. Friends can help you through your struggles
2. A disability can be a strength

Divide the messages into 3 categories including a) “**Positive Messages**”, b) “**Information Messages**”, and c) “**Negative Messages**”. Include at least 2 messages in each of these categories. If you like, you may include additional categories, such as “Other Messages” or any other category you devise. Thus, the first page is simply a list, broken down into a few categories, of the messages you found.

Section III (1 page). On the next page, choose just a few major messages in the movie and explain them in more detail. Include in your discussion where in the movie you found those messages and why you included them in a certain category of your list (e.g., positive, negative, etc...).

Section IV (3-4 pages). In this section include **exactly 3 research articles** which somehow relate to one or more of the messages you found. That is, if you listed something as a negative message (e.g., “hitting other people helps you get what you want”), find a research study that somehow relates to this message for teens (e.g., research that shows how teens imitate violent behavior they see in the home).

Make sure you use **research studies** in which they conducted their own experiment and collected their own data. You may use systematic reviews or meta-analyses published in peer reviewed journals. Research studies always include a method/procedures section and a results section. **Use studies that can be found from the PsycINFO database or google scholar.**

Make sure you write about the studies in your own words. You may not ever copy their phrases and you may not use quotes. All forms of plagiarism will be dealt with severely. For each research study, follow the format below closely:

- In the first paragraph, describe the methods of the first study (i.e., who were the participants? Where was the study setting? What were the independent and dependent variables? What were the procedures used? What were the hypotheses?).
- In the *second paragraph* describe the results of the study (including some of the actual numbers).
- In the *third paragraph* summarize (in your own words) what the authors of the study considered to be strengths and weaknesses of the study (i.e., this is found in their discussion section).
- In the *fourth paragraph* include your own critique of the study (e.g., How does it relate to the movie message(s)? Was the study worthwhile? What should they have done differently? What should they do next time? How could your profession benefit from knowledge of the study? Etc...). You may also include how the movie producers could have used this research to make their movie better for teens. (Use the same 4-paragraph structure for the other two studies as well.)

Section V: Conclusion (1/2 page). Add a final full paragraph in which add a conclusion to your paper. You decide on your own what to include in this section.

Section VI-References (1/2 page). Add a reference list in APA style. This is an example of APA style for one study:

Lytle, A., Macdonald, J., Apriceno, M., & Levy, S. R. (2021). Reducing ageism with brief videos about aging education, ageism, and intergenerational contact. *The Gerontologist*, 61(7), 1164-1168.

Additional Movie Research Paper Notes:

- Never use personal descriptions of yourself (e.g., “I”, “me” etc...)
- Do not use contractions (e.g., can’t) in your list or in the rest of the paper.
- The paper may not be sent via email.
- You will be graded on: a) adherence to the above guidelines, b) content, c) and grammar, spelling, and punctuation.
 - Late papers will be penalized 10% for each day late.

How to Get Research Study Abstracts

1. Go the <https://libguides.siu.edu/az.php?q=psycinfo>
2. Click “PsycINFO”
3. Type in a keyword or keywords (aggression and teens)
4. Click on “Perform Search”

You can also use google scholar as well (scholar.google.com)