Instructor: Dr. Keisha Bentley E-mail: keisha.bentley@mail.utexas.edu Class Dates: June 13 – July 5, 2012 Office: SZB-506-J, Phone: 471-2755

Mon-Thurs, 1:00-4:00pm

Office Hours: By Appointment

Email is the fastest and most efficient way to contact me!!!

Required Texts:

All readings are on Blackboard

Course Description:

Life span Development will cover human development over the life span; optimum patterns of life, and biological and social conditions that influence development.

Accommodations:

The University of Texas at Austin provides upon request appropriate academic accommodations for qualified students with disabilities. For more information, contact the Office of the Dean of Students at 471-6259, 471-6441 TTY.

Course Objectives:

To foster an in-depth, critical understanding of lifespan development. The course will investigate multiple dimensions of philosophical, historical, theoretical, empirical and application matters. Several schools of thought, perspectives and developmental theories will be addressed. A range of contemporary issues will be actively discussed including socioeconomic status, political climate, social norms, cultural identity, mental health, family dynamics, academic achievement and social adjustment into a unifying, comprehensive framework. Active student participation is not only encouraged but also expected.

Please read the syllabus carefully. The content of this syllabus is subject to revision at anytime. Students will be given notice of any changes in advance. You are responsible for checking your email everyday and for knowing about changes whether or not you are present in class at the time of the announcement.

Grading Scale:

Grade Percentage:				
5%	Attendance & Participation			
20%	Reading Discussions			
25%	Mid-Term Exam			
25%	Observation/Interview			
25%	Final Exam			

93-100% A	90-92% A-	87-89% B+	83-86% B	80-82% B-
77-79% C+	73-76% C	70-72% C-	60-69% D	Below 60% F

Attendance is extremely important since this class meets monthly. As previously stated, each student is expected **participate** in class through the reading presentations and class discussions.

Reading Discussions & Reflections: Students will sign up for 2 readings for which they will lead the class discussion and submit a <u>2-3 page double–spaced</u> reaction paper. The paper will include a brief summary of the reading, your interpretation or reaction and **2-3 discussion questions**. You must cite a related article (not included in our readings) for each of your reading reflections. Student Led discussions will occur at the beginning of class. **Each student will conduct/submit 3 discussions. 10 Points**

The Mid-Term and Final Exams are cumulative. More details about the exams will be provided within a few days before they occur.

Observations/Interviews: Students will observe someone that is in a developmental stage that is different than their own. You will do a <u>5 page paper</u> for each subject. Because infants are difficult to communicate with, you can select from the following developmental stages:

- Early childhood, 3-6 years
- Adolescence, 12-20 years
- Middle adulthood, 41-60 years

- Middle childhood, 7-11 years
- Early adulthood, 21-40 years
- Late adulthood, 61 + years

Let the person know (and their parent for minors) that you would like to spend some time with them (at least 45 minutes) while they engage in normal activities. Then you will ask them a few questions. Thinking of your subject's developmental stage, pick 3 of these questions and 2 of your own:

- What is the best part about being your age?
- What is most challenging about being your age?
- What is your biggest priority right now?
- When you think about yourself in a few years, what are you looking forward to?
- If you could tell your younger self something, what would it be?
- What surprises you about being your age?
- What is it like being your gender at your age?
- What is it like being your race/ethnicity at your age?
- Are you happy with your life right now? Why or Why not?

This **5** page paper will include 5 sections.

- 1. A brief introduction of the subject
- 2. A brief description of your observation. You should explain what you observed, how the individual interacted with the world and how the world reacted to the individual.
- 3. State the questions you asked along with your subject's responses.
- 4. Thinking about your own developmental stage, how do the subject's responses compare to your perspectives.
- 5. Conclusion, which includes how the observation/interview fits or does not fit into a developmental theory.

DUE JULY 2, 2012

Note on All Assignments:

All assignments will be collected at the BEGINNING of class. Assignments submitted after the first five minutes of class will be reduced by half a letter grade and those submitted after class will be reduced a full letter grade for each calendar day it is late. No rewriting of assignments will be allowed since there will be ample time and opportunity to ask questions about each assignment during class time and between classes.

All written assignments should be written in 12-point (Arial or Times New Roman) font, double-spaced, with 1" margins on all sides and page numbers. Cover sheets and reference pages are not included in the page count. Assignments should meet the stated *minimum or maximum* page limit. All written assignments should make reference to the readings and theoretical frameworks in this course. The content of your papers and how you present your written thoughts are important. Therefore, students must carefully proofread and spell-check their written assignments. Writing assistance can be found at the Graduate Student Writing Services;

http://www.utexas.edu/student/utlc/tutoring/grad_writing_services.php.

All papers will be submitted according to APA style. This style is of particular importance for intext citation and the representation of sources in the reference section. A good resource can be found at http://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/560/01.

Academic Integrity:

Policy on Scholastic Dishonesty: Students who violate University rules on scholastic dishonesty are subject to disciplinary penalties, including the possibility of failure in the course and/or dismissal from the University. Since such dishonesty harms the individual, all students, and the integrity of the University, policies on scholastic dishonesty will be strictly enforced. For further information please visit the Student Judicial Services Web site: http://deanofstudents.utexas.edu/sjs.

Course Schedule:

June 13

Class Topic: Introduction, Syllabus Review, Lifespan Intro & Theoretical Frameworks

June 14

Class Topic: Theoretical Frameworks

Read by today: Bronfenbrenner, U. (1993). The ecology of cognitive development: Research models and fugitive findings. In R.H. Wozniak & K.W. Fischer (Eds.),

Development in context: Acting and thinking in specific environments. (pp. 3-44). Hillside, NJ: Lawrence Earlbaum & Associates, Inc.

Muuss, R.E. (1988). Erikson's theory of identity development. In R.E. Muuss' (Ed.), *Theories of adolescence: Fifth edition*. New York: McGraw-Hill.

[pp. 52-85]

June 18

Class Topic:

Theories & Socialization

Read by today:

Bentley, K. L., Adams, V. N., & Stevenson, H. C. (2008). Racial Socialization: Roots, Processes & Outcomes. In H. Neville, B. Tynes & S. Utsey (Eds.), *Handbook of African American Psychology*: Sage Publications.

Fine, M. (2004). Witnessing Whiteness/Gathering Intelligence. In M. Fine, L. Weis, L. Powell Pruitt & A. Burns (Eds.), *Off White: Readings on Power, Privilege and Resistance* (pp. 245-256). New York: Routledge.

Spencer, M. B., Dupree, D., & Hartmann, T. (1997). A phenomenological variant of ecological systems theory (PVEST): A self-organization perspective in context. *Development and psychopathology*, *9*(4), 817-833.

June 19

Class Topic:

Physical Development

Read by today:

Miech, R., Kumanyika, S., Stettler, N, Link, B., Phelan, J., Chang, V. (2006). Trends in the association of poverty with overweight among US adolescents, 1971-2004. *JAMA-Journal of the American Medical Association*, 295 (20), 2385-2393.

McKinley, N. (2006). The developmental and cultural contexts of objectified body consciousness: A longitudinal analysis of two cohorts of women. *Developmental Psychology, 42* (4), 679-687.

June 20

Class Topic:

Health Issues

Read by today:

Cole, S., & Cole, T. (1993). Sexuality, disability, and reproductive issues through the lifespan. *Sexuality and Disability*, 11(3), 189-205.

Crooks, V., Lubben, J., Petitti, D., Little, D., & Chiu, V. (2008). Social network, cognitive function, and dementia incidence among elderly women. *American Journal of Public Health*, *98*(7), 1221-1227.

Kwate, N., Valdimarsdottir, H., Guevarra, J., & Bovbjerg, D. (2003). Experiences of racist events are associated with negative health consequences for African American women. *Journal of the National Medical Association*, 95(6), 450-460.

June 21

Class Topic:

Mid Term Exam

Class Objective:

Online through Blackboard

Get an A+ on exam!!

June 25

Class Topic: Language & Cognition

Read by today:

- Antón, M. (1999). The discourse of a learner-centered classroom: Sociocultural perspectives on teacher-learner interaction in the second-language classroom. *Modern Language Journal*, 83(3), 303-318.
- Phillips, D., Voran, M., Kisker, E., & Howes, C. (1994). Child care for children in poverty: Opportunity or inequity? *Child Development*, 65(2), 472-492.
- Roberts, J., Burchinal, M., & Durham, M. (1999). Parents' report of vocabulary and grammatical development of African American preschoolers: Child and environmental associations. *Child Development*, 70(1), 92-106.

June 26

Class Topic: Emotional Development

Read by today:

- Brenes, G. A., Penninx, B. W. J. H., Judd, P. H., Rockwell, E., Sewell, D. D., & Wetherell, J. L. (2008). Anxiety, depression and disability across the lifespan. [Article]. *Aging & Mental Health*, *12*(1), 158-163.
- Lutz, W. J., & Warren, B. J. (2007). The state of nursing science: Cultural and lifespan issues in depression; Part II: Focus on children and adolescents. [Article]. *Issues in Mental Health Nursing*, 28(7), 749-764.
- Mathes, E. W. (1981). Maslow's Hierarchy of Needs as a Guide for Living. *Journal of Humanistic Psychology*, 21(4), 69.

June 27

Class Topic: Personality & Self

Read by today:

- DuBois, D., & Flay, B. (2004). The Healthy Pursuit of Self-Esteem: Comment on and Alternative to the Crocker and Park (2004) Formulation. *Psychological Bulletin*, *130*(3), 415-420.
- McCrae, R., Costa, P., de Lima, M., Simões, A., Ostendorf, F., Angleitner, A., et al. (1999). Age differences in personality across the adult life span: Parallels in five cultures. *Developmental Psychology*, 35(2), 466-477.
- Myers, L., Speight, S., Highlen, P., & Cox, C. (1991). Identity development and worldview toward an optimal conceptualization. *Journal of Counseling & Development*, 70(1), 54-63.

June 28

Class Topic: Social & Behavior Development

Read by today:

- Catalano, R., Kosterman, R., Hawkins, J., & Newcomb, M. (1996). Modeling the etiology of adolescent substance use: A test of the social development model. *Journal of Drug Issues*, 26(2), 429-455.
- Dodge, K. A., Coie, J. D., & Lynam, D. R. (2008). Aggression and antisocial behavior in youth. In W. Damon & R. M. Lerner (Eds.), *Child and Adolescent Development: An Advanced Course* (pp. 437-472). Hoboken, NJ: John Wiley & Sons.
- Hart, D., & Fegley, S. (1995). Prosocial behavior and caring in adolescence: Relations to self-understanding and social judgment. *Child Development*, 66(5), 1346-1359.

July 2

Class Topic:

Gender & Sex — Observation/Interview Paper Due

Read by today:

- Litzenberger, B., & Buttenheim, M. (1998). Sexual orientation and family development: Introduction. *American Journal of Orthopsychiatry*, 68(3), 344-351.
- Strough, J., Leszczynski, J. P., Neely, T. L., Flinn, J. A., & Margrett, J. (2007). From Adolescence to Later Adulthood: Femininity, Masculinity, and Androgyny in Six Age Groups. [Article]. Sex Roles, 57(5/6), 385-396. doi: 10.1007/s11199-007-9282-5
- Vaughan, M., & Waehler, C. (2010). Coming Out Growth: Conceptualizing and Measuring Stress-Related Growth Associated with Coming Out to Others as a Sexual Minority. [Article]. Journal of Adult Development, 17(2), 94-109. doi: 10.1007/s10804-009-9084-9
- Vrangalova, Z., & Savin-Williams, R. C. (2011). Adolescent Sexuality and Positive Well-Being: A Group-Norms Approach. [Article]. Journal of Youth & Adolescence, 40(8), 931-944. doi: 10.1007/s10964-011-9629-7

July 3

Class Topic:

Resiliency/ Death & Dying

Read by today:

- Christ, G. H., Siegel, K., & Christ, A. E. (2002). Adolescent Grief: 'It Never Really Hit Me...Until It Actually Happened'. [Article]. *JAMA: Journal of the American Medical Association*, 288(10), 1269.
- Calderwood, K. A. (2011). Adapting the Transtheoretical Model of Change to the Bereavement Process. [Article]. *Social work*, *56*(2), 107-117.
- Langer, N. (2004). Resiliency and Spirituality: Foundations of Strengths Perspective Counseling with the Elderly. *Educational Gerontology*, 30(7), 611-617.
- Luthar, S. S., & Latendresse, S. J. (2005). Children of the Affluent: Challenges to Well-Being. *Current Directions in Psychological Science*, *14*(1), 49-53.

July 5

Class Topic:

Final Exam

Course Objective:

- Online through Blackboard
- Get an A+++ on exam!!