

**Intro to Lifespan Development Spring 2016**  
**EDP 363M-3**

**Instructor: Dr. Keisha Bentley-Edwards**

**Required Texts:**

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ISBN-10: 0205989381

Author: Robert S. Feldman

Title: Lifespan Development: A Topical Approach, 2<sup>ND</sup> Edition

Coursesmart.com, 180-day E-book rental, or loose-leaf version recommended based on price;

**Course Description:**

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Lifespan Development will cover human development over the lifespan; optimum patterns of life, and biological and social conditions that influence emotional, cognitive and social development.

**Accommodations:**

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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:**

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To foster an in-depth, critical understanding of lifespan development. The course will investigate multiple dimensions of philosophical, historical, theoretical, empirical and practical matters. Although this course utilizes classic developmental theories, we will also discuss contemporary theories and research to understand how people navigate their worlds based on their life stage. Students will transform theory and research into reflections of their own experiences and into a self-selected final project. A range of timely issues will be actively discussed including socioeconomic status, physical and health development, political climate, social and gender norms, cultural identity, mental health, emotional and affective development, behavior and interpersonal dynamics, academic achievement and social adjustment into a unifying, comprehensive framework.

**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 knowing about changes whether or not you are present in class at the time of the announcement.**

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**Grading Scale:**

Grade Percentage:	
10%	Attendance & Participation
15%	Class Discussions
25%	Mid-Term Exam
25%	Final Project
25%	Final Exam
--	Research Participation or Alternate Assignment

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 weekly. As previously stated, each student is expected **participate** in class through the reading presentations and class discussions.

**EDP Research Participation Requirement:** All students registered for this course must complete a research participation requirement through the Educational Psychology Department subject pool. To do so, you must either complete 5 credits worth of EDP subject pool studies or write the 5 page alternate assignment (a research paper about a roughly 20 page article). Please note the deadlines below:

- To participate in studies, you must first activate your SONA account online at <https://utexas-edp.sona-systems.com>. You will receive an email with activation instructions during the first week.
- Studies will be available beginning on **Wednesday, February 17<sup>th</sup>**. The sooner you view the studies, the larger selection you will have.
- The alternate written assignment will be posted on **Friday, March 4<sup>th</sup>**. This is for students who prefer to not participate in the studies, or who do not meet the 5 credit requirement by the study completion deadline.
- To complete the requirement through study participation, you must complete 5 credits of subject pool studies by **Friday, April 15<sup>th</sup>**. Otherwise, you must write the alternate assignment.
- Alternate assignments are due on the last class day, **Friday, May 6<sup>th</sup>**.

If you have questions about your participation in the EDP subject pool or about the alternate assignment, please visit the following website:

**[http://www.edb.utexas.edu/education/departments/edp/subject\\_pool/students/](http://www.edb.utexas.edu/education/departments/edp/subject_pool/students/)**

If you still have questions, please email the Subject Pool Coordinator, Kadie Rackley.

**[edpSubjectPool@austin.utexas.edu](mailto:edpSubjectPool@austin.utexas.edu)**

**Class Discussions & Reflections:** You will be placed in 10 groups of approximately 5 students each. Every week, 1 student in each group will lead the group discussion on the class topic of the day. You will sign up and will lead 2 class discussions. You will upload your 2-3 questions to Canvas by 11:59pm the night before you lead the discussion. You will submit a **2-3 page double-spaced** reaction paper for **1** of your class discussions. The paper will include a brief summary (1-2 paragraphs) of the class readings, the remaining 1.5-2 pages will focus on your critique or reaction, followed by **2-3 discussion questions**. You must cite a related scholarly article (not included in our readings) for your reading reflections. Student Led discussions will occur at the beginning of class. **Each student will conduct 2 discussions and submit 1 reaction paper for one of the discussions. 10 Points – Discussion Only; 15 points – Discussion & Paper**

**Midterm & Final Exams:** These exams are cumulative. More details about the exams will be provided before they occur.

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**Final Project:** Each student will select one of the following options for their **Final Project**:

- 1) **Create a Final Exam** for this course that includes:
  - a. Multiple choice (15), true/false (5) and at least 3 essay questions
  - b. Correct Answers
  - c. Citations
  - d. Grading Rubric for Essay Questions
  
- 2) **Plan your own funeral:**
  - a. You will be making all of the arrangements for your own funeral. This will include:
    - i. Your death (Must live at least 10 years beyond today)
    - ii. Burial Ritual
    - iii. The Obituary
    - iv. The Eulogy
    - v. The Funeral/Memorial Service
    - vi. Conclusion: Personal Reflection on Your Life (Must integrate at least 1 developmental theory)
  - b. More details on Canvas

**DUE May 4, 2016**

### ***Note on All Assignments:***

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**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 weekly 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 Undergraduate Writing Center; <http://uwc.utexas.edu>

All papers will be submitted according to APA style. This style is of particular importance for in-text 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:**

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**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>.

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**Course Schedule:**

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January 20, 2016

**Class Topic:**     **Introduction, Syllabus Review, Lifespan Intro**

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January 27

**Class Topic:**     **Theoretical Frameworks of Cognitive, Social & Emotional Development**

*Read by today:*   Feldman, Chapter 1

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February 3

**Class Topic:**     **Genetics, Conception to Birth**

*Read by today:*   Feldman, Chapter 2

Morelli, G., Rogoff, B., Oppenheim, D., & Goldsmith, D. (1992). Cultural variation in infants' sleeping arrangements: Questions of independence. *Developmental Psychology*, 28(4), 604-613.

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February 10

**Class Topic:**     **Physical Development**

*Read by today:*   Feldman, Chapter 3

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February 17

**Class Topic:**     **Health & Wellness**

*Read by today:*   Feldman, Chapter 4

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February 24

**Class Topic:**     **Cognitive Development**

*Read by today:*   Feldman, Chapter 5

Feldman, Chapter 6

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March 2

**Class Topic:**     **Language Development & Intelligence**

*Read by today:*   Feldman, Chapter 7

Feldman, Chapter 8

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March 9

**Class Topic:**     **Exam I**

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March 16

**Class Topic:**     **No Class – Spring Break**

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March 23

***Class Topic:***     **Social & Emotional Development & Sense of Self**

*Read by today:*   Feldman, Chapter 9  
                          Feldman, Chapter 10

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March 30

***Class Topic:***     **Schooling, Culture & Society**

*Read by today:*   Feldman, Chapter 14

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April 6

***Class Topic:***     **Morality & Aggression – Submit your decision for your final project**

*Read by today:*   Feldman, Chapter 11

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April 13

***Class Topic:***     **Gender & Sexuality Development**

*Read by today:*   Feldman, Chapter 12

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April 20

***Class Topic:***     **Exam II**

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April 27

***Class Topic:***     **Death & Bereavement – Advanced Directive Project**

Feldman, Chapter 15

Calderwood, K. A. (2011). Adapting the Transtheoretical Model of Change to the Bereavement Process. *Social work, 56*(2), 107-117.

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May 4

***Class Topic:***     **Final Projects Due**

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