



Course Syllabus
PSY 2510003 Lifespan Development (CRN 26787)
Spring Semester 2014

Exams:

Exams will be given on the dates listed in the course calendar unless other arrangements are made. Exams will be taken online via Blackboard on the days assigned. There will be no class on exam days.

Exams will consist of 40 multiple choice questions, each worth 1 point and 2 short answers, each worth 5 points. Beware that some multiple

- (1) You will raise a virtual child from birth through age 18.
- (2) You will make decisions for your virtual self from age 18 through late adulthood.

These simulations will take you through a series of events and questions to which you will respond. Some events will depend on your responses to questions; while others are selected as part of the program and do not necessarily depend on your responses.

You will be responsible for 4 writing assignments in addition to the simulations, which are described in detail at the end of the syllabus.

Attendance & Participation:

You will not be graded on your attendance. However, lectures will cover material found in both the text and course activities. Lectures will be posted on Blackboard and are designed to review the main sections of the textbook and to expand on a sample of the concepts covered in the text. New material that parallels and/or supplements the textbook will be introduced during class. For this reason, attending and participating in class will improve your understanding of the text and this course as a whole. If you do not feel comfortable asking questions during class, I encourage you to stop by during office hours to discuss or send me an email.

Academic Dishonesty

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MyVirtualLife Assignments (110 points)

As part of MyVirtualLife, you will complete two separate simulations. In the first, you will raise a child from birth to age 18. As you raise your child, you will need to complete assignments 1 through 4, listed here.

- x General guidelines: A good answer will address every part of the question, and will describe the FKLOG TV EHKDYLRU DQG SURYLGH RU VXSSRUWLQJ H[DPS should relate your description LRQV DQG H[SODQDWLRQV RI WKH FKLOG TV E and research covered in class or in the book. Please avoid expressing an unfounded opinion to base your arguments on research studies and conclusions, or a theory that is not supported by the research in the field. The questions are printed below along with a scoring rubric that has worked well in past classes.
- x *UDGLQJ 8VLQJ WKH UXEULF VWXGHQWV ZLOO JUDGH HDFK class. Each student QW ZLOO EH UHVSQRVLEOH IRU JUDGLQJ RQH RWK points for accurately following the grading rubric. The instructor will also review the responses WR EH VXUH VWXGHQWV KDYH HIIHFWLQJ Spnse. DQG DFFXUDWHC

\$QDO\JH \RXU EDE\TV WHP SHUDPHQW LQ PRUH. How would you describe your baby in terms of the five aspects of temperament utilized by the Virtual Child program DFWLYLW\ VRFLDELQW\ HPRWLRQDOLW\ DJJUHVVLYHQHVV YV temperament been stable over the first 18 months? A blurb defining and providing examples of the five aspects of temperament is provided at 12 months in the program, but you should seek out further explanations of temperament from your textbook. Explain how the concept of good fits also

How well is your child adapting to social situations in the home and outside the home? Does your child have any behavior or emotional problems at this point? Why do you think these problems are occurring and what are you doing about them? Refer to the text or lecture for descriptions and explanations of each area of skill.

- x 1 point for each of three examples illustrating changes in cognitive or language skills and one point for explaining how they might affect your interactions with your child (4 points)

3. How well is your child adapting to social situations in the home and outside the home? Does your child have any behavior or emotional problems at this point? Why do you think these problems are occurring and what are you doing about them? Refer to the text or lecture as needed.

- x 1 point for an instance of adaptation in the home and 1 point for an instance outside the home. 1 point for describing a problem (or an area in which the child needs improvement) and what the parent is doing or plans to do about it. (3 points)

4 years

4. How would you characterize your parenting style (e.g., authoritative, authoritarian, permissive, variations or combinations of these styles)? Refer to the book or lecture descriptions to justify your classification. How have your specific parenting techniques changed since infancy?

- x 1 point each for two examples describing your parenting style and 1 point for illustrating how specific parenting techniques have changed since infancy (3 points)

How well is your child adapting to social situations in the home and outside the home? Does your child have any behavior or emotional problems at this point? Why do you think these problems are occurring and what are you doing about them? Refer to the text or lecture for descriptions and explanations of each area of skill.

- x 1 point for each of three examples of changes in behavior; be sure to use one or more concepts from the course, including but not limited to those listed above (3 points)

How well is your child adapting to social situations in the home and outside the home? Does your child have any behavior or emotional problems at this point? Why do you think these problems are occurring and what are you doing about them? Refer to the text or lecture for descriptions and explanations of each area of skill.

8. Your Virtual child is growing up basically in an average American cultural setting. Based on what you know, how would you describe your child's behavior if they were raised in a different culture? Alternatively, if you are familiar with a different culture (you or your parents were raised in a country outside America with a very different culture), you can describe how your

should also describe what you are doing any way to help your child do well in math/science and literacy (reading, writing and communicating).

- x 1 point each for two aspects of academic skills, which can include oral language/communication, reading, spelling, writing, understanding of science or social studies, and mathematics, and 1 point for explaining and giving examples of how you are helping in each area. (4 points)

5. How well is your child adapting to social situations in the home and outside the home? Does your child have any behavioral or emotional problems that have become apparent between 6 and 10 years of age? (some possibilities include internalizing and externalizing p

Assignment 4: Adolescence (12

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based on evidence from the course regarding the contributions of parents to child development. Describe