INSTRUCTOR: Amaka Okeke-Agiriga, Ph.D
E-mail: amaka.agiriga@tamucc.edu
Phone: 361-825-5990
Office Bldg.: Bay Hall 224A
Office Hours: MW (1-3pm), Tuesdays (1-2pm)
Class Meeting: TR 11-12:15 p.m.
Classroom: CI-112

RECOMMENDED TEXT:
Essentials of Lifespan Development (4th Edition) with Connect Access by
John Santrock, McGraw-Hill
ISBN 9781259637247

COURSE OBJECTIVE:
This course will introduce you to major theories and topics in the field of developmental
psychology. We will emphasize theories of attachment and successful development throughout
the lifespan, in terms of normative physical, cognitive, social and emotional development.
The goal is to equip you with an understanding of lifespan development and how it may apply to
you, people you know or perhaps if you choose a career in psychology, your future patients. I
expect you to take an active, analytic, critical and self-critical approach to the material, theories,
and methods we cover, as well as your own beliefs and ideas regarding the subject.

STUDENT LEARNING OBJECTIVES:
- Students will demonstrate the ability to describe the main points of the developmental
theories we cover in the textbook; and how they apply to development throughout the
lifespan.
- Use the information from your text as background knowledge and information to apply to
real-world situations.

COURSE FORMAT:
Teaching technique for this course will be a combination of lectures to introduce topics, class
reading, question and answers, class discussions, group interactions, note taking, and
presentations to enhance learning. It is important that students keep up with the assigned reading.

COURSE EVALUATION TOOLS:
Your final grade for this course will be based on four exams. All four exams are each weighted
25 percent and will be averaged for the final grade in this course. All exams may take the form of
a combination of essay, class presentation, and multiple choice questions. Exams must be taken
at the scheduled times and place. Make-up exams are allowed only for validly supported medical
and/or personal emergencies. The instructor reserves the right to determine the merits of each request for a make-up examination.

**Course Requirements**

Basically, BE HERE, BE PREPARED!

Students are expected to have read all assigned material prior to class and be prepared to discuss topics in each chapter, either in a group setting or individually during class. Students are responsible also for material presented in lectures. Not everything discussed in class will be found in the text, so it is your responsibility to get the notes for any class missed. The student is responsible for any material missed due to an absence of any nature. No late assignments will be accepted except with valid, documented, official university excused absences.

Students are expected to check Blackboard at least twice a week for class assignments and announcements.

**Contacting me**

Please contact me with any question or/and concern that you may have. I am available to help you as much as I can to succeed in this course. I check my email regularly and most of the time will respond within 24 hours.

**Tardiness**

Excessive tardiness will not be tolerated. It is disruptive and shows lack of respect for the instructor and your fellow classmates. You must be present 10 minutes after the class begins to be counted as present. And, if you leave before class is dismissed, you will not be counted present unless there is a reasonable explanation and you have spoken to me prior to the beginning of class.

**Absence Policy**

Attendance is strongly encouraged. TAMUCC has attendance policy which states that students are expected to attend class regularly and may be dropped from a course for nonattendance if they are absent without acceptable excuses. If YOU wish to drop the course, it’s your responsibility. The ONLY absences that will be excused are those due to confining illness, serious illness or death in the immediate family, and participation in sanctioned intercollegiate competition or officially approved class activity. If you are absent for any of these reasons, you MUST PROVIDE written documentation if the absence is to be excused on the day you return to class, not days or weeks later. If you are to be absent for an event sanctioned by the university, please provide documentation prior to the date(s) you will be gone. REMEMBER: NO WRITTEN OR OFFICIAL DOCUMENTATION = NO EXCUSED ABSENCE!!

**Use of cell phones, iPods, laptops, ipads etc.**

Note taking devices will be accepted but strictly for note taking purposes only. Please I ask you do not abuse your privileges by doing such things as updating statues on Face book or doing other class work during my class time. Texting is prohibited however phones are allowed to be on vibrate for emergency purposes only. So that means if you are expecting a phone call please
let me know beforehand or if you receive an important phone call please step outside and answer it as quiet and discrete as possible.

**ACADEMIC DISHONESTY**
All forms of academic dishonesty will not be tolerated in this class. This includes, but is not limited to: handing in another’s work as your own, using unauthorized notes on an exam, copying another’s answers for an exam, turning in the same papers for two different classes, purchasing or otherwise obtaining papers written by another and turning that work in as your own. You are expected to avoid plagiarism (whether intentional or unintentional) by carefully citing your sources in your research paper. Any information used in your research paper that is not your own idea should be appropriately referenced using APA style (seek help if you do not know how to reference your sources; I can help you, and there are other resources available on campus). If academic dishonesty is suspected, I will follow the disciplinary guidelines in the TAMUCC student code of conduct.

**STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES**
The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) is a federal anti-discrimination statute that provides comprehensive civil rights protection for persons with disabilities. Among other things, this legislation requires that all students with disabilities be guaranteed a learning environment that provides for reasonable accommodation of their disabilities. If you believe you have a disability requiring an accommodation, please call or visit Disability Services at (361) 825-5816 in Corpus Christi Hall, Room #116.

If you are a returning veteran and are experiencing cognitive and/or physical access issues in the classroom or on campus, please contact the Disability Services office for assistance at (361) 825-5816.

**ACADEMIC ADVISING**
The College of Liberal Arts requires that students meet with an Academic Advisor as soon as they are ready to declare a major. Degree plans are prepared in the CLA Academic Advising Center. The University uses an online Degree Audit system. Any amendment must be approved by the Department Chair and the Office of the Dean. All courses and requirements specified in the final degree plan audit must be completed before a degree will be granted. The CLA Academic Advising Office is located in Driftwood #203. For more information please call 361-825-3466.

**GRADE APPEAL PROCESS**
Students who feel that they have not been held to appropriate academic standards as outlined in this class syllabus, equitable evaluation procedures, or appropriate grading, may appeal the final grade given in the course. A student with a complaint about a grade is encouraged to first discuss the matter with the instructor. For complete details on the process of submitting a formal grade appeal, please visit the College of Liberal Arts website, cla.tamucc.edu/students/studentinfo.html. For assistance and/or guidance in the grade appeal process, students may contact the Associate Dean’s Office.
## Course Outline

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**GRADING SYSTEM FOR THIS COURSE**

Exam #1, 2, 3, 4  
A = 90 – 100 pts  
B = 80 - 89  
C = 70 - 79  
D = 60 - 69  
F = < 60 pts

** This syllabus is subject to change at the discretion of the instructor to accommodate students' and/or instructional needs. **