Note:

Course content may be changed, term to term, without notice. The information below is provided as a guide for course selection and is not binding in any form, and should not be used to purchase course materials.
COURSE SYLLABUS

PSYC 235
PSYCHOLOGY OF ADULTHOOD

COURSE DESCRIPTION
The focus will be on viewing adult development as an integrative, dynamic and continuous process terminated only at death. The whole span of adulthood will be examined, including retirement and old age.

RATIONALE
Adult development and aging is one of the most pragmatic courses students will study. Whether in the workplace, the social arena, or the home, a better understanding of adult development will allow students to interact more fully with the adults in their world as well broaden their own self-concepts.

I. PREREQUISITES
For information regarding prerequisites for this course, please refer to the Academic Course Catalog.

II. REQUIRED RESOURCE PURCHASE
Click on the following link to view the required resource(s) for the term in which you are registered: http://bookstore.mbsdirect.net/liberty.htm

III. ADDITIONAL MATERIALS FOR LEARNING
A. Computer with basic audio/video output equipment
B. Internet access (broadband recommended)
C. Microsoft Word
D. Bible (any translation)
E. APA Writing manual

IV. MEASURABLE LEARNING OUTCOMES
Upon successful completion of this course, the student will be able to:
A. Describe the different sources of influence on adult development.
B. Explain the cognitive changes throughout the adult lifespan.
C. Summarize the biological changes in adulthood.
D. Recognize how the social context of adults changes throughout the lifespan.
E. Apply knowledge of roles in adulthood to their own family.
F. Appraise the impact of culture, race/ethnicity, gender, and socioeconomic status on adult development.

V. COURSE REQUIREMENTS AND ASSIGNMENTS

A. Textbook readings and presentations

B. Course Requirements Checklist

After reading the Syllabus and Student Expectations, the student will complete the related checklist found in Module/Week 1.

C. Discussion Board Forums (3)

There will be 3 Discussion Board Forums throughout the course. The purpose of Discussion Board Forums is to generate interaction among students in regard to relevant, current course topics. The student is required to post 1 thread of at least 300 words and 2 replies of at least 150 words each. For threads and replies, the student must support his/her assertions with at least 1 citation in current APA format. Acceptable sources include the textbook and academic journal articles. As long as 1 of these sources is used, the student can (and is encouraged to) use the Bible as well.

D. Blogs (3)

The student will be required to make 3 blog entries in Blackboard. He/she must also respond to 1 of his/her classmates’ blogs for each assignment (total of 3 responses). The responses need not be overly long but must be substantial.

E. Life Line

Based on interviews with 2 family members, the student will construct 3 life lines including family members and himself/herself. The student will compare/contrast the timing of important life events and social roles. After completing the interviews and life lines, the student will write a brief 2-page summary.

F. Research or Case Study Paper

The student will choose 1 of the options below:

Research Paper: This paper will provide a glimpse of the current state of knowledge in a specific subfield of adult development. The student will choose a research area in adult development, locate 5 articles from peer-reviewed, academic journals that examine that area, and write a 5-page paper synthesizing the articles and summarizing the findings.

Case Study Paper: This paper will allow the student to become acquainted with the lives of 2 adults by conducting an interview with each of them. Based on personal interviews, the student will write a 6–8-page paper comparing 2 adults of different ages in the context of developmental theory.

G. Exams (4)
During this course, there will be 4 exams with 55 multiple-choice questions covering the textbook readings. Exams are open-book/open-notes and will have a 1 hour and 50-minute time limit.

VI. COURSE GRADING AND POLICIES

A. Points

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Requirement</th>
<th>Points</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Course Requirements Checklist</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Discussion Board Forums (3 at 60 pts ea)</td>
<td>180</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Blogs (3 at 20 pts ea)</td>
<td>60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Life Line</td>
<td>120</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Research or Case Study Paper</td>
<td>200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Exam 1 (Modules/Weeks 1–2)</td>
<td>110</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Exam 2 (Modules/Weeks 3–4)</td>
<td>110</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Exam 3 (Modules/Weeks 5–6)</td>
<td>110</td>
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<tr>
<td>Exam 4 (Modules/Weeks 7–8)</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
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B. Scale

A = 900–1010  B = 800–899  C = 700–799  D = 600–699  F = 0–599

C. Late Assignment Policy

If the student is unable to complete an assignment on time, then he or she must contact the instructor immediately by email.

Assignments that are submitted after the due date without prior approval from the instructor will receive the following deductions:

1. Late assignments submitted within one week of the due date will receive a 10% deduction.
2. Assignments submitted more than one week late will receive a 20% deduction.
3. Assignments submitted two weeks late or after the final date of the course will not be accepted.
4. Late Discussion Board threads or replies will not be accepted.

Special circumstances (e.g. death in the family, personal health issues) will be reviewed by the instructor on a case-by-case basis.

D. Disability Assistance

Students with a documented disability may contact Liberty University Online’s Office of Disability Academic Support (ODAS) at LUOODAS@liberty.edu to make arrangements for academic accommodations. Further information can be found at www.liberty.edu/disabilitysupport.
## Course Schedule

**PSYC 235**


<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Module/Week</th>
<th>Reading &amp; Study</th>
<th>Assignments</th>
<th>Points</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Bjorklund: ch. 1&lt;br&gt;1 presentation&lt;br&gt;2 articles</td>
<td>Course Requirements Checklist&lt;br&gt;Class Introductions&lt;br&gt;DB Forum 1</td>
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<tr>
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<td>20 110</td>
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<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Bjorklund: chs. 5–6&lt;br&gt;1 presentation</td>
<td>Life Line</td>
<td>120</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Bjorklund: ch. 4&lt;br&gt;1 presentation</td>
<td>DB Forum 2&lt;br&gt;Exam 2</td>
<td>60 110</td>
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<td>5</td>
<td>Bjorklund: chs. 7, 9&lt;br&gt;1 presentation</td>
<td>DB Forum 3</td>
<td>60</td>
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<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Bjorklund: ch. 8&lt;br&gt;1 presentation</td>
<td>Blog 2&lt;br&gt;Exam 3</td>
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<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Bjorklund: ch. 10&lt;br&gt;1 presentation</td>
<td>Research or Case Study Paper</td>
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<td>8</td>
<td>Bjorklund: chs. 11–12&lt;br&gt;1 presentation</td>
<td>Blog 3&lt;br&gt;Exam 4</td>
<td>20 110</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
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<td><strong>1010</strong></td>
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DB = Discussion Board

**NOTE:** Each course module/week (except Module/Week 1) begins on Tuesday morning at 12:00 a.m. (ET) and ends on Monday night at 11:59 p.m. (ET). The final module/week ends at 11:59 p.m. (ET) on Friday.