EFFECTIVE: SEPTEMBER 2004
CURRICULUM GUIDELINES

Division: INSTRUCTIONAL

Department / Program Area: PSYCHOLOGY
FACULTY OF HUMANITIES & SOCIAL SCIENCES

Effective Date: SEPTEMBER 2004

Revision: X
New Course: 

If Revision, Section(s) Revised: C, H

Date of Previous Revision: OCTOBER 2001
Date of Current Revision: APRIL 2004

PSYC 3322
DEVELOPMENTAL PSYCHOLOGY:
EARLY, MIDDLE AND LATE ADULTHOOD

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Calendar Description: In this course students will examine theory and research on age-related changes in adults’ physiology, sensory and perceptual abilities, cognition, memory, social relationships, social cognition, personality, and mental and physical health. Physical and social implications of aging and attitudes toward the elderly also will be explored.

Allocation of Contact Hours to Type of Instruction / Learning Settings

Primary Methods of Instructional Delivery and/or Learning Settings:
Lecture

Number of Contact Hours: (per week /semester for each descriptor)
Lecture: 4 hrs per week / semester

Number of Weeks per Semester: 15

Course Prerequisites:
PSYC 1200

Course Corequisites:
NONE

Course for which this Course is a Prerequisite
NONE

Maximum Class Size: 35

PLEASE INDICATE:

Non-Credit
College Credit Non-Transfer
College Credit Transfer:

SEE BC TRANSFER GUIDE FOR TRANSFER DETAILS (www.bccat.bc.ca)
M: Course Objectives / Learning Outcomes:

At the conclusion of the course the successful student will be able to:

1. Describe the research methods used by developmental psychologists.
2. Describe and explain age-related changes in adults’ physiology.
3. Describe and explain age-related changes in adults’ sensory and perceptual abilities.
4. Describe and explain age-related changes in adults’ memory functioning and other cognitive abilities.
5. Describe and explain age-related changes in adults’ social relationships.
6. Describe and explain age-related changes in adults’ social cognition.
7. Describe and explain age-related changes and consistencies in adults’ personalities.
8. Describe and explain age-related changes in adults’ mental and physical health.
9. Analyse the implications of aging and attitudes toward the elderly.

N: Course Content:

Research Methods
- Descriptive Research
- Correlational Research
- Experimental Research
- Cross-sectional, Longitudinal, and Sequential Research

Changes in Physiology
- Physical Appearance
- Circulation
- Endocrine System
- Brain
- Immune System

Sensory and Perceptual Abilities
- Vision
- Hearing
- Taste, Smell, and Touch

Cognition
- Information Processing
- Problem-solving
- Intelligence
- Expertise
- Wisdom

Memory
- Attention
- Short-term Memory
- Long-term Memory
- Problems with Retrieval
Course Content Cont’d.

Social Relationships

Intimacy
Friendships
Marital Relationships
Parenting and Grandparenting
Caring for Elderly Parents

Social Cognition

Self-Concept
Self-Esteem
Perceptions of Others
Moral Development

Personality

Personality Development
Trait Approach
Personality Change and Stability

Mental and Physical Health

Stress and Coping
Social Support
Problems with Mental Health
Problems with Physical Health

O: Methods of Instruction:

The course will involve a number of instructional methods, such as the following:

- lectures
- small group discussions
- demonstrations
- presentations

P: Textbooks and Materials to be Purchased by Students:

A textbook such as one of the following:


Textbook will be updated periodically
Q: **Means of Assessment:**

   The course evaluation will be in accordance with Douglas College policy. Evaluations will be based on the course objectives. The specific evaluation criteria will be provided by the instructor at the beginning of the semester.

   One example of an evaluation scheme:

   2 Midterm Exams  50%
   Final Exam         30%
   Term Paper        20%
   100%

R: **Prior Learning Assessment and Recognition: specify whether course is open for PLAR**

   No. Given that this course involves theoretical and empirical analyses of developmental psychology, it is unlikely to be open for PLAR except as a credit transfer from another institution.