

**STUDENT WARNING:** This course syllabus is from a previous semester archive and serves only as a preparatory reference. Please use this syllabus as a reference only until the professor opens the classroom and you have access to the updated course syllabus. Please do NOT purchase any books or start any work based on this syllabus; this syllabus may NOT be the one that your individual instructor uses for a course that has not yet started. If you need to verify course textbooks, please refer to the online course description through your student portal. This syllabus is proprietary material of APUS.

## American Public University System

*The Ultimate Advantage is an Educated Mind*

**Arts and Humanities**  
**Course #: PSYC343**  
**Course Name: Adult Development and Aging**  
**Credit Hours: 3**  
**Length of Course: 8 Weeks**  
**Prerequisite(s): None**

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### Course Description (Catalog)

This course is an in-depth study of the developmental processes from the transition to adulthood through old age. The content examines the ways adults construct meaning, including intellectual, moral, and personality development. Gender and culture highlighted, and particular emphasis is placed on understanding the influence of context on adult development.

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### Course Scope

This interdisciplinary course guides students in the study of the longest phase of the life cycle--adulthood. Lifespan developmental psychology employs a contextual model of development that describes the dynamic interactions between internal and external variables in the developing human being. The course examines how change occurs within developmental domains and addresses how to work effectively with this population in social services, education, and private sector environments.

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### Course Objectives

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Upon successful completion of this course, students will have:

CO1: Examined the evolution of adulthood and aging as a behavioral science

CO2: Assessed research methods used in the study of adulthood and aging

CO3: Examined physical, cognitive and socio-emotional gains and losses of aging

CO4: Identified features of reciprocal interactions between aging persons and their social worlds

CO5: Produce an issue and analysis paper that identifies a contemporary problem in the field of adulthood and aging, summarizes relevant scholarly research focused on the issue and proposes a secondary source-based solution to the problem.

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### **Course Delivery Method**

This course delivered via distance learning will enable students to complete academic work in a flexible manner, completely online. Course materials and access to an online learning management system will be made available to each student. Online assignments are due by Sunday evening of the week as noted and include Forum questions (accomplished in groups through a threaded forum), examination, and individual assignments submitted for review by the Faculty Member). Assigned faculty will support the students throughout this eight-week course.

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### **Course Resources**

REQUIRED TEXTBOOK:

Hoyer, W. & Roodin, P. (2009). *Adult development and aging* (6<sup>th</sup> ed.). McGraw Hill Publishing

TEXTBOOK NOTE:

This course uses a Vital Source textbook. To access a Vital Source book, you must validate your shopping cart through the EdMap bookstore. Once you have done so, you will receive via email, instructions for free access to the book.

A guide for processing Vital Source books can be accessed via this link:

<http://apus.campusguides.com/bookstore/undergraduate>

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If you have trouble with shopping cart validation or using your Vital Source book after you have received the instructions email [ecm@apus.edu](mailto:ecm@apus.edu) should be contacted.

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## Evaluation Procedures

### Online Participation and Interaction

Successful completion of APUS courses requires online access and may require usage of PowerPoint, MS Word and Adobe Acrobat Reader programs. Asynchronous interaction occurs via the classroom Messages function and discussion forums.

### Timely Coursework Submission and Academic Integrity

With the exception of duty assignments (for support documentation from your supervisor may be requested before a late assignment permission may be granted), sudden illness or a family emergency, all work must be submitted on time. Requests for permission to submit work late will be evaluated on a case by case, reason by reason basis and approvals are not automatic. Missed test and writing assignment deadlines occurring without prior consultation with and approval from the course instructor will result in zero scores.

During this course, students are required to read, synthesize and make meaning of published material anchored in the scientific method and demonstrate learning via submission of work authentically their own. Both paraphrases and quotes must be properly APA source credited. Submitting work all or partially copied word-for-word, with or without source crediting, will result in an automatic assignment score of *zero* without option of revision and course failure occurring for a second offense. Collaboration on coursework is not permitted unless assigned by the course instructor.

Written assignments submitted as attachments must be in *MS Word* file format (.doc or .docx, not .wps or .wpd). All assignment deadlines are in Eastern Time (ET). If you live in a time zone other than ET, you will need to submit your work earlier to avoid missing deadlines.

### Required Coursework

Discussion Forums require participation in weekly interactive dialogs with classmates in the graded discussion of course relevant topics. Forums are graded scholarly dialogs with both general posting and topic focus requirements.

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Six Quizzes will be administered throughout the course to test student knowledge developed via engagement with assigned reading materials. All course tests have lockout deadlines and cannot be reentered.

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**Issue Analysis and Application Paper:** This 6-page, not including title and References pages, two-part paper requires selecting an instructor approved issue related to adult development and aging, analyzing the various components of it, and applying learning by proposing possible solutions that could be used to address and improve the issue examined. Information included in it must be supported by references to scholarly publications. The paper must be developed using research material from at least four academic, scholarly journals, in addition to the course textbook. Detailed instructions for this paper are located on the classroom Assignments page.

**Observational Analysis Paper:** This 4-6 page, not including title and references pages, two-part paper requires keeping a detailed log observing the interactions of an elderly person of your choice for some part of a 24 hour period. You will then analyze the behaviors and interactions you have observed citing the concepts we have learned in this class. Detailed instructions for this paper are located on the classroom Assignments page.

#### Distribution of Course Points

Assignments	Percent of Course Points Possible
Forums (x 7)	25
Quizzes (x 6)	25
Issue Analysis & Application Paper	12.5
Final Exam	25
Observational Analysis Paper	12.5
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## Grading Scale

Please see the *student handbook* to reference the University's *grading scale*.

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## Course Outline

Week	Assigned Textbook Readings and Focus	Assignments
Week 1	Chapter 1 - Adult Development and Aging: An Introduction  Chapter 2 - Cultural and Ethnic History	Forum 1  Quiz 1
Week 2	<i>Chapter – 3 Physiological and Sensory Processes</i>  <i>Chapter – 4 Coping and Adaptation</i>	Forum 2  Quiz 2  Brief description of selected Issue Analysis & Application paper topic to instructor for approval by Sunday at the end of this week.
Week 3	<i>Chapter 5 – Mental Health Interventions</i>  <i>Chapter – 6 Physical Health and Aging</i>	Forum 3  Quiz 3

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Week 4	Issues in Adulthood and Aging  Summary reading of weeks 1 through 3	<i>Issue Analysis &amp; Application Paper</i>
Week 5	<i>Chapter 7 – Memory, Attention and Learning</i>  <i>Chapter 8 – Intelligence and Creativity</i>	Forum 4  Quiz 4
Week 6	<i>Chapter 9 – Cognition, Wisdom and Expertise</i>  <i>Chapter 10 - Personality</i>	Forum 5  Quiz 5  Observational Analysis Assignment Paper
Week 7	<i>Chapter 11 – Relationships</i>  Chapter 12 – Work, Leisure and Retirement	Forum 6  Quiz 6
Week 8	<i>Chapter 13 - Approaching Death</i>	Forum 7  Final Exam (covers chapters 1 – 13)

**Policies**

Please see the [Student Handbook](#) to reference all University policies. Quick links to frequently asked question about policies are listed below.

**Drop and withdrawal policies**

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**Plagiarism**  
**Extension request process and policy**  
**Disability accommodations**

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Late Assignments

Students are expected to submit classroom assignments by the posted due date and to complete the course according to the published class schedule. As adults and working professionals, all students must manage competing time demands. Should you need additional time to complete an assignment, please contact me before the due date so we can discuss the situation and determine an acceptable resolution. Routine submission of late assignments is unacceptable and may result in points deducted from your final course grade.

Netiquette

Online universities promote the advancement of knowledge through positive and constructive debate – both inside and outside the classroom. Forums on the Internet, however, can occasionally degenerate into needless insults and flaming. Such activity and the loss of good manners are not acceptable in a university setting – basic academic rules of good behavior and proper Netiquette must persist. Remember that you are in a place for the rewards and excitement of learning which does not include descent to personal attacks or student attempts to stifle the Forum of others.

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**Academic Services**

Online Library

The Online Library is available to enrolled students and faculty from inside the electronic campus. This is your starting point for access to online books, subscription periodicals, and Web resources that are designed to support your classes and generally not available through search engines on the open Web. In addition, the Online Library provides access to special learning resources, which the University has contracted to assist with your studies. Questions can be directed to [librarian@apus.edu](mailto:librarian@apus.edu).

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Charles Town Library and Inter Library Loan: The University maintains a special library with a limited number of supporting volumes, collection of our professors' publication, and services to search and borrow research books and articles from other libraries.

Electronic Books: You can use the online library to uncover and download over 50,000 titles, which have been scanned and made available in electronic format.

Electronic Journals: The University provides access to over 12,000 journals, which are available in electronic form and only through limited subscription services.

Tutoring is available in the following subjects: math (basic math through advanced calculus), science (biology, chemistry, and physics), accounting, statistics, economics, Spanish, writing, grammar, and more. Additional information is located in the Online Library. From the Online Library home page, click on either the Writing Center or Tutoring Center.

Request a Library Guide for your course (<http://apus.libguides.com/index.php>)

The AMU/APU Library Guides provide access to collections of trusted sites on the Open Web and licensed resources on the Deep Web. These are specially tailored for academic research at APUS:

Program Portals contain topical and methodological resources to help launch general research in the degree program. To locate, search by department name or navigate by school.

Course Lib-Guides narrow the focus to relevant resources for the corresponding course. To locate, search by class code (e.g., PSYC1111) or class name.

**Turnitin.com** is a tool to improve student research skills that also detect plagiarism. Turnitin.com provides resources on developing topics and assignments that encourage and guide students in producing papers that are intellectually honest, original in thought, and clear in expression. This tool helps ensure a culture of adherence to the University's standards for intellectual honesty. Turnitin.com also reviews students' papers for matches with Internet materials and with thousands of student papers in its database, and returns an Originality Report to instructors and/or students. Your paper will automatically be submitted to Turnitin when you attach it on the assignments tab.

**Tutor.com:** *Tutor.com* is an online learning service that connects students to certified tutors for one-on-one study help with every subject, including algebra, statistics, chemistry, physics, social studies, and English. Thousands of academic and career services resources are available 24/7\*.

*\*Tutoring services are unavailable on January 1, Easter Day, July 4, Thanksgiving Day,*

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*and December 25; beginning at 1:01 a.m. and resuming at 2:00 p.m. the following day (Eastern Time).*

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