J. Sargeant Reynolds Community College  
Course Content Summary

Course Prefix and Number: PSY 230  
Credits: 3

Course Title: Developmental Psychology

Course Description: Studies the development of the individual from conception to death. Follows a life-span perspective on the development of the person's physical, cognitive, and psychosocial growth. Prerequisite: Placement in ENG 111 or placement in Co-requisites ENG 111 and ENF 3. Lecture 3 hours per week.

General Course Purpose: PSY 230 provides the student with an introduction to important concepts and principles of developmental psychology. A transferable course to four-year colleges and universities, PSY 230 meets a general education elective requirement for the Social/Behavioral Sciences and also meets a requirement for the Approved Humanities and Social Sciences electives for the Liberal Arts AA and Social Sciences AS degrees. PSY 230 is a required course for students majoring in Social Science AS - Pre-Social Work Specialization, Human Services, Early Childhood, Dental Assisting, and Nursing. The course should be completed by any student intending to major in psychology at a four-year institution.

Course Prerequisites and Co-requisites:  
Prerequisite: Placement in ENG 111 or placement in Co-requisites ENG 111 and ENF 3.

Student Learning Outcomes:  
Upon completing the course, the student will be able to  
a. Demonstrate an understanding of the biological, cognitive, personality, social foundations of behavior and mental processes;  
b. Comprehend the key concepts of research and statistics, nature versus nurture, as well as biological, cognitive, personality, and social development;  
c. Demonstrate an understanding of the ages, stages, and processes of aging in life-span development;  
d. Demonstrate an understanding and application of how development influences social, emotional and personality changes;  
e. Demonstrate social and cultural understanding as it relates to development;  
f. Apply basic concepts, theories, and issues to their own life, as well as to others; and  
g. Determine whether certain conclusions or consequences are supported by the information provided.

Major Topics to Be Included:  
a. History and theories of life-span development, to include physical, cognitive, and socioemotional development across the lifespan  
b. Prenatal development  
c. Development in infancy and toddlerhood  
d. Early childhood development  
e. Middle childhood development  
f. Adolescence  
g. Early adulthood  
h. Middle adulthood  
i. Late adulthood  
j. Death and dying

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