

OT 501: Developmental Tasks of Adulthood
Fall 2006, MWF 9:10-10:00, NHH 8

CONTACT INFORMATION:

Instructor:	Zorana Ivcevic, Ph.D.	Phone:	862-4047
Office:	11 Brook Way, Room 203	E-mail:	zivcevic@unh.edu

Office hours: Wednesday 2-3pm, or by appointment

REQUIRED TEXTS:

- Cavanaugh, J. C., & Blanchard-Fields, F. (2006). *Adult Development and Aging*. Belmont, CA: Thomson Learning.
- *Scientific American: The Science of Staying Young*
- Both available at the Durham Book Exchange

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

This course will offer you a broad introduction to psychological development during adulthood. We will examine change and stability throughout the course of adult lifespan in multiple life areas, such as work, relationships, physical and mental health. You will learn about biological, psychological, social, and cultural influences on the course of adult life. We will also explore current topics in adult development (e.g., hormone replacement therapy, role conflict in dual-career couples). You will learn by reading the textbook, attending lectures, and exploring internet and newspaper resources. I invite you to express your interests, experiences, and opinions throughout the semester. Understanding adult development will help you better appreciate the challenges facing your clients and enable you to offer them better care.

COURSE OBJECTIVES:

By the end of the semester, you will be able to:

- Understand biological, psychological, and social influences on adult development
- Describe physical changes in adulthood and understand their psychological implications
- Understand issues in mental health in adulthood
- Describe changes in intellectual capacities (i.e., intelligence, attention, memory)
- Analyze the changes in work and employment and understand the effects of major transitions, such as retirement
- Describe the changes in adult relationships
- Understand what constitutes successful and pathological aging
- Conduct an interview using a life-span perspective on adult development
- Independently find information on different topics in adult development and evaluate information on adult development in the popular media

COURSE REQUIREMENTS:

- **Readings:** You are expected to completing the reading assignments before each class. You will be responsible for concepts covered in the textbook even if they are not discussed in class.
- **Attendance/Participation:** We will spend class time in lecture and discussion. From time to time we will have a classroom activity or small group discussion and participation in these activities will be recorded. I will also ask you for feedback and for your interests at different points in the semester. Also, some topics covered in class will not be in the textbook. If you miss a class, you will be responsible for getting lecture notes from a classmate. If you have to miss a class and do not understand all the notes, you are always welcome to ask questions during office hours or by e-mail.
- **Exams:** There will be three exams that will cover the material presented in class, in the book and in the readings. The exam schedule is presented in the course calendar at the end of the syllabus. Make-up exams will be available only for students with a legitimate reason for missing a regularly scheduled exam. Please note that travel does not constitute a valid reason for missing an exam. Exams will include multiple-choice, short answer, and essay questions.
- **Group project:** As occupational therapists, you will work in teams with other health care professionals. Often times, you will need to do research and gain information that will help you better care for people. The group project will prepare you to face this challenge. The class will be divided in ten groups of approximately six students. You will have an opportunity to express interest or preference for different topics. I will try to honor your interests as much as possible when creating project groups. The assignment will present a hypothetical case and you will have to provide information and advice for this hypothetical person using scholarly resources and evaluating information from the popular media. You will receive a sheet describing the details of the group project.
- **Interview:** You will conduct three interviews and hand in a report for each of the interviews. This assignment will give you experience interviewing adults of different ages. Also, this assignment will help you develop your interviewing skills and offer you experience applying your knowledge of adult development in understanding people. You will get more information about the interview assignment in a separate handout.

GRADING:

Exams	45% (15% each)	225 points
Interview assignments	30% (10% each)	150 points
Group project	20%	100 points
Attendance/participation	5%	25 points

Total: 500 points

	B+ 435-449	C+ 385-399	D+ 335-349
A 465-500	B 415-434	C 365-384	D 315-334
A- 464-450	B- 400-414	C- 350-364	D- 300-314

**OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY 501
ADULT DEVELOPMENT
Fall 2006**

W1	8/28	Go over syllabus
	8/30	Chapter 1 – Studying adult development and aging
	9/1	Chapter 1 (cont.)
W2	9/4	LABOR DAY – no class
	9/6	Chapter 2 – Physical changes
	9/8	Chapter 2 (cont.)
W3	9/11	Chapter 2 (cont.)
	9/13	Chapter 3 – Longevity, health, and functioning
	9/15	Chapter 3 (cont.)
W4	9/18	Chapter 3 (cont.)
	9/20	Chapter 4 – Clinical assessment, mental health, and mental disorders
	9/22	Chapter 4 (cont.)
W5	9/25	Chapter 4 (cont.)
	9/27	EXAM 1
	9/29	Chapter 5 – Person-environment interactions and optimal aging
W6	10/2	Chapter 5 (cont.)
	10/4	Chapter 6 – Attention and perceptual processing
	10/6	Chapter 6 (cont.)
W7	10/9	COLUMBUS DAY -- FALL BREAK – no class
	10/10	CLASSES FOLLOW MONDAY SCHEDULE Chapter 7 – Memory
	10/11	Chapter 7 (cont.)
	10/13	Chapter 7 (cont.)
W8	10/16	Chapter 8 – Intelligence
	10/18	Chapter 8 (cont.)
	10/20	Chapter 8 (cont.)
W9	10/23	Chapter 9 – Social cognition
	10/25	Chapter 9 (cont.)
	10/27	EXAM 2
W10	10/30	Chapter 10 – Personality
	11/1	Chapter 10 (cont.)
	11/3	Chapter 10 (cont.)
W11	11/6	Chapter 11 – Relationships
	11/8	Chapter 11 (cont.)
	11/10	VETERAN’S DAY, UNIVERSITY HOLIDAY

W12	11/13	Chapter 11 (cont.)
	11/15	Chapter 11 (cont.)
	11/17	Chapter 12 – Work, leisure, and retirement
W13	11/20	Chapter 12 (cont.)
	11/22	Chapter 12 (cont.)
	11/24	THANKSGIVING HOLIDAY – no class
W14	11/27	Chapter 12 (cont.)
	11/29	Chapter 13 – Dying and bereavement
	12/1	Chapter 13 (cont.)
W15	12/4	EXAM 3
	12/6	Group presentations, part 1
	12/8	Group presentations, part 2