

**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***

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### **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**

Based on personal experience with adults, most individuals have an idea about what happens in adulthood. Are these personal perceptions of adult development accurate? This course will seek to explain adult development and the process of aging so that students who interact with the adult population will have a solid theoretical and empirical foundation upon which to base their relationships and work.

#### **I. PREREQUISITE**

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. Blackboard [recommended browsers](#)
- D. Microsoft Word
- E. The Holy Bible (any translation)
- F. APA Writing manual

**IV. MEASURABLE LEARNING OUTCOMES**

Upon successful completion of this course, the student will be able to:

- A. Describe the major theories in adult psychology.
- B. Analyze issues related to behavior and mental processes in adulthood.
- C. Evaluate concepts from adult psychology from a biblical perspective.
- D. Apply research and theory to real life situations involving adults.

**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)

Discussion boards are collaborative learning experiences. Therefore, 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 (no more than 5 years old) in current APA format. Acceptable sources include the textbook and academic journal articles. An integrated biblical concept is also required in both the initial thread and each reply.

- 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 Paper

The student will complete a Research Paper in this course. 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 (no more than 5 years old) from peer-reviewed, academic journals that examine that area, and write a 5-page paper synthesizing the articles and summarizing the findings.

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. Students will have 2 attempts to complete each exam and the highest score will be recorded.

**VI. COURSE GRADING AND POLICIES**

A. Points

Course Requirements Checklist		10
Discussion Board Forums (3 at 60 pts ea)		180
Blogs (3 at 20 pts ea)		60
Life Line		120
Research Paper		200
Exam 1	(Modules/Weeks 1–2)	110
Exam 2	(Modules/Weeks 3–4)	110
Exam 3	(Modules/Weeks 5–6)	110
Exam 4	(Modules/Weeks 7–8)	110
	<b>Total</b>	<b>1010</b>

B. Scale

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

C. Disability Assistance

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

## ***COURSE SCHEDULE***

### **PSYC 235**

Textbook: Bjorklund, *The Journey of Adulthood* (2015).

<b>MODULE/ WEEK</b>	<b>READING &amp; STUDY</b>	<b>ASSIGNMENTS</b>	<b>POINTS</b>
<b>1</b>	Bjorklund: ch. 1 1 presentation 2 websites	Course Requirements Checklist Class Introductions DB Forum 1	10 0 60
<b>2</b>	Bjorklund: chs. 2–3 1 presentation	Blog 1 Exam 1	20 110
<b>3</b>	Bjorklund: chs. 5–6 1 presentation	Life Line	120
<b>4</b>	Bjorklund: ch. 4 1 presentation	DB Forum 2 Exam 2	60 110
<b>5</b>	Bjorklund: chs. 7, 9 1 presentation	DB Forum 3	60
<b>6</b>	Bjorklund: ch. 8 1 presentation	Blog 2 Exam 3	20 110
<b>7</b>	Bjorklund: ch. 10 1 presentation	Research Paper	200
<b>8</b>	Bjorklund: chs. 11–12 1 presentation	Blog 3 Exam 4	20 110
<b>TOTAL</b>			<b>1010</b>

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**.