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 <u>not</u> be used to purchase course materials.

COURSE SYLLABUS

PSYC 635
ADVANCED ADULT PSYCHOLOGY

COURSE DESCRIPTION

Advanced study of developmental processes in adulthood. Focus on contemporary research in various domains, such as work, marriage and family, personality, cognition, and physical change.

RATIONALE

An understanding of adult psychology is critical to the professional practice of psychology, but is also important in any profession, as well as in interpersonal interactions and the gaining of intrapersonal insight. Knowledge of current theory and research in adult psychology and an appreciation for the diversity of adult experience are useful in facilitating awareness of self and others—a vital skill both in the practice of psychology and in one's personal life. Knowledge of the phases of adult development and scholarly research in adult psychology contributes to an accurate understanding of this phase of life. That knowledge also helps to dispel inaccurate stereotypes and myths about adult development which are often prevalent in the current culture, but are not supported by research.

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.   Microsoft Word

IV.   **MEASURABLE LEARNING OUTCOMES**

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

A.   Analyze common theories of adult development.

B.   Explain the various stages of adulthood.

C.   Apply scholarly research on adult development as well as distinguish scholarly sources of information about adult development from general audience sources.

D.   Discuss the relative roles of nature vs. nurture (or genetic vs. environmental influences) on adult development.

E.   Identify the vast diversity of background and expertise that exists among adults, as well as the cultural differences that influence adult development.

F.   Use knowledge of common experiences, transitions, and crises faced by adults.

G.   Integrate a biblical perspective with the scientific study of adult psychology.

V.   **COURSE REQUIREMENTS AND ASSIGNMENTS**

A.   Textbook readings and lecture presentations

B.   Course Requirements Checklist

After reading the Course Syllabus and Student Expectations, the student will complete the related checklist found in Module/Week 1.

C.   Discussion Board Forums (8)

Discussion boards are collaborative learning experiences. Therefore, the student is required to provide a thread in response to the provided prompt for each forum. Each thread must be 200–300 words and demonstrate course-related knowledge. In addition to the thread, the student is required to reply to 2 classmates' threads (except for Discussion Board Forum 3, where 5 replies will be required). Each reply must be 100–150 words.

D.   Research Paper

Planning

The student will submit 1–2 pages of material discussing a topic and plans for the Research Paper, along with 3 scholarly references he/she plans to use in the paper.

Final Submission

The student will write a 4–6 page research-based paper in current APA format based on his/her topic of choice from the planning assignment. The paper must include at least 7 scholarly references in addition to the course textbook and the Bible. At least 5 of the references must be journal articles.

E.   Reflection Paper

The student will write a 2–3-page Reflection Paper in current APA format that focuses on the Fowler text. No additional references are required.

F.   Quizzes (6)

Each quiz will cover the Reading & Study material for the assigned module/week. Each quiz will be open-book/open-notes, contain 10 multiple-choice questions, and have a 30-minute time limit.

VI.   **COURSE GRADING AND POLICIES**

A.   Points

Course Requirements Checklist	10
Discussion Board Forums (7 at 50 pts ea; 1 at 75 pts)	425
Research Paper	
Planning	50
Final Submission	150
Reflection Paper	75
Quizzes (6 at 50 pts ea)	300
Total	1010

B.   Scale

A = 940–1010   A- = 920–939   B+ = 900–919   B = 860–899   B- = 840–859
C+ = 820–839   C = 780–819   C- = 760–779   D+ = 740–759   D = 700–739
D- = 680–699   F = 0–679

C.   Disability Assistance

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

COURSE SCHEDULE

PSYC 635

Textbooks: Cavanaugh & Blanchard-Fields, *Adult Development and Aging* (2018).
Fowler, *Becoming Adult, Becoming Christian* (2000).

MODULE/ WEEK	READING & STUDY	ASSIGNMENTS	POINTS
1	Cavanaugh & Blanchard-Fields: chs. 1−2 1 presentation Selected videos	Course Requirements Checklist Class Introductions DB Forum 1 Quiz 1	10 0 50 50
2	Cavanaugh & Blanchard-Fields: chs. 3−4 1 presentation 1 website Selected articles	DB Forum 2 Quiz 2	50 50
3	Bible Readings 3 presentations 4 websites Selected articles	DB Forum 3 Research Paper: Planning	75 50
4	Cavanaugh & Blanchard-Fields: chs. 6−7; summary of ch. 5 3 presentations 4 websites	DB Forum 4 Quiz 3	50 50
5	Cavanaugh & Blanchard-Field: chs. 9−10; summary of chapter 8 4 presentations 2 articles 2 websites	DB Forum 5 Quiz 4	50 50
6	Fowler: entire book 1 presentation	DB Forum 6 Reflection Paper	50 75
7	Cavanaugh & Blanchard-Fields: chs. 11−12 1 presentation 5 websites	DB Forum 7 Research Paper: Final Submission Quiz 5	50 150 50

MODULE/ WEEK	READING & STUDY	ASSIGNMENTS	POINTS
8	Cavanaugh & Blanchard-Fields: chs. 13−14 7 presentations 3 websites	DB Forum 8 Quiz 6	50 50
		TOTAL	**1010**

DB = Discussion Board

NOTE: Each course module/week begins on Monday morning at 12:00 a.m. (ET) and ends on Sunday night at 11:59 p.m. (ET). The final module/week ends at 11:59 p.m. (ET) on **Friday**.