

Human Development

Psy 215 | LCNC01 | Fall 2026

Instructor Information

Name: Rick Laughlin

Email: rick.laughlin@oregoncoast.edu

Office Room: As needed

Office Hours: By appointment

Secondary Contact: Dr. Sarah Whiteford, Dean of CTE and Academic Pathways,

sarah.whiteford@oregoncoast.edu

Course Information

Class Room: NC208

Class Meeting time: Class meets on Tuesdays from 8:15 AM - 10:10 AM; additional weekly requirements are completed online by published deadlines.

Textbook: A free Open Educational Resource accessed on Canvas, on the Open Stax website, and/or as a printable PDF file, as desired.

Materials/Equipment: A word processor capable of generating a file that can be uploaded to Canvas.

Learning Management System: All courses are web-enhanced, and all students are required to have access to Canvas, which can be accessed through the main OCCC website at OregonCoast.edu. All faculty must use Canvas gradebook so that students can easily track their grades.

Important dates

Last day to drop* with a refund in first week: 9/25/2026 at 5:00PM.

Last day to withdraw* with a 'W': 11/13/2026 at

**Be aware that dropping/withdrawing from a course may affect your financial aid*

Students are responsible for adding, dropping, and withdrawing from classes by published deadlines. The drop and withdraw deadlines are on the academic calendar. Beginning the second week, until the deadline published on the academic calendar each term, students may withdraw from classes. A mark of "W" will appear on their transcript. Tuition and fees remain on the student account when a student chooses to withdraw from a class.

Syllabus Changes:

This syllabus serves only as a guide to this course. The instructor reserves the right to change any part of this syllabus at any time due to any variety of circumstances. Methods and criteria used to evaluate student performance may also change. If and when changes occur, students will be informed in writing. Students are responsible to keep

informed of syllabus changes as they occur by attending and participating in class and communicating with the instructor.

Course Description

The course surveys major developmental theories and patterns of change and continuity from birth to death in human subjects. Biological, cognitive, social, and emotional development through the lifespan are addressed, with consideration of sociocultural influences on development.

Credits: 4. Prerequisites: None

Course Outcomes

- Utilize knowledge of variables that influence development throughout the lifespan and apply this knowledge to become more effective parents, professionals, and citizens of the global community.
- Relate the scientific knowledge of development from conception to death including the biological, emotional, cognitive, and psychosocial influences to make effective personal and professional decisions.
- Evaluate research using a multidisciplinary view of development that includes cross-cultural perspectives.
- Apply critical thinking to analyze and problem solve developmental concerns from birth to death.
- Utilize knowledge of prenatal and child development, cognitive foundations of intelligence, and emotional development throughout the lifespan to evaluate and improve human potential.

Student Conduct

Academic Integrity

Learning is built on the fundamental qualities of honesty, fairness, respect, and trust. At Oregon Coast Community College, academic integrity is a shared endeavor characterized by truth, personal responsibility and high academic standards. Any violation of academic integrity devalues the individual and the community. One important aspect of academic integrity is academic honesty.

Violations of academic honesty include:

- Plagiarism
- Collusion/Inappropriate Assistance
- Cheating
- Fabrication/Falsification/Alteration
- Unauthorized Multiple Submission
- Sabotage and Tampering

A student who violates academic honesty will be subject to disciplinary action according to Student Rights and Responsibilities.

Artificial Intelligence Policy

Artificial intelligence tools may be used as an enhanced search engine, to:

- Explore potential topics in preparation for essay and/or discussion assignments.
- Identify and locate targeted primary (original research reports) and secondary (books, webpages, blogs, etc.) sources as needed. When used for this purpose, students are admonished to consult identified sources directly, as AI summaries of published material are notoriously unreliable.

Note that use of text and phrasing generated by any AI tool is expressly forbidden on any assignments submitted for a grade.

Violations of any part of the AI policy will be treated as a violation of the school's academic integrity policy.

Note. Use AI as allowed but with caution. Publicly available systems are optimized for engagement rather than accuracy. They produce friendly, conversation-like content with an air of certainty and authority, even when the content is fabricated and false. Never take AI-generated content at face value.

Devices

Unless otherwise approved by the instructor, students are not permitted to operate cell phones or pagers during class or laboratory sessions, as these devices disrupt learning and teaching activities. There may be times during class when you will be permitted to use a mobile device to participate in course activities. Otherwise, students should use such communication devices only during class breaks outside the classrooms. Discuss exceptions with Instructor.

Students Rights and Responsibilities

The Student Rights and Responsibilities in the Student Handbook establishes students' freedom and protections as well as expectations of appropriate behavior and ethical academic work [<https://catalog.oregoncoastcc.org/student-handbook>].

Children on OCCC Property

Students are not allowed to bring children to classes or leave them unattended on campus. We expect compliance from both students and faculty regarding this policy.

Enrolled Minors

The college offers programs that allow minors (students under 18) to enroll in college courses. Students are advised to foster relationships that are age appropriate with classmates.

Attendance

Students are expected to attend all classes in which they are enrolled.

Students must attend and complete required assignments for the first week of the course or can be administratively dropped from the course for non-attendance, unless arrangements have been made with the instructor in advance. The week 1 attendance requirements are:

- Attend the week 1 class meeting and participate in class discussions.
- Read and acknowledge the class policies detailed in the Getting Started section at the top of the Canvas homepage.
- Participate in the week 1 online discussion assignment as described in the assignment instructions.

Attendance is taken in all classes in the first week of the term. Instructors typically continue to take attendance all term.

Repeated absences will affect your grade.

Students are responsible for dropping or withdrawing from registered classes by talking with your Success Coach and completing the official drop/withdrawal process (see [Withdrawal | Oregon Coast Community College](#).) Students who stop attending or have excessive absences and who fail to drop or withdraw from a class by the published deadline may earn a grade of F or NP according to the grade system option selected by the student. Students who fail to attend or stop attending classes and fail to drop those classes by the published drop deadline will be responsible for the associated tuition and fees.

Students may not attend classes they are not registered for.

Course Information

The class meets once per week for presentations and discussion of the week's topic. Weekly online assignments include quizzes, a brief essay, and an online discussion. Comprehensive exams are held on campus during weeks 6 and 11 at the regular class meeting place and time (laptops will be provided).

The weekly online quizzes are designed as learning tools. The midterm and final exams are designed to measure progress toward the course learning outcomes. See Canvas for further details.

Grades

Assignment Categories	Points	% Contribution
Chapter Quizzes (15@30pts)	450	28%
Weekly Essays and Online Discussions (11@40pts)	440	28%
Comprehensive Exams (1@240pts, 1@210pts)	450	28%
Attendance and Participation (8@30)	240	15%
	1580	100%

Course grades are determined by the percentage of points earned out of all available points for the course according to the following scale:

Grading Scale
 A = 90% - 100%
 B = 80% - 89%
 C = 70% - 79%
 D = 60% - 69%
 F = 0% - 59%

Note. Assignment scores will be entered in the Canvas gradebook in a timely manner, so that students can easily monitor their grade progress.

Course Schedule

Week	Meeting	Topic	Quiz (Chapters)	Quiz/Exam Format
1	9/22/2026	Introduction, Overview	no quiz	
2	9/29/2026	Infancy/Toddler	3, 4	Online/Open Book
3	10/6/2026	Early Childhood	5, 6	Online/Open Book
4	10/13/2026	Middle Childhood	7, 8	Online/Open Book
5	10/20/2026	Adolescence	9, 10	Online/Open Book
6	10/27/2026	Midterm	3 through 10	In-class/Closed Book
7	11/3/2026	Early Adulthood	11, 12	Online/Open Book
8	11/10/2026	Middle Adulthood	13, 14	Online/Open Book
9	11/17/2026	Late Adulthood	15, 16	Online/Open Book
10	11/24/2026	Death, Dying and Grieving	17	Online/Open Book
11	12/1/2026	Final	11 through 17	In-class/Closed Book

Note. Every week of the term includes an online discussion assignment. In addition, weeks 2-5 and 7-10 have a brief essay assignment based on relevant current research (assigned reading), which also serves as the initial post to the week's discussion.

Student Resources

Americans with Disabilities Act

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), Oregon Coast Community College provides reasonable accommodation to students with disabilities. If you desire reasonable accommodation, please contact The Office of the Vice President Student Affairs (400 SE College Way, Newport, OR 97366) at 541-867- 8501, or you can email access@oregoncoast.edu. *Students are responsible for requesting accommodations in a timely manner and documenting the nature and extent of their disability.*

OCCC Email

OCCC email is the official form of communication of Oregon Coast Community College. If you have any difficulties accessing your OCCC email address please contact support at helpdesk@oregoncoast.edu

Emergency Funds

If you are experiencing challenges securing food, transportation, or housing, or have other financial issues that are affecting your ability to attend and succeed in class(es), we encourage you to apply for emergency funds. Please call, email, or visit Student Services for assistance (phone: 541-867-8544). If you are comfortable doing so, please let your

instructor know about your situation. This will allow for better understanding and could potentially lead to further support and/or resources.



Use this QR code to access the student resources webpage.

College Information

Land Acknowledgement

Oregon Coast Community College acknowledges that we reside within the ancestral homelands of the Yaquina (Yaqo'n) and Alsea (Wusi'n) Tribes. Today, those tribal descendants are represented by The Confederated Tribes of Siletz Indians. We are honored for the opportunity to teach, learn, and work on their ancestral lands. We also recognize the ongoing contributions they make to the community, Oregon Coast Community College, and the world.

Mission Statement

At Oregon Coast Community College, we equip students for success by providing educational pathways and supports in response to the diverse needs of our community. Through accessible and engaging programs, we enrich the economic and civic vitality of Lincoln County and beyond.

Equal Opportunity and Non-Discrimination

Oregon Coast Community College does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, disability, age, sexual orientation, gender identity, marital status, or religion in its programs and activities. The following individuals have been designated to handle inquiries regarding the non-discrimination policies:

- **Vice President Academic and Student Affairs, Dr. Kristina Holton, 541-867-8511** kristina.holton@oregoncoast.edu, or
- **Director of Human Resources, Joy Gutknecht, 541-867-8515** joy.gutknecht@oregoncoast.edu.

Updated 06/2026