

**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 developmental tasks of the person's physical, cognitive, and psycho-social growth. Prerequisite: Placement in ENG 111 or placement in co-requisites ENG 111 and ENF 3. Lecture 3 hours per week.

**General Course Purpose:** (Who would benefit from taking this course?)

**Course Objectives:**

Upon completing the course, the student will be able to:

1. Demonstrate an understanding of the biological, cognitive, personality, social foundations of behavior and mental processes.
2. Comprehend the key concepts of research and statistics, nature versus nurture as well as biological, cognitive, personality, and social development.
3. Illustrate both orally and in writing the ages, stages, and processes of aging in life-span development.
4. Demonstrate an understanding and application of how development influences social, emotional and personality changes.
5. Compare multi-cultural and ethnic differences and similarities found in various cultures.
6. Apply basic concepts, theories, and issues to their own life, as well as to others.
7. Determine whether certain conclusions or consequences are supported by the information provided.

**Major Topics to be included:**

1. History and theories of life-span development
2. Prenatal development
3. Development in infancy and toddler hood
4. Early childhood development
5. Middle childhood development
6. Adolescence
7. Early adulthood
8. Middle adulthood
9. Late adulthood
10. Death and dying

**Effective Date of Course Content Summary:** Spring, 2014