

Adult Development and Instruction
EADU 8090
Fall Semester 2005

Instructor:

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Course based on initial design by Sharan Merriam

Course Location:

WebCT address: <http://webct.uga.edu>

Course Schedule and Course Organization:

Classes will run in two-week sessions beginning August 18, 2005 through December 8, 2005. Your course assignments are located in the Course Content icon on the homepage of the WebCT course.

Each two-week session contains a short introduction of the topics we will cover, your reading assignments, and your written assignments with due dates. Topics for discussion will be posted in the Communication area of WebCT and you will be notified by email as each new topic is added.

Course Content:

This course covers current psychological and psychosocial theories and research findings relevant to adult development and learning. The course will provide an overview of the major theories of adult development, the current status of the research and the implications for adult learning and instruction, and how changes that occur as a normal part of aging impact learning.

Text:

Bee, H.L. (2000). *The Journey of Adulthood*. (Fourth Edition): New York: MacMillan.

I will provide other readings throughout course.

Course Goals:

- To give you an overview of the current theories of adult development
- To understand fundamental developmental changes of adulthood.
- To develop knowledge of how adult development impacts learning through out the life span.

Course Assignments and Grading:

Time Line Assignment (10 points)

One short 2-3 page paper: (10 points)

Choose one theory that you think best describes or explains adult development.

1. Discuss the focus of the theory
2. What assumptions are made about adult life
3. Viewing this through the lens of a practical adult educator, the question for reflection is which theory of adult development is most useful to your practice of adult education professional education?

Movie Review (4-5 pages): Midterm (25 points)

There are many movie themes that illustrate the various issues related each stage of development in adulthood. Provide a brief overview of the movie and give specific examples from the movie that illustrate the stage you choose. I have provided a list of possible movies that have been used by students in Sharan Merriam's classes as well as my own. You may choose others not on the list if you choose.

<u>Young Adulthood</u>	<u>Middle Adulthood</u>	<u>Late Adulthood</u>	<u>Late, Late, Adulthood</u>
October Sky	Father of the Bride	On Golden Pond	Titanic
Rudy	American Beauty	Guarding Tess	S. Private Ryan
Good Will Hunting	Vacation	Grumpy Old Men	Cocoon I & II
The Water Boy	Field of Dreams	Meet Joe Black	Driving Miss Daisy
Forces of Nature	As Good as It Gets	Mr. Holland's Opus	Whales in August
Titanic	One True Thing		The White Dog
Harold & Maude	Marvin's Room		Remains of the Day
Dead Poet's Society			American Quilt

Final Project (6-8 pages) (25 points): Due Dec. 2, 2005

Your final project will be decided through discussion with your instructor.

WebCT Discussion Board: (30 points)

For each two-week session you are asked to post a minimum of four comments **per week or eight per class session** concerning the topic under discussion. Each class session may have one or more topics in discussion at any time and you will be notified by email when a new topic is posted. Once the date of the class session has passed you may still post in the discussion if you wish, but your comments will not count toward your grade. Remember, you are graded on the "quality" of your post, not just the "quantity".

Attendance Policy:

You are expected to complete all assigned readings and hand in written assignments on time. You should check into your course at least once every two days and respond to emails and discussions appropriately. If you miss discussion topics you will lose points from your final grade. I strongly urge you not to plan vacations or time away because it places a hardship on your group members. You are expected to carry your share of the learning activities.

Time Line Paper:	10 points
One Short Paper:	10 points
Midterm Paper:	25 points
Final Paper:	25 points
Discussion Participation:	<u>30 points</u>
	100 points

A = 90-100

B = 80-89

C = 70-79

Persons with Disabilities

I am sensitive to the concerns of people who may have special needs due to a disability, whether visible or invisible. Please take the time to discuss your concerns with me early in the semester so we can work together to make the necessary accommodations for you.

All academic work must meet the standards contained in "A Culture of Honesty." Each student is responsible to inform themselves about those standards before performing any academic work.

The course syllabus is a general plan for the course; deviations announced to the class by the instructor may be necessary.