

# PHYSICAL GROWTH & MOTOR BEHAVIOR

## Department of Kinesiology

MW 3:00 - 4:20 pm Room 137 IM Sports Circle

### Instructor

Amanda McGowan  
Email: mcgowa78@msu.edu  
Phone: 517-353-0892

### Office & Office Hours

Office: Room 38 IM Sports Circle  
Office Hours: M W 2-3pm

### Course Description

The goal of this course is to provide students with a general overview of physical growth and motor behavior across the life span. In this class we will cover theoretical, methodological and empirical issues related to life span motor development.

### Course Objectives



Knowledge and understanding of the emergence of the fundamental movement sequence in infancy and early childhood



An understanding of theoretical, methodological and empirical issues related to life span motor development



The ability to read and summarize original research literature

### Textbook & Course Materials

**REQUIRED TEXTBOOK:** Haywood, K., M., & Getchell, N. (2014). Life Span Motor Development, 6th Edition. Champaign, IL: Human Kinetics.

**ARTICLES:** Articles assigned in this course will be posted on the Desire2Learn (D2L) course website.

### Topics We Will Cover

- ✓ Theoretical Perspectives on Motor Development
- ✓ Principles of Motion & Stability
- ✓ Physical Growth, Maturation, Aging
- ✓ Development & Aging of Body Systems
- ✓ Sensory Perceptual Development
- ✓ Development & Aging of Body Systems
- ✓ Perception & Action in Development
- ✓ Early Motor Development
- ✓ Development of Motor Skills
- ✓ Skill Assessment/Measurement
- ✓ Constraints to Motor Development
- ✓ Development of Physical Fitness

A complete schedule (subject to change at the discretion of the course instructor), including all relevant deadlines is available on the D2L course website.

### Evaluation Procedures



#### Quizzes

50 points

You will take several quizzes in the class. The scope of the quiz is related to the reading material or refreshment of material covered in the class. Because your lowest score will be dropped, make up quizzes will not be administered.

#### Reading Questions

50 points

Assigned readings will include chapters from the textbook and peer-reviewed journal articles. Your responses will be submitted on D2L. Be sure to answer these questions in YOUR OWN WORDS. You will submit them on D2L by the designated due date. Late submissions will be assessed a 2-point penalty.

#### Class Assignments

50 points

For some classes, we will work together in small groups. Your work will be handed in at the end of class. Because your lowest score will be dropped, make up assignments will not be accepted. You must be present in class to receive credit for the assignment as attendance will be taken.

#### Design an Experiment

50 points

A main focus of this class is understanding empirical and methodological approaches to studying lifespan motor development. There are three classes devoted to small group work. You will be given one or more brainstorming prompts, along with some guidelines. In your groups, you will discuss your ideas, and help each other come up with the following: 1) a well-defined research question, 2) your hypothesis, 3) an outline of your experiment to test your hypothesis, and 4) a graph or other diagram of your predicted results. Use these class times wisely as your instructor will be ready to answer any questions. After class, you will individually submit your assignment (~500 words) on D2L. Because you drop your lowest score (of 3), late and makeup assignments will not be accepted.

#### Exams

300 points

There will be 3 non-cumulative exams in this class. Exams will cover readings, lecture notes, discussions, and related course material and will be primarily comprised of objective items (multiple-choice, true-false, and matching type questions) and may contain a few short-answer essay questions. If you know in advance that you will have to miss the day of an exam, you must notify the instructor to set up a time for a make-up exam at least 48 hours prior to the exam. In the event of an emergency on the day of an exam, you must notify the instructor as soon as possible. It is up to the instructor's discretion to allow a make-up exam. Documentation may be required. There is no Final Exam for this class. Students who fail to take the 3rd exam will be reported to the University, in compliance with University policy and federal regulations governing financial aid and veterans' education benefits.

### Grading Scale

POINTS	< 299	300-324	325-349	350-374	375-399	400-429	430-464	465-500
GPA	0.0	1.0	1.5	2.0	2.5	3.0	3.5	4.0

The final grade will consist of the total number of points earned rounded up to the nearest integer (whole number). No changes to the final grade will be made unless it is due to numerical error. Grades are NOT curved. Any activities for extra-credit points are at the discretion of the instructor.

### Course Policies

- Accommodations:** Michigan State University is committed to providing equal opportunity for participation in all programs, services and activities. Requests for accommodations by persons with disabilities may be made by contacting the Resource Center for Persons with Disabilities at 517-884-7273 or on the web at <http://www.rcpd.msu.edu>. Once your eligibility for an accommodation has been determined, you will be issued a verified individual services accommodation form. Please present this form to your instructor at the start of the term and/or two weeks prior to the accommodation date. Requests received after this date will be honored whenever possible.
- Attendance** is expected every week. Should an emergency arise you should contact your College's Assistant Dean for Student Affairs (Dean Dalebout in the College of Education, [sd@msu.edu](mailto:sd@msu.edu)), to notify them of the situation. If a death in your family occurs, you should complete the University Grief Absence Request Form as detailed in the University Grief Absence Policy as soon as possible. It may be necessary to provide documentation. In the event of an absence (regardless of University approval), it is your responsibility as a student to acquire the class notes from another classmate. Completed lecture notes will not be provided by the course instructors for any reason.
- Lecture Notes:** Although it is permissible to share class notes on an individual basis. It is expressly prohibited to post or sell course notes in part or otherwise. Any student found in violation of this policy may be subject to disciplinary action through the Student Faculty Judiciary process.
- Cellphones/Computers:** Once class begins, all personal communication devices (cell/mobile phones, music players, headphones, etc.) should be turned off and put away. These devices should remain off for the duration of the class period. If you need to leave your personal communication device on for emergency purposes only, you must notify the instructor before the class period begins. If you are caught texting, talking, web-browsing, etc. on your personal communication device during class, you will be asked to leave the classroom and must meet with the instructor before re-admittance back into the class. Computers are allowed during class but should be used for academic purposes. If you are caught not taking notes or viewing the PowerPoint on your computer, you will be asked to leave the classroom for the remainder of class time.
- Disruptive Behavior:** Any behavior that disrupts classroom discussion or instruction will not be tolerated, and you will be asked to leave the classroom and must meet with the instructor before re-admittance back into the class. Students whose conduct adversely affects the learning environment in the classroom may be subject to disciplinary action through the Student Faculty Judiciary process.
- Academic Integrity:** By enrolling in this course, you are indicating implicitly that you have read, understand, and accept the Universities' policies and procedures regarding academic integrity and dishonesty (<https://www.msu.edu/unit/ombud/>). Plagiarism and cheating will not be tolerated and all university policies apply. If plagiarism or cheating is suspected then the student will be asked to meet with the instructor. If a violation of academic integrity and/or dishonesty is found to have occurred a written statement will be forwarded to the associate dean of the students college and all university academic integrity policies will be applied.
- Late Assignments:** All assignments are due by their respective due dates. In the event of a known absence, such as a non-emergency related University-approved absence, it is your responsibility to turn the assignment in on or before the due date. Late assignments will be assessed a 2-point daily penalty. All assignments not typed and printed with black text will be assessed a 2-point penalty. Assignments must be submitted on D2L. All assignments submitted in any other way will be assessed a 2-point penalty. See evaluation procedures above for more details regarding late assignments.
- Participation:** Students whose names do not appear on the official class list for this course may not attend this class. Students who fail to attend the first four class sessions or class by the fifth day of the semester, whichever occurs first, may be dropped from the course. Students are expected to participate in all class activities as listed on the course calendar. For certain assignments, attendance will be taken in class and attendance is required to receive points for those assignments.
- The instructor reserves the right to change this syllabus if deemed necessary. Any changes to the syllabus will be announced in class.
- Students may not record lectures or any other classroom activities.

## COURSE EXPECTATIONS

We will use class time to engage in active-learning strategies (e.g., discussions, problem-solving, etc.), so please come to class having done the readings and prepared to make a significant effort to be an active learner. This approach is a lot more fun than sitting passively listening to a lecture! One of the best ways to learn is to teach. Thus, during class, I will encourage you to work on the assigned activities in small groups. What does this all mean?

I expect you will come to class prepared to work!

- You can prepare for class by following these steps:
- Complete assigned readings and watch assigned videos before class.
  - Do the reading questions before coming to class, making sure you answer them in your own words. Bring your responses with you to class so you can work through them with peers.
  - Do the quizzes to assess your comprehension of course material.
  - Identify concepts you are having trouble with and work through them with peers or me during office hours.

I expect you will communicate professionally!

Please communicate in a professional and respectful manner. Respect the ideas shared by your peers during in class discussions by listening and responding during your turn. If sending me an email, please ensure it has the course code KIN360 in the subject line. Use opening and closing statements and full sentences so I your communication is clear.

I expect that you will respect our learning environment and each other!

You are going to have to use a digital device during class time. Please be respectful and restrict your use to class content. Surfing Facebook or other sites not related to course work can be disruptive to other students' learning. If you are done your class work early, review your notes and discuss course work with your peers!

I expect you will take responsibility!

Please take responsibility for your learning. Attendance in class will help you succeed and completing the class activities as well as assigned readings and assignments will enhance your learning. I believe you will succeed when you take full advantage of the depth and breadth of the curriculum, set personal and academic goals, and take responsibility for your education, choices, and decisions.

### A Note from Amanda...



Here to see you succeeding in this class! You belong here and deserve to be here, if you are struggling, feeling overwhelmed, or just need to talk, please come see me. I am also happy to talk to you about graduate school and research opportunities, or you can just pop in to talk about kinesiology!

For inquiries, please use email as I tend to respond within 24 hours. If I have not responded to you, please kindly send another email to remind me. I am looking forward to getting to know you and talking motor development with you!