**EPSY 8416 / 8410**

**Learning in the Social Context**

**Spring 2021**

**AUBURN UNIVERSITY**

**Department of Educational Foundations, Leadership & Technology**

**College of Education**

Professor Paris Strom

Work phone: 334-728-0909

Office: Haley Center – 5th floor (5088)

Fax: 334-844-3072

Email: stromps@auburn.edu

Tigermail, Canvas email and phone voice mail will be checked business days M – F. Check time on these days is before or by 8:45 am and then at 3:30 pm.

**Office Hours**: Unless announced otherwise, I will hold call-in/phone office hours (no appointment needed) on Monday business days from 8:30 am to 12:30 pm.. For appointments, please contact me and plan on email at least one business day in advance of date/time requested. I’ll be happy to meet by ZOOM or phone. You may try to reach me during the daytime no later than 4pm if you need to talk to me sooner than if we planned a meeting. If I miss your call, then I will call you back when I am able.

No office hours or appointments are planned or held during university holidays, break times between semesters/terms, during spring break or summers. On some office hour dates/times I may be unavailable due to unavoidable university obligations that arise without advance notice so please refer to Canvas announcements for occasional changes in hours.

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**SECTION I:** General Course Info & Policies

1. **Course Number:** EPSY 8416 and 8410

**Course Title:** Learning in the Social Context

**Credit Hours:** 3 semester hours (3 lecture). No prerequisite required.

1. **Term:** Spring 2021 Day/Time: Please note that this course is being offered in approved Canvas Distance Education (remote, asynchronous online format- 8416) and in approved Canvas (remote, asynchronous online format -8410). This means that all the instructional and assignment materials are to be accessed on Canvas in order to meet the collective scheduling needs of those enrolled. This was made known in a course information email to all who enrolled in the course very soon after they enrolled.

#  HOW TO START THIS COURSE: Follow all steps in Orientation PART A and PART B

Starting as early as the week before classes begin, Canvas will have the first week of material for you to access which will orient you to the course, how to use the course in Canvas, and about the course syllabus. You may start this early (as early as Jan 2). It should be started no later than during week 1 of classes (Jan 11). This orientation will be located at the very front of Canvas (on the front Home page for the course **START COURSE HERE**) in Canvas once you log into Canvas for this course. These orientation materials are labeled, ORIENTATION PART A and PART B. Going over this material in Canvas will be required and be very important as your way to formally start the course. IF you do not join us on Zoom at one of the meeting options, then the expectation will be to complete the orientation using the self-orientation, located on the home page of our course. This material will be all on video to watch, in quizzes and other tasks to complete, and in the syllabus to read.  For both those who attend the Zoom session and for those who do the self-orientation, there will be at least two quizzes plus other tasks (little assignments on Canvas) to complete in order to ensure you understand orientation plus an email you will send to me. You will need to go through these materials before moving on to the second week (second module) of course material. If you still have questions after having gone through all the orientation materials, then we can plan a short phone conversation to answer any remaining questions.

**Either before or during week 1 of classes (during the week of Jan 11**), please have at least started the **Course Orientation Materials** (also called **START COURSE HERE** containing **PART A** and **PART B Orientation** located on the front/home page for our course). Complete this orientation material before **Tuesday, Jan 19th** 11:59pm. The course self-orientation will be accessible in Canvas on 8am on Saturday, **Jan 2nd** in case you wish to start early. It is fine if you wish to do this material early. You should email me once you have completed this orientation material so I have heard from you and can confirm you went through all materials.

**4. OPTIONAL  ZOOM MEETINGS:**  If you wish to meet on Zoom to go over much of the Canvas orientation (in MOD 1) then you can meet me and possibly others in the class. Please tell me on email at least a full day in advance if you plan to attend one of the below meeting options. *I’d use Doodle but they changed their site so it’s not allowing me to edit dates and seems no longer like a good site.*

**Course Orientation Meeting Session options**

(If you wish to attend the orientation on Zoom LIVE), then the options will be:

**EARLY BIRD OPTIONS:**

Monday, JAN 4          6--8:30PM

Tuesday, JAN 5         6--8:30PM

Wednesday, JAN 6    6—8:30PM

Thursday, JAN 7        6—8:30PM

Friday, JAN 8             6—8:30PM

Saturday, JAN 9          10AM--12:30PM

Sunday, JAN 10          10AM--12:30PM

 **WEEK 1 OPTIONS:**

Monday, JAN 11          6--8:30PM

Tuesday, JAN 12          6--8:30PM

Wednesday, JAN 13    6—8:30PM

Thursday, JAN 14        6—8:30PM

Saturday, JAN 16       10AM--12:30PM

**WEEK 1 Back Up Options:**

Saturday, JAN 16    6PM—8:30PM

Sunday, JAN 17    10:00 AM--12:30 PM

If you attend one of our Zoom orientation meetings, please know that there will still be a few things to be done on your own in Canvas for MOD 1, but the Zoom orientation will cover much of the MOD 1 orientation and be of value to those of you who like Zoom social interactions.

There will be four other optional dates we will have ZOOM meetings: **Saturday, Feb 13, 10:00am – 12:30pm with a back-up on Sunday, Feb 14 2:00--4:30pm (for MOD 5)** and then **Saturday, Mar 13, 10:00am – 12:30pm with a back-up on Sunday, March 14 2:00--4:30pm (for MOD 9).** The back-up dates must be requested and planned so I know to hold them and for whom. By default, the expectation will be you will do the assignment work for each module in Canvas. However, if you choose, for these two modules, you may do the assignment work in verbal form by attending and verbally sharing/discussing your answers at a zoom meeting for one or more of the MOD dates shown above. So, to put it another way, if you miss attending any of the ZOOM meetings for either Mod 5 or Mod 9, then simply go through the module material associated for that meeting and submit written responses as a replacement for ZOOM attendance. The assignments in these two modules are required but the options are provided to complete them via active and engaged LIVE participation in discussions on Zoom during the dates and times stated. Before each of these two latter meetings, all students still must learn through each of the entire module of lesson materials (readings, videos, etc.) in order to satisfactorily be prepared enough to participate verbally/orally at the zoom meeting. This will be a vital expectation. Those who participate at the latter two meetings will simply submit their responses to the assignments in oral/verbal format during the meeting. Those who do not attend will submit their responses in written format in Canvas.

Zoom links to all meetings are posted on the course HOME PAGE on **the Zoom tab**, located in the upper left side of canvas tools. Click each link for each Zoom date. Each date has a different Zoom link. Zoom meetings are not recorded. The Self-Orientation videos are pre-recorded since I did them to be perfect or close to perfect as possible. The Zoom meetings are for those who prefer “live” meetings and/or who prefer to join others for those meetings, so they serve a social purpose for those who wish to experience that format.

1. **Virtual Office Hours & Contact Information:**

Professor Strom, Ph.D., Educational Psychology – Lifespan Development

Office: 5088 (5th floor) -Haley Center-Department of EFLT

Phone: 334-844-3077: Message machine is at same number. Please leave a message if you call.

EMAIL/PHONE CHECK TIMES: Tigermail, Canvas email and phone voice mail will be checked on all business days M-F (before or by 8:45 am and at 3:30 pm.) Any email check time before usual check time or after the usual end-of day check time is only where I need to do so out of planning for other work obligations while also trying to respond to your questions to be helpful. So, please rely on the *usual* time*s* liste*d* onl*y* so if you send email after the 3:30 pm time, (*and any time on weekends, break, or holidays*), then please know that you most likely will hear from me not then but instead by the next university business day morning by 9:30am.

My weekly office hours (*call-in visits with no appointment needed*) will be on Mondays from 8:30 am to 12:30 pm. I can also meet on phone or Zoom by appointment to be requested and planned on email at least 1 business day before requested meeting. I’ll send you email confirmation that either the time proposed works or if an alternate time is needed. Office hours, appointments, and email/phone correspondence are put on hold while I’m away during conferences and business trips. You may email me or call me while I’m gone but I may very likely not be able to respond in full detail until my return. I’ll post on Canvas announcements if I’m away for a day or longer along with when I will return. My office hours begin on the first week of our classes and end on the day when final course grades are due to the Office of the Registrar’s office. I may from time to time need to reschedule my office hours simply due to having to hold or attend university related meetings which conflict with my office hour time. When that happens, I'll announce in Canvas the time that I have set aside as the replacement office time for that week. I'll also post this notice on my office door.

I’d strongly prefer you call my cell phone but if you call the campus office phone and I don’t answer then please leave a message with contact phone number and when I can call back or if I can email you the information you need. I will return the call or email as soon as I can do so.

Office hours will be held at stated times and students are encouraged to utilize this time (or appointment times made) to meet on ZOOM or on the phone regarding their questions. Unless an appointment is necessary, all other questions or dialogue will be addressed via email (on Tigermail) so please email daily (M-F). Also check your Canvas Gradebook for grades and look for any comments I leave there regarding your assignments.

**Date Syllabus Prepared:** This syllabus was updated Fall 2020 and is being distributed for Spring 2021 for both of Dr. Strom’s sections of this course, is posted on Canvas in MODULE 1, and is posted in an electronic Word file copy in the COE online university syllabus repository.

# 6. Course Information Email:

A course information email was emailed to you promptly upon your enrollment or request for enrollment so that you could learn about how to best prepare for the course in ways such as by testing if you could play course videos and if you can open PDFs with Adobe Reader. Both of these software have free downloads and links to these downloads were provided in that email to you. Before the course starts, or during week 1 of classes, you should have already responded to all of the TASKS in the course information email (as soon as possible after receiving the email) in order to best prepare.

# 7. Required Textbook and Class Materials for this course:

**Required Textbook:** You will have only the 1 required course textbook listed below to purchase. Other material we also plan to use for the course will be readings that I post on CANVAS and those online items will be free - at no expense to you- but you must access them online. These cannot be sent to you or mailed to you. The required textbook to purchase is, “**Learning Throughout Life: An Intergenerational Perspective**” by Paris Strom and Robert Strom. There is only one edition of this book. The course is built entirely around this textbook so not having it will be impossible to effectively learn during nearly all of the course. This textbook WILL BE ACCESSIBLE on/in Canvas as provided/arranged by the Auburn University Haley Bookstore platform called ALL ACCESS (on RedShelf). This is the cheapest, most convenient, and most immediate way to purchase the book. It also will be accessible before or on day 1 of classes for our university in Canvas. On Jan 11, the details for how to pay for and access this online book will be a.) posted in Canvas on the course home page, and b.) shown in Canvas Announcements.

**Required High Speed Internet Connection:** Daily access to effectively functioning desktop or laptop computer with functioning high speed internet connection either at home, work or on campus. This course is taught with an asynchronous online modality, so this is vital-no exceptions. Also, you may need to ask your employer or whomever controls your Internet access at the computer you plan on using, to enable your access to Auburn University's Canvas courses if you work at a school or other location that may have I.T. blocks on Canvas. This, only you can address with your I.T. people at your site.

**Required Desktop or Laptop Computer:** Please note that this course was designed for desktop computers and laptop computers. Many iPads or e-tablets also usually work. It may be that a smart phone or cell phone may not work well with the course due to lack of access to certain websites or canvas features and since the cell phone screen (all models) have too small of a viewing interface. I cannot guarantee any adequate access to course materials for those who attempt to access them through cell phones or smart phones. I also cannot change my course in any way to accommodate those technologies in case you have problems using them to access the course in Canvas. Please know this in advance.

**Required Browser:** Auburn University I. T. and Biggio Center recommend students to use Mozilla Firefox which is a free download. See our course homepage for links to download Firefox or Chrome browsers.

**Required Tech Assistance to Access:** Once you start the course, please know that you can access a **TECH HELP** link at the bottom of the Course Modules page if you need links to video player help, Adobe Reader, and other similar types of Canvas help or tech help contact information. If you have further technical problems with videos or Canvas issues then please access help using the below process and contacts:

Provide LRC Expert Staff, Mr. Brian Phillip at phillbr@auburn.edu the info from steps 1-5 (\*below). This will help him gather some information needed to help you solve things. I cannot answer any of this information myself at all but will rely on you to contact Mr. Phillip for further help. Please copy me in on the email when you email him just so we are all on the same page.

\*1- your name and contact phone number

\*2- your professor’s name and class you are taking STROM EPSY 8416/8410

\*3- your computer specs and operating system

\*4- your internet connection speed

\*5- the problem you are having (*please be specific*) and where on Canvas in the course module you are experiencing the problem (*state the MODULE number and STEP number*).

**Required: Weekly Time Commitment for Effective Learning:** This course is a 3 credit hour lecture course so you will need to plan your time for at least one day per week (*requiring a minimum of 3 solid hours, uninterrupted)* to consistently rely upon for coursework. Also plan on some homework time for some reading and assignments that may require over the 3-hour class time. The time you spend should not have numerous interruptions like cell calls, texting, or other interruptions or distractions. So, if you have many, then simply know that more time after the interruptions are over will be needed to effectively learn each module’s material.

***Recommended:*** One pair of earphones (such as *earbuds*) would be helpful-even just the inexpensive type will do. This is just in case you need to hear a lecture or film and are in a setting where you can’t play it aloud around others (like at a campus computer for example) or at home in the late evenings. Just for you to know, if you are in the LRC and don’t have earphones by the way, the LRC has a very large number of them that you as a student can check out for use in the LRC. Be mindful of LRC hours of operation they post.

# 8. Course Description:

Examination of social realms of learning and of the complex nature of learning as a socially shared experience. A few of the many topics will include social development and maladjustment (bullying), the social construction of knowledge, scaffolded instruction, cognitive apprenticeships, cooperative learning, the role of family and community in learning, and online social networks. Social learning contexts and environments of focus will include those for K-12, higher education, the adult-aged work force, and retirement-aged learners. This course is intended to represent many diverse social contexts of learning throughout the human lifespan. These contexts also portray the value of learning from the interaction of diverse learners across (between) different generations, ethnicities, nationalities, genders and other sectors of human diversity/contexts.

Course Objectives:

*Upon completion of the course, students will be able to:*

-- identify and describe several social contexts of learning (settings, target groups, approaches, issues).

-- identify and synthesize numerous implications & applications for learning for different learner target groups in their varied social contexts and settings.

-- analyze and evaluate the numerous obstacles in learning for different learner target groups in their varied social contexts and settings.

-- synthesize numerous solutions (suggestions for improvement) in response to obstacles in learning for different learner target groups in their varied social contexts and settings.

-- synthesize and explain several implications & applications of learning theories and approaches in social contexts.

-- apply theories, approaches and models of learning in personal and professional social contexts.

-- identify and evaluate research implications for various learning theories, approaches, models, and target groups in relation to relevant social contexts.

# 9. Asynchronous Online Learning Modality:

ALL course material and assignments for this course will be accessed on a week-to-week basis online via Canvas. You will read readings, view lectures, and use course materials online from week to week but you will do this at a time that works within your weekly schedule and submit any and all assignments by the weekly deadlines (*stated in this syllabus*) for each module (MOD). The lectures and all other course materials are accessible 24/7.

Course material is to be accessed via Canvas files and links and in the textbook you purchase. On Canvas, some material will include assignment instructions, while other files or links will have video lectures, extra readings, etc. It is entirely the obligation of the student in this course, since it is in this format, to ensure you have proper, reliable access to a desktop or laptop computer with Internet (at home, work or school) to access this Internet-based material. This will mean for example, downloading an updated browser (Firefox) and Adobe Acrobat Reader (free) to open and view text files and assignments posted on Canvas. No other substitute, replacement or arrangement for or in place of Canvas is possible in terms of accessing lectures or other course material (***not*** *any of the following: thumb/jump drives; DVDS; VHS tapes; CDs; printed course packets; and not placing course material on any other online location or website, online repository, not on campus, etc.*).

If you are at a place of work where the computer is controlled by I.T. staff, please quickly communicate to them your needs of accessing any and all files on the Canvas site and for them to download any and all software needed to open documents (*Adobe Reader*) and to view videos. Taking the appropriate steps to access the material online will be required.

Flash player is reaching its end of operation time. So, please **un**install it and use the below link for instructions if need be.

**INFO:**With Flash reaching end-of-life, the support for it (creation and playback of videos) will be gone – and that content has been phasing out over the last 2 years.  Everything on video we have in the course is covered and not reliant on Flash. Content I have posted for the Auburn course (Kaltura or Panopto) will play fine as those systems have for some time been updated and no longer rely on Flash.  I have posted links to videos that are found on external sites (YouTube or other education sites) and the good news is that they would have had to have updated their content/servers/players to NOT be or rely on the installation of Flash.  Content I have posted from those sites would have already converted/updated their sites and content to not rely on Flash.  As stated on Adobe’s page here (<https://www.adobe.com/products/flashplayer/end-of-life.html>)

Most current browsers already have video playback built-in for content that they are hosting.

The more important thing is please use an up-to-date browser.  Biggio Center recommends the use of Firefox, so it’s always good to have that installed and updated.  If you don’t have Firefox, you can go here to download it:

<https://www.mozilla.org/en-US/firefox/new/>

Go to this page below for questions about updating the browser on your computer.

<https://www.whatismybrowser.com/guides/how-to-update-your-browser/>

All or the vast majority of our video content should play within the browser and you should not need VLC. However, if you are looking for an all-in-one video player for local content, you may download VLC…but again, it shouldn’t be needed for playback of OUR course content in Canvas.  The link is below for VLC.

<https://www.videolan.org/vlc/index.html>

Most content for my Canvas class is posted within Canvas through Kaltura or Panopto along with links to videos I have posted for students to view from websites.  That content wouldn’t necessarily or even likely need to use VLC because the browser itself that you are using, preferably Firefox, is the “video player.”

If you are worried about Flash and would want to check on your computer to see if it’s installed and then want to **un**install, that same End-of-life page had this posted for uninstalling:

As stated on Adobe’s page here (<https://www.adobe.com/products/flashplayer/end-of-life.html>):

We recommend that all users **uninstall Flash Player.** See the linked steps for uninstall instructions for [Windows](https://helpx.adobe.com/flash-player/kb/uninstall-flash-player-windows.html) and [Mac](https://helpx.adobe.com/flash-player/kb/uninstall-flash-player-mac-os.html) users. As of mid-October 2020, users have started being prompted by Adobe to uninstall Flash Player on their machines since Flash-based content will be blocked from running in Adobe Flash Player after the EOL Date.

Please watch all the lectures and films as directed in each module’s STEPS but you may do so according to times of day or on days that meet your schedule best as long as you complete each module and its assignment(s) before or by the posted due date for the module assignment. These dates are shown in this syllabus and posted on the main COURSE MODULES page for the course in Canvas next to (to the right of) each week’s module. In addition, you can pause, start and stop the lectures anytime, replay them as many times as you wish, etc. You can stand or exercise while you listen or watch them, or sit at your home or school computer to view them. All of these choices help with the main goal of allowing more time for actual focused watching, listening, non-stressed note taking, more in-depth thinking, writing, and discussion. The time factor is in your hands as long as the learning modules and their assignments are completed by the specified dates/times (*indicated in this syllabus and on Canvas for each module*). I think you will enjoy the freedom of this course format but be aware that with this freedom comes responsibility and expectation of going through the material in its entirety and in a timely manner. Again, please be 100% sure to read, watch, and do all course material in a timely manner in order to maximize your potential for success in the course. This will be an expectation.

**SECTION II:** Modules, Assignments, Grading

# 10. How to Access all Learning Modules and Assignments:

You will access each learning module by logging into Canvas, going to the course home page, and then clicking the blue COURSE MODULES link. This takes you to the COURSE MODULES page which contains all the learning modules. Each module is titled with the lesson theme, start and end date, and indicates what type of assignment is due. Page 12 shows all this as well as the point worth per module assignment for quick reference.

**The Canvas COURSE MODULES page contains all learning modules with the following instructions:**

COURSE MODULES

**INSTRUCTIONS:**  On this COURSE MODULES page resides all of the learning modules for this course. Study from each MOD by following all STEPS with each step being numbered and flagged with blue .. .. Then move forward to learn in the next MOD. All items in each module that are linked to readings, videos, and/or assignments are shown with a bullet (mostly) or asterisk (occasionally) to the left of the link.

Each MOD has a start date and ending date and in nearly all cases is 7 days in length. Complete work in each MOD before or by its **red, bolded underlined ending date** shown as the deadline for that mod's assignment. Shown in red for each MOD also is the type of assignment due.

Assignment Legend:   **Q**= Quiz**D** = Discussion          **R**= Reflection     **+** = other items

Deadlines shown on the course modules page are 11:59 p.m. (C.T.).  For MODS 2--12,  c = chapter from our required textbook. After each type of assignment shown on the course modules page is the point worth. All normal deadline times shown for online submitted work are by 11:59 p.m. (C.T.). For [**TECH HELP**](https://auburn.instructure.com/courses/922853/pages/t-dot-h), click this link. Assignment instructions and a link to submit each assignment are *inside* each MOD in the **$ .... green link**.

Zoom Meetings are “live” only and non-recorded. These will be held on the below times on Zoom. Use the Zoom link on our course home page for the date you attend, and press “Join”.  If meeting participation is missed, then submit the module's assignment(s) in written format in Canvas.  All assignments in the Orientation (MOD 1) must be completed in Canvas by all students.

**MEETING I** on Zoom     See list of options with dates/times on page 1 in this document.

**MEETING II** on Zoom     Sat  2/13   10am--12:30pm  for  Mod 5

**MEETING III**on Zoom    Sat  3/13   10am--12:30pm  for  Mod 9

**Course Content Outline and Assignments:** The schedule on page 12 displays the exact time allocated on the identified course content per module. Exact layout of content is seen inside each week’s learning module that you will follow step by step. The module STEPS consist of what to do (read, watch, explore), where to access it, and what to submit for your assignment. These are laid out on each module in a very clear step by step manner. Please follow each module’s STEPS exactly. All active links you are to access to each learning module, and within each module to readings, assignments, and videos, are indicated with a **bullet (to the left)** except when they are obviously a URL.

The Course Content schedule on page 12 contains the Module list with all assignments, point worth, and start and due dates for modules, etc.). Again, these modules with all MOD information is also posted in Canvas on the COURSE MODULES page.

**TIPS: USING CANVAS MODULES 1--13 *(weekly learning modules in Canvas.)***

**A**. To enter the learning modules (MODs) which are your weekly online lesson material, enter these ONLY by clicking the COURSE MODULES page link on the **HOME PAGE** on Canvas.

**B**. Once in a module, study all materials (*from top to bottom*) by following each "**STEP**" accordingly. Each mod step is marked with a dark blue flag box … (at the left) and contains instructions and often with links for what to WATCH, READ, or DO. Follow each step closely.

**C**. All active linked items in the course including your weekly lesson modules, as well as your readings, videos, and assignments (those that rest inside the modules) are indicated in each module with a **bullet or asterisk** to the left side. That means you click that link to access that item.

**D**. Most of the time, at or near the bottom of each module is a link marked as **$** and green square showing that module’s assignment instructions with submission area (inbox). Much of the time, assignments are at the end of a module but a few are at the start. Look for the **$ …**

**E**. Complete work in each module (**MOD**) before or by the **underlined, bolded date** shown on page 11 (*and on the Canvas Mod page*) as the due date for that module's assignment. Assignments are due by 11:59pm (C.T.) on each due date.

**F**. For [**TECH HELP**](https://auburn.instructure.com/courses/782150/wiki/tech-help-info), click pink link at base of the COURSE MODULES page in Canvas.

**G**. Students who wish to get ahead on work should not get ahead any further in Canvas assignment submissions than by about one MOD ahead. You may read and/or watch far more ahead if you wish but not submit the actual mod assignments in Canvas any more ahead than by one mod. Refer to the exact dates on page 11 for when each Canvas module starts. The early submission date for each module assignment is the Tuesday morning of the week before the due date for that module’s assignment.

**H**. For all ZOOM meeting links, these will be posted on the course home page. Each date has a separate Zoom link so please select the proper date link.

LEARNING MODULES 1—13: Course Content Schedule

**START COURSE HERE (Course Orientation)**

**MOD 1** Part A & B Orientation ----------------------------Jan 11 -- **19: Q, D +** 100

# PART I: INFANCY & EARLY CHILDHOOD (Birth--Age 6)

**MOD 2** Language & Soc c1 / Self-Control & Patience c2-----Jan 20 -- **26: D** 100

**MOD 3** Reflection & Imagination c3 / Fear c4---------Jan 27 – **Feb 2: D** 100

# PART II: MIDDLE & LATER CHILDHOOD (Ages 6--10)

**MOD 4** TV & Social Net c5 / Selective Attention c6-----Feb 3 – **9**: **R** 100

**MOD 5** Integrity & Ethics c7 -------------------------------Feb 10 -- **17: D** 100

# PART III: ADOLESCENCE (Ages 10--20)

**MOD 6** Identity c8 / Team Skills c9 ---------------------Feb 18 -- **24: R** 100

# PART IV: EARLY ADULTHOOD (Ages 20--40)

**MOD 7** Creative Thinking c11 / Stress c12 ---------Feb 25 – **Mar 3: D** 100

**MOD 8** College & Family Choices c13-------------------Mar 4--**11: R** 100

# PART V: MIDDLE ADULTHOOD (Ages 40--60)

**MOD 9** Self-Eval & Maturity c14 / Rec Learning c15----Mar 12 -- **18: R** 100

**MOD 10** LCs / Caregivers & Aging Parents c16----------Mar 19 – **25: R** 100

**PART VI: OLDER ADULTS (Age 60 +) & Exploration for Connections**

**MOD 11** Grandparents c17 / Cognitive Health c18-----Mar 26 – **Apr 2: R** 100

**MOD 12** SL / Longevity & Change c19---------------------Apr 5 -- **12: R** 100

**MOD 13** Exploration for Connections----------------------Apr 13 –19: D

 *Auburn University classes end on April 22.*

*All late/remaining assignments must be submitted before* ***April 27, 11:59pm (CT)****.*

Note: MOD 10 **LCs** = Learning Communities / MOD 12 **SL** = Service Learning

c = See full chapter titles in textbook which are abbreviated above for each module.

**Submission of Assignments:** Each module (MOD) allocates 5 full business days plus the weekends in which to complete the work (**7** full consecutive days). The due date (*deadline*) for each module assignment is indicated in red, bolded, underline in this syllabus. These are due by the ending date as shown on the prior page by 11:59 p.m., Auburn, AL time (C.T.). These due dates are also shown on the **COURSE MODULES** page in Canvas per module. This schedule provides you as much time as possible (*for each module*) if you need that time in order to complete each module and submit the assignment.

With the **D**iscussions assignments, please note that it will be my kind request to please use manners/etiquette in responding promptly to our discussions. Also, if you submit one part of a discussion response, (like your posted response only) then I'll grade it but then cannot post remainder points until you complete the discussion task (responding to a classmate(s) about their posts). To facilitate more timely discussions, go to the Canvas Account tab, located in the upper left of your Canvas page. Click the Account tab and then choose Notification Preferences. Have all of the following notification preferences selected with the check icon which means “notify me right away”: Due Date, Announcement, Grading, Submission Comment, Discussion, Discussion Post, Added to Conversation, and Conversation Message. For Discussion assignments, please also subscribe to each discussion so that when others join in and/or reply to your post, you will receive a Tigermail notice. That way, it enables you to then know when to re-enter a discussion.

***Format in Assignment Submission:*** Unless stated otherwise, assignments with attachments required must be submitted in a Word file attachment posted to the ASSIGNMENT area (*we will go through this for orientation*). Each module assignment has its own INBOX labeled for that module. When you submit your Reflections Assignments, please label/name your file first with your last name, followed by the module number spelled out and in caps. *Example:* **stromONE**

Except for written responses in online Discussions in Canvas, I will not accept work that is not sent in a Word file attachment. I do this for record keeping and for academic honesty purposes so I can cross check where need be similarities between one student’s work in the class and that of another student. So, hard copies of assignments will not be accepted. I will not accept files that I cannot open with Word software. If I can’t open a file with your work on it, the assignment is not considered submitted.

It is a student’s obligation to self-check that what was submitted was done so correctly, (*that it contains an attachment which can be opened, and that the attachment is in a software I can open, mark and do a word count on*). All deadlines are based on the time zone in Auburn**,** AL.

***Submitting Assignments in Advance:*** You may submit an assignment *ahead of time* where often allowed usually no more than one mod in advance. The final mod allows for extra early access and submission. Keep in mind if any Tigermail or Canvas email or assignments are submitted on weekends, I’ll check them/grade them on the next available business day (*usually Mondays*). Holidays for the university and spring break are not assignment due days since classes are not in session and are also not official check/response days for Tigermail, Canvas email, phone voice mail, or check- in/grading of any work submitted or resubmitted. The assignment submission area in Canvas shows the exact date / time when an assignment opens up for access to student submissions, the due date/time, and cut-off date/time. Assignments most often open for early access and submission a full week before they are due. Please wait until an assignment opens to read the assignment instructions and to answer the questions and submit responses.

***Timing Concerns of Assignment Submissions:*** If I did not receive your response by the posted deadline, then the following day as soon as I can I will post on your Canvas gradebook and Tigermail a status of NOT RECEIVED—EXTENSION IS IN PROGRESSwhich indicates the assignment has not been received and *you need to make it a point to work towards completing and submitting it as soon as possible.* I also, at that time, will post a temporary grade of 0 (zero) points showing then the effect of missing work on the running course grade. The grade is then left as a zero points earned unless and until the assignment is submitted. By doing it this way, you will know right away the status on work in terms of if I have received it or if you are marked as having an extension. You will know if I received late work once I post a grade for the work after scoring at it. Once work is received, (assuming it is *fit for grading*), I’ll need my normal amount of time to grade it.

I will allow longer extensions for assignments if needed as long as work is submitted before the cut-off date and time for the semester. I kindly and seriously recommend for you to state to me a specific date by which I can expect the work in such cases. By doing this, you won’t get further behind. Instead it helps us both hold you responsible to submit the work by the date that you promise in your email to me.

Keep in mind I allow these extensions as long as the understanding is that the start and end time of any and all modules/assignments (and their assignments) do not change. This means that a student will need to catch up in order to stay on schedule but the class cannot change start or end dates for any modules or assignments. I ask that any extension used by a student, when possible, would be only for a few days extra and no more than a full week after the original due date. Otherwise you may get really behind.

***Timing & Quality Concerns [Resubmission of Assignments]:*** I do allow for a resubmission of work for possibly a better grade. In your gradebook for the module of concern, a status of RESUBMIT RECOMMENDED will be posted if I deem the work (*once receiving it*) *poor in quality* (*roughly estimated at a C level or below*). In such cases, a resubmit may lead to a better grade, if it is improved accordingly, and this is recommended instead of staying with the initial low grade (*without resubmitting*). Once resubmitted, then points will be determined and posted. Work resubmitted will often help a grade if the newer work is truly of better quality. Resubmissions help enable you to do quality work and allow you opportunity to perform at a higher level in the class toward the highest course grade possible instead of being disallowed second chances.

I kindly ask and highly recommend that resubmissions be done, if at all possible, within a week after the original due date for the module of concern (*or very soon thereafter*) in order so that you will not fall behind. This recommendation also applies to our (**D**) discussion assignments (when assigned) so these can be conducted as timely as possible for you, your classmates, and myself. The latest that any submission or resubmission (of any assignment) can be accepted will be before April 27, 2021, 11:59pm CT. Nothing can be submitted (or resubmitted for any reason) any later than this date in order to for the points to take effect for course credit for this semester. Canvas cuts off from accepting any further assignment work at 11:59pm CT, April 27, 2021.

# 11. Assignment Criteria & Expectations / Procedures for Holistic Scoring (Grading):

The following section constitutes the grading framework for this course by this instructor. Grades earned may vary for assignments but all assignments should be completed. I grade with a *criterion‐referenced* grading scheme which means that I grade based on how well a student’s work meets the criteria stipulated in the assignment instructions which are stated in each module’s assignment. This scheme gives everyone a fair chance at doing well in the course. If a person does not do well it has nothing to do with their work being compared to that of classmates. It only means the student failed to create assignment responses that effectively met or addressed the assignment task and/or instructions (*rules, format, word count, etc.*)

**Always read the assignment instructions** which are shown at the top of the assignment page which also contains the task/questions you are to create responses for. I even highlight some of the blue instructions here and there for important prompts to draw your attention to those such as word count minimum, which may differ per each assignment. Carefully follow instructions.

**Submit responses that meet or exceed word count minimum.** Please keep in mind that with a word count minimum, a person can still submit good quality responses. If a person chooses to submit work beyond the minimum word count that’s more than fine but it doesn’t constitute more points necessarily and never constitutes extra credit points. If work is within the high quality range, a student will earn either full points or close to full points. The point being made in this paragraph is that more writing does not necessarily equate to being a better or higher quality response for an assignment. So, if a person writes a lot more for an assignment it should be with the understanding that they are doing so for their own purposes of clarity and enjoying the assignment, not with an expectation of topping other people in terms of a grade or in earning any extra credit. Again, if a person can make their thinking known in 400 words while another person takes more than that to create a response, both are allowed and both will be graded according to WHAT is said and HOW CLEARLY and WELL it is said. Extra length of an assignment response has little to do with the score earned as long as it meets the minimum word count stated in the instructions for that assignment.

**Word Count Minimum Definition:** Word count of a student response will never count page labeling, name or MOD at the top, restating of the questions, citations, or anything else. The word count minimum required for a student response only counts your response to the questions or task. The word count stated in each MOD assignment instructions represents the minimum required **total response** for that assignment. Word count minimum for an assignment does **not** indicate the word count minimum required per each question within that MOD assignment. Instead, it means that your written response to all questions for a certain module assignment, when your response is added up, must be at least the stated word count and it may be more if you wish.

**Final Course Grade Scheme**: Definition of **“**A**”** level final course grade**:** A final course grade of “**A**” demonstrates work throughout the course that has consistently gone above and beyond the course requirements and reflects a deep-level, conceptual understanding on the part of learner. This means that a student must submit ALL assignments in their entirety, on time, and with good to great level of quality. Below is the breakdown for each letter grade.

# Course Grading Scale by %

90% – 100% = **A**

80% – 89.99% = **B**

70% – 79.99% = **C**

60% – 69.99% = **D**

 -59.99% = **F**

The final grade for the course will be based on the following total possible points.

**Total possible points for course** *(tentative)* **(1200 pts) =** 100%

Modules have exact type of assignment and points listed in red type on page 12 of this syllabus.

**Canvas Grade Postings:** If a mark in your gradebook is of concern but not understood then email me. I’ll gladly communicate back with you. If you aren’t sure about how well you are doing overall even after examining your gradebook, then please ask me so we can meet to go over how to interpret the gradebook at that point in time (*either via phone or in person*). The sooner you ask the sooner I will be able to communicate to you about it. Your gradebook in Canvas will have posted the numeric score in points for each assignment. The Canvas gradebook will also post comments about which assignment is late, and how many points were deducted based on quality. I try to share positive thoughts too on work that makes sense.

I’ll update grades on Canvas daily M-F (business days) and will do so where possible, as close to after I receive your work as possible (*often within a day or two of it being received*). Times when I travel on university business (or when I have other pressing demands) will likely require up to 3 to 4 business days after the date the work is submitted for the score to be posted. It is not often I'll need this but from time to time I may need it just as you may need an extension. If work is submitted early, well before the due date, then I may need an extra day as well.

During the semester, scores and brief related comments for your work, when graded, will be posted on Canvas in the gradebook for your password protected, private access until the end of the semester when the final letter grade for the course then goes on the AU grade post area for your final view. You can check your grades 24/7. Please set your Canvas notification preferences to send you a Tigermail notice on various important items. These come to you when I send announcements in Canvas, post grades or comments to graded work in Canvas and when I send you email in Canvas. To set your notification preferences in Canvas, go to the Canvas Account tab, located in the upper left of your Canvas page. Click the Account tab and then choose Notification Preferences. Have all of the following preferences selected with the check icon which means “notify me right away”: Due Date, Announcement, Grading, Submission Comment, Discussion, Discussion Post, Added to Conversation, and Conversation Message. Students are responsible for checking their Gradebook in Canvas weekly.

In looking at your course grade in Canvas gradebook (at any point during the semester) if there are still assignments **un**submitted and without a grade (*without a score at all*), then the ongoing/running course grade AND the final course grade and percentage are only calculated based on the assignments that have grades (*point scores earned*) that were entered into the gradebook in Canvas, *not any ungraded, unscored material*. Remember I will allow until a stated deadline during finals week for you to submit or resubmit any remaining work. So, please be mindful of this. If a person has an A as shown in the gradebook, that’s only for work up to that point in time that has scores recorded but the course grade does not reflect the final course grade of any unscored or yet-to-be scored work. So, please be sure to keep in mind any remaining work in need of submission. Any assignments that are still unsubmitted after the cut-off deadline (April 27) will turn to zeros. Those zero point items will affect a final course grade (unless submitted before the April 27th cut-off deadline). I’m sure for most people this is common sense but I just wanted to be sure we are all on the same page since the last two weeks of the semester are so hectic. Please monitor your Canvas gradebook often which shows any and all assignments that are unsubmitted or recommended for resubmission or that have yet to be submitted (for a future due date).

Before or by 10 a.m. on Monday morning, April 19th, which is the start of the of the last week of classes for the university, I will mark in your Canvas Gradebook any and all unsubmitted assignments with zeros but ONLY so that at that point in time, you will then know the full mathematical effect that these unsubmitted items will have on your final course letter grade. You will then know I will provide until before 11:59 pm on April 27 to submit any and all remaining late work to me in order to receive any credit on it towards the final course grade. Once received, then I replace the zero(s) with whatever points are earned based on the quality of the work.

***Notice about extra credit and assignment fidelity:*** In terms of extra credit, please know that I do not allow for it. The helpful reason for this is to grade the work required within the scheme of possible points allowed in order to (A) not cause grade inflation and (B) to maintain student motivation for doing well on and for submitting all course assignments.

Assignments for this course cannot be negotiated, altered, changed, or replaced with other types of assignment work. Maintaining a high fidelity to assignments as I have designed them keeps the class consistently fair as well as true to the course content and course objectives.

**SECTION III:** Other Course Policies

# 12. A. Professionally Plan Your Study Time: You will have assigned readings and video lectures posted in each module and listed in steps to follow. Carefully follow each module’s STEPS and instructions by doing all work (*readings, videos, and other tasks in exact order*). It is recommended to begin working on each MOD and its assignment early on rather than late. I've posted these for view all at the beginning of the course in order to make this feasible and have also embedded in the schedule a safe window of work time. Looking ahead of time at each module will help you determine what needs to be done in each module before you work on your assignment for that module. By planning ahead, this will allow you enough time to actually go through the module materials (*readings and videos/films*) and then complete the assignment for that module. Please a*bide by the listed start date and completion date for each module*. Except where/if shown otherwise, the due date for each module's online assignment is always the seventh day after the starting day for any given module (*by that evening 11:59pm‐C.T.*). For all remaining late work, the final cut-off deadline of April 27, before 11:59p.m. will be provided.

**B. Email Communication-Vital:** As far as communication goes for this course, this will be an expectation to check your regular Tigermail but also your Canvas email and Gradebook for this course. I really try the utmost to communicate on both email platforms to reach a person about announcements or problems so they can take the steps necessary to correct things in a timely manner. Please **only** use your official student Auburn University Tigermail and not personal, and/or non-AU student related email addresses.

# C. Understanding the Syllabus and Canvas Course:

Please carefully read this syllabus and Canvas course material so you know the policies, duties, assignments, due dates, etc. Knowing them and fulfilling them will lead you on a path to success in this class.

**D. Academic Honesty / Misconduct Code:** All portions of the Auburn University student academic honesty code will apply to this university course. All academic honesty violations or alleged violations of the SGA Code of Laws will be reported to the Office of the Provost, which will then refer the case to the Academic Honesty Committee. The Department of EFLT recognizes university policy regarding academic misconduct. In accordance with University policy regarding academic misconduct, students may be subject to several sanctions upon violations of the Student Academic Honesty Code. Unless I state otherwise, all assignments will assess your personal (individual) knowledge of course material. ALL assignments are to be done individually only. If someone is giving help to someone else on their assignments or doing their assignments for them then that’s considered cheating by our university. Additionally, your assignment instructions require you to write your understanding of course material in your own words (avoid using quoted material) and where applicable, to cite the work of others. Auburn University utilizes the services of plagiarism detection software for professors to screen student work. I will not award a grade or points toward a grade for assignments unless and until each is submitted in the manner and format required.

**E. Special Accommodations**: Students who need special accommodations in class, as provided by the Americans with Disabilities Act, should arrange for a confidential meeting with the instructor during office hours (*or appointment*) during the first week of classes (*or as soon as possible if accommodations are needed immediately*). The student must bring a copy of their Accommodations letter and an Instructor Verification Form to the meeting. If the student does not have these forms, they should make an appointment with the Program for Students with Disabilities, 1288 Haley Center, 844-2096 (V/TT).

**F. Course Contingency**: If normal class is disrupted due to mass, campus-wide illnesses, city or campus wide emergencies, or campus or a city wide crisis situation, the syllabus and other course plans and assignments may be modified (*within reason by this instructor*) to allow completion of the course. If this occurs, an addendum to your syllabus and /or course assignments will replace the original materials, and this will be announced in the Canvas announcements and on Tigermail. Again, this is put into effect *ONLY* for problems affecting the whole campus or city(s) and for several days or weeks of impact.

**G. Required Auburn Email Account and Synchronization:** Keep your email account active so that needed student-school communication can take place in the proper timely fashion. This is now an active rule/policy of the entire university. Also, synchronize your password account so that you can use computers in the LRC computer labs. Ask the campus (O.I.T.) Office of Information Technology staff for immediate assistance if you need to activate or reinstate your Auburn email account. Inquire with LRC staff about synchronizing your password for access to LRC computers. Please take note of their hours of operation for the LRC which are posted right outside their entry doors. If you have any more specific questions regarding certain days or hours of operation or other LRC related questions just ask someone at their LRC helpdesk.

**H. Scaffolding (help) Policy:** After some help has been given in a formative manner, I will sometimes need to limit the amount later on so that you rely more on your own skills and effort which hopefully become internalized. In other words, I provide limited scaffolding (*help*). In addition, the help must have limits or instead of being scaffolding which is defined as helping a student perform a task so that she/he learns to do it on their own, the opposite can happen without expressed limits. Some areas of improvement on a task will be left unsaid so that a student can learn to apply assignment criteria so they can effectively search, locate, evaluate, correct and improve their work. Again, without this understanding between a student and instructor, the opposite may happen-total reliance of the student on the instructor. So, if the goal is student autonomy, then not all things I see as wrong with an assignment can be reasonably expressed to a student in a formative assessment manner. A few things can be communicated but not all things. Remember, a student won’t begin to be self-regulatory until and unless some expectation for autonomy and responsibility is reinforced by an instructor and placed back onto a student, particularly a graduate student. So when someone says in an email or in class, “*Let me know if my paper looks ok or if there is anything wrong with it before I turn it in for a grade.”* Again, if I've already helped a reasonable amount in that way, then this is not an appropriate request. It is your work. It is your job to do this before submitting it for a grade.

Instructor help should be given where appropriate but should never be assumed to be entwined with a student’s grade in such a way that blame for a lower than expected assignment or course grade is presumed to be the fault of a teacher for not giving an unending amount of help on an assignment(s) before it/they are submitted for grading. Again, some help is fine but this needs to have some limits in order for true learning to take place and be evidenced. But the grade still has to be a separate process and the grading, within reason, must be done so with the understanding to the student that help is limited for developmental reasons. This expectation is the only appropriate way of moving through this class or any other in that learning will involve help but then the assessment (*grading*) will be of what you do, on your own, with what you’ve learned, practices, skills, thinking, etc. A student can’t grow if all of their improvement rests solely on the extent of their teacher to help them with things. Instead, they need to internalize what was learned and to then apply it in a self-help, self-regulatory manner. From time to time, it may be necessary to remind someone that they may be asking for an undue (*excessive*) amount of “feedback” or help. I’ll be respectful in doing this by simply pointing out that your own efforts are needed as you work on your assignment and I’ve played my helper role for this particular assignment to the fullest. The psychology here as it directly affects your motivation is that there are limits in the amount of help that should be provided to a student on any one assignment and these limits are so that a student expects more of her/himself in effectively producing their own work and understanding rather than being overly dependent/reliant on an instructor.

I may at times ask for a phone call meeting so I can provide some verbal help during office hours or appointment time that we set up. Not all feedback on course work can be necessarily fit into an email due to the far too excessive time it may take as well as the mental limits in understanding from written feedback only versus an augment of live, oral/verbal dialogue as added feedback or as replacement to written feedback. If I request a time to talk on the phone, this is stating that I feel as the instructor that it is best in that situation to give feedback on phone to ensure you understand it. It works out best for the both of us that way.

1. **Ethics of grading and earning a grade (*sound and fair grades*):** A student may ask a question on assignments (*within reason*) on what things constituted a lower grade than they perhaps expected. But where things become a problem, an ethics problem, are when sometimes a student will make a request for a higher than deserved final course grade for such reasons as for example, “*I need an A*”, or “*I have a scholarship that makes me need an A for the course*”. Not for an*y* reason does any student “need” an A. Such requests or comments are extremely inappropriate, unethical, and disrespectful from the perspective of our university, our college, and the education field. A basic rule and need that educators are hired to honor is to honestly grade a student based on criteria and grading systems established, and to do so as fairly as possible. So, this university asks students to please refrain from making any such comments or requests at all to instructors in person, on email, in writing, or on the phone. Such statements, *(whether intended this way or not*), are simply unethical and very misguided ways to apparently appeal to an instructor’s supposed sympathy or sense of forgiveness. In reality, our job (*our paid duty*) is such that, just as important as is our instruction is our grading (*judgment*) on the level of student attainment of course objectives. Please also refer to the Alabama Educator Code of Ethics (5)(c)5.(i) to further your understanding of ethics in teaching.
2. **Add/Drop, Withdrawals, and Incompletes:** Grades associated with (IN) or (IP) Incomplete course work or a withdrawal from class will be assigned in strict conformity to University policy (se*e* A.U*.* Bulletin lates*t* edition)*.* If you wish to drop this course, you may do so no later than by the official drop date indicated by the Registration Office. After the official university deadline for withdrawals, a withdrawal from this course will only be granted under very unusual circumstances and must be approved by the Dean of the College of Education. According to AU Policies, Incompletes (IN) and (IP) are given only under certain conditions and terms (*see AU Student Policy e‐handbook*). Please refer to the active links to the *Student Policy e-handbook* and *Academic Calendar* (which shows dates for drop/add, etc.) on your HOME PAGE in Canvas. They are on the last page of this syllabus as well.

It is a student’s obligation to inform this instructor of problems right away instead of waiting until the end of semester and claiming that course tasks could not be met. If there are problems, please tell the instructor while there is still plenty of time to hopefully solve them. This also pertains to a potential need for an IN (incomplete) for the course. It’s the responsibility of the student to inform the instructor if illness, death in the family or some other *extenuating circumstance* which prevents the completion of course assignments in order for an IN (*Incomplete*) to be granted (assuming a student is eligible for this status). This notification must be stated to the instructor by the student on university email well before grades are due for the course, before the end of the semester, and before the assignment cut-off date/time of April 27, 2021—11:59pm. Also, at least 50% of coursework must be completed satisfactorily (C or higher) in order to be eligible for an IN (Incomplete).

Always look for confirmation of my receiving any such notification from you in order to be sure I did in fact receive such important information from you. Please do not assume that I received an email of such magnitude. You must hear back from me on email to be sure. This way, my confirmation to you completes the full communication loop. Student request for an IN must be stated to the instructor on email by the student **before** the cut-off date of April 27, 11:59pm. If this is not communicated before that deadline expires, then an instructor must only give all **un**submitted work zero (0) points which will impact on a final course grade and no recourse by the student will be permitted by the university.

*Student Policy e‐Handbook* <http://www.auburn.edu/student_info/student_policies/>

*Academic Calendar* <http://www.auburn.edu/main/auweb_calendar.html>

1. **Changes in Syllabus:** Any changes in syllabus policy, assignments, points, etc. will be announced on campus class-wide email and in Canvas Announcements. For change in assignments, these changes will be announced in Canvas Announcements and in a class-wide email. Students are responsible for being aware of changes by checking these areas of communication.

*Thanks for reading this syllabus and becoming informed about the course so you can succeed!! I look forward to you being in and learning from this course, reading your assignments, and corresponding with you. I also hope to learn from you as well through the discussions and your other assignment work.*

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