

**PSY U404 Developmental Psychology**  
**Monday, Wednesday, Thursday 9:15 – 10:20am**  
**335 Shillman**  
**Spring 2008**

**Instructor:** Jackie Mascher, PhD  
**Office:** NI 138, x3799  
**Office Hours:** Mondays & Wednesdays 3 – 5pm and by appointment  
**Email:** j.mascher@neu.edu

**Course Description and Objectives:**

This course examines change throughout the lifespan in social relationships, emotional functioning, language, cognition, and other psychological domains with emphasis on infancy through adolescence. The student is introduced to major theories of development, and learns about the interaction of social and cognitive factors in development. This course explores the interaction of the developing person with the environment, along with individual and cross-cultural differences in patterns of development, as well as research issues in developmental psychology. The prerequisite for this course is PSY 101; alternatively, the student should have instructor permission to take the course.

**Course Sessions:**

Classes will be one hour and five minutes in length. Students should attend all classes.

Note: In order to minimize disruptions to the learning process, the instructor asks that students not engage in conversations on cellular telephones in the classroom. Please either turn off your phones and beepers, or use silent/vibrate functions. If it becomes necessary for you to use your communication devices during class time, please temporarily excuse yourself from class to use them.

**Course Textbook:**

Berger, K.S. (2005). *The Developing Person Through the Life Span (7/e)*. New York: Worth.

Note: This text has a supplemental website at <http://www.worthpublishers.com/berger>

**Course Requirements:**

There will be four exams this semester, with each test constituting one-fourth (25%) of your overall grade.

**Grading:**

The grading scale will be as follows:

100 – 94 (A)	89 – 87 (B+)	79 – 77 (C+)	69 – 67 (D+)	59 and
93 – 90 (A-)	86 – 83 (B)	76 – 73 (C)	66 – 63 (D)	below (F)
	82 – 80 (B-)	72 – 70 (C-)	62 – 60 (D-)	

**Other Course Policies:****1. Make-up tests**

A student will be given a make-up test only if s/he has an illness or emergency situation that results in him/her not being able to take a scheduled test. The ***student must present documentation*** of the illness or emergency. For emergency situations and illnesses, the student must contact the professor within 24 hours of the scheduled test time. If not, then the student may not be permitted to take a make-up exam.

**2. Exam material**

Exam material will consist of information from textbook chapters as they are listed in this syllabus, even though it will not be possible for all such material to be reviewed during lectures. Exam material will also consist of lecture material that is not covered in the textbook.

**3. Lecture notes and handouts**

If you do not attend a class session, you are responsible for obtaining that session's lecture notes, handouts, and/or assignments from someone other than Professor Mascher.

**4. Electronic devices during exams**

Use of computer or electronic devices is not permitted during exams. If you are observed using such devices, you will receive a grade of "F" on the exam.

**5. Cheating on exams**

Cheating will earn you a grade of "F" on the exam, as well as a recommendation to the Academic Judicial Committee that you be expelled from the University.

**6. Pass/fail option**

A student may earn a grade of Pass/Fail only if s/he has made a contractual agreement for such within the first eight weeks of the semester.

**7. Tape recording lectures**

You may not audio- or videotape my lectures without the instructor's written consent.

**Class Schedule: Spring 2008**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Berger Chapter</b>	<b>Topic</b>
January 7, Mon.	1, 2	Introduction
January 9, Wed.	2	Theories
January 10, Thu.	2	Theories
January 14, Mon.	3	Heredity and Environment
January 16, Wed.	3	Heredity and Environment
January 17, Thu.	4	Prenatal / Birth
January 21, Mon.	MLK JR BIRTHDAY – NO CLASSES	
January 23, Wed.	4	Prenatal / Birth
January 24, Thu.	4	Prenatal / Birth
January 28, Mon.	5	The First Two Years
January 30, Wed.	6	The First Two Years
February 31, Thu.	7	The First Two Years
<b>February 4, Mon.</b>	<b>Examination #1</b>	
February 6, Wed.	8	The Play Years
February 7, Thu.	9	The Play Years
February 11, Mon.	9	The Play Years
February 13, Wed.	10	The Play Years
February 14, Thu.	11	The School Years
February 18, Mon.	PRESIDENTS' DAY – NO CLASSES	
February 20, Wed.	12	The School Years
February 21, Thu.	13	The School Years
<b>February 25, Mon.</b>	<b>Examination #2</b>	
February 27, Wed.	14	Adolescence
February 28, Thu.	15	Adolescence
March 3, Mon.	SPRING BREAK – NO CLASSES	
March 10, Mon.	16	Adolescence
March 12, Wed.	16	Adolescence
March 13, Thu.	17	Emerging Adulthood
March 17, Mon.	17	Emerging Adulthood
March 19, Wed.	18	Emerging Adulthood
March 20, Thu.	19	Emerging Adulthood

<b>March 24, Mon.</b>	<b>Examination # 3</b>	
March 26, Wed.	20	Middle Adulthood
March 27, Thu.	20	Middle Adulthood
March 31, Mon.	21	Middle Adulthood
April 2, Wed.	21	Middle Adulthood
April 3, Thu.	22	Late Adulthood
April 7, Mon.	23	Late Adulthood
April 9, Wed.	24	Late Adulthood
April 10, Thu.	25	
April 14, Mon.	Epilogue	Death and Dying
April 16, Wed.	Epilogue	Death and Dying
<b>April 17 – 25</b>	<b>Examination #4, TBD by University Final Exam Schedule</b>	