

**Jacksonville State University**  
**College of Arts and Sciences**  
**Updated June 27, 2006**

**PSY 222 HUMAN DEVELOPMENT**

**COURSE DESCRIPTION**

*Prerequisite: Psy 201.* Study of mental, physical, social, and emotional life of the individual throughout the life span. Special attention given to the first two decades of life. Note: University general elective for Psychology major or minor.

**TEXT**

Berk, Laura E. (2004). *Development through the Lifespan* (3rd Ed). Boston: Allyn & Bacon.

**COURSE OBJECTIVES**

The goals and objectives of Human Developmental Psychology are to help the student:

- Learn and gain mastery over the basic facts and research findings, terminology, principles, and theories important in the various areas of lifespan developmental psychology.
- Develop understanding, skills, and techniques for analyzing human behavior using a scientific approach.
- Gain a basic understanding of the interaction between genetic and environmental influences on human development.
- Gain a basic understanding of cognitive and social development from infancy through adolescence.
- Gain a basic understanding of family, play, work, and death and dying as they apply to lifespan development.
- Analyze current issues and controversies in the field of developmental psychology.
- Practice and develop critical thinking skills, and written and oral communications skills.
- Find ways to apply psychological findings to everyday life.

**TOPICS**

- I. Theories of development
- II. Research strategies
- III. Genetic Foundations
- IV. Environmental contexts of development
- V. Prenatal developmental
- VI. Childbirth
- VII. Newborn capabilities

VIII. Infancy and toddlerhood

1. Physical development
2. Cognitive development
3. Emotional and social development

IX. Early childhood

1. Physical development
2. Cognitive development
3. Emotional and social development

X. Middle childhood

1. Physical development
2. Cognitive development
3. Emotional and social development

XI. Adolescence

1. Physical development
2. Cognitive development
3. Emotional and social development