Seminar in Developmental Psychology  
HH/PSYC 4010 3.0A, S2 term 2011  
Mondays and Wednesdays, 7:00 – 10:00 pm  
Location: VH 1158

Course Director: Tifrah Warner, Ph.D.

Office contact: Agnes Levstik  
BSB #281; (416) 736-2100 ext. 55125

Email contact: tifrahw@yorku.ca

Please contact me only when it is an issue that cannot be addressed during the class or office hours.  
(always put course number in the subject line)

Office hours: after each class

Course Description

This seminar looks at the different theoretical perspectives and research directions that characterize the psychological study of development. It starts with conceptual examination of traditional theories of development. It continues with a selective review of recent studies, and it concludes with a look at human development from the perspective of spiritual masters.

The readings consist of a mixture of material that provides both overview of the topics and focused look at specific issues. They are meant to rouse your interest and to give you the experience of studying original scientific material.

The grading scheme aims to create an opportunity for deeper study, thus there is no one all-encompassing exam, but weekly assignments and (about) bi-weekly quizzes and a presentation.

Prerequisites

AK/AS/HH/SC/PSYC 1010 6.00 or AK/HH/PSYC 2410 6.00, with a minimum grade of C; AK/AS/HH/SC/PSYC 2030 3.00 or AK/HH/PSYC 2530 3.00; one of AK/AS/HH/SC/PSYC 2021 3.00, AK/AS/HH/SC/PSYC 2020 6.00, AK/HH/PSYC 2510 3.00; AK/AS/HH/SC/PSYC 2110 3.00 or AK/HH/PSYC 3240 3.00. Course credit exclusions: AK/AS/HH/SC/PSYC 4010 6.00, AK/PSYC 4140 3.00 (prior to Summer 2002), GL/PSYC 4510 3.00.

Textbooks

1. Course kit
2. Your old developmental psychology textbook
Grading Scheme
1. 4 multiple-choice quizzes (each 15%) 60%
2. Assignments 25%
3. Presentation 15%

Optional Grading Scheme
Recommended for those who plan to continue with graduate studies
1. 4 quizzes 30%
2. Assignments 20%
3. Presentation 10%
4. Paper 40%

Conversion Table
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Percentage</th>
<th>90-100</th>
<th>80-89</th>
<th>75-79</th>
<th>70-74</th>
<th>65-69</th>
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<th>48</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Letter Grade</td>
<td>A+</td>
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<td>B+</td>
<td>B</td>
<td>C+</td>
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Course Requirements

Quizzes
- Each one will cover all the topics scheduled since the last quiz.
- Multiple-choice format
- 10 or 20 minutes (depending on number of questions)

Homework assignments #1 to #5
- Each assignment covers the articles to be presented in class on that date.
- Prepare 5 questions and answer them in point form.
- The questions have to include (a) a question about the thesis of the article/s or a key concept, (b) a discussion question, (c) a question about the reading material in terms of any aspect of the 3-facets analysis scheme presented in first class.
- An additional one question about something in the material that was not clear to you or that you would like to hear it being reviewed in class. No answer is needed.

☞When you are presenting, you do not need to do that homework assignment.☜

Homework assignment # 6
- 3 questions about something in the material that was not clear to you or that you would like to hear it being reviewed in class. No answer is needed.
- A research prediction inspired by the material covered in the last 2 classes.
- An example of spirituality in daily life, you may refer the values you mentioned in first class. Length – one paragraph.

Team presentations consist of:

a. A preparatory meeting with the course director that will take place at the end of two classes prior to the presentation. Team members have to bring tentative outline of the presentation and any questions about the material.

b. The presentation itself has to include:
   - the main points and ideas of the subject matter;
   - the subject matter analyzed in terms of the 3-facets analysis scheme;
   - the subject matter compared with traditional perspectives;
   - the subject matter compared with the new perspectives covered so far in class;
   - Q & A period

c. A handout of the main points of the presentation, up to 2 pages.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Readings</th>
<th>Quiz</th>
<th>Assignment</th>
<th>Other</th>
<th>Optional paper due date</th>
<th>Last date to drop course without a grade is</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>June 20</td>
<td>An analytical look at traditional perspectives of development</td>
<td>Theories of Development, from your old Developmental textbook</td>
<td></td>
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<td>July 15</td>
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<td>June 22</td>
<td>Traditional perspectives of development, continued</td>
<td>Theories of Development, from your old Developmental textbook</td>
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<td>June 27</td>
<td>Introduction to Systems perspective</td>
<td>Perna &amp; Masterpasqua, S. Oyama, M. Price, B Azar</td>
<td># 1</td>
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<td>June 29</td>
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<td>E. Thelen</td>
<td># 1</td>
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<td>B. L. Fredrickson &amp; M. F. Losada</td>
<td># 2</td>
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<td>July 6</td>
<td>Biological perspective</td>
<td>M. L. Phillips, and Spreng et al</td>
<td># 2</td>
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<td>July 11</td>
<td>Evolutionary perspective</td>
<td>Confer et al, and Keltner</td>
<td># 4</td>
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<td>With Janna Comrie</td>
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<td>July 15</td>
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<td>July 13</td>
<td>Popular perspective</td>
<td>Lilienfeld, Lynn, Ruscio, &amp; Beyerstein</td>
<td># 5</td>
<td></td>
<td>With Janna Comrie</td>
<td>Optional paper due date</td>
<td>July 15</td>
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### SCHEDULE, continued

#### July 18
- **Topic:** Spiritual Masters’ perspective
- **Readings:** TBA
- **Quiz:** # 3

#### July 20
- **Topic:** Spiritual Masters’ perspective
- **Readings:** TBA

#### July 25
- **Topic:** Spiritual Masters’ perspective – based on assignment # 6
- **Assignment:** # 6

#### July 27
- **Topic:** Spiritual Masters’ perspective
- **Quiz:** # 4
- **Other:** Make up for missed quizzes after quiz # 4

**Note:** If you are presenting, you do **not** need to do that homework assignment.

### Course and Departmental, and University Policies

**Grading:** (For a full description of York grading system see the York University Undergraduate Calendar - http://calendars.registrar.yorku.ca/pdfs/ug2004cal/calug04_5_acadinfo.pdf)

**Assignment Submission:** Due dates and times are specified on the class schedule. Earlier submissions may be made to the course secretary (BSB 281) and have to be date stamped.

**Late Assignments:** one mark will be deducted for each day late. Late assignments must be turned in to the course secretary (BSB 281) and date/time stamped. Technical problems involving computer and printer are not acceptable reasons for missing these due dates.

**Eligibility for a make-up quiz**

- The student has to contact the TA or secretary within 48 hours of the missed quiz (unless circumstances do not allow). Circumstances preventing contact within 48 hours must be accompanied by documentation.

- If the student expects to miss a quiz in advance, he or she has to apply for a make-up exam before making arrangements to be elsewhere.

**University policies**
All students are expected to familiarize themselves with the following information, available on the Senate Committee on Curriculum & Academic Standards webpage (see Reports, Initiatives, Documents) - http://www.yorku.ca/secretariat/ senate_cte_main_pages/ccas.htm

- York’s Academic Honesty Policy and Procedures/Academic Integrity Website
- Ethics Review Process for research involving human participants
- Course requirement accommodation for students with disabilities, including physical, medical, systemic, learning and psychiatric disabilities
- Student Conduct Standards
- Religious Observance Accommodation