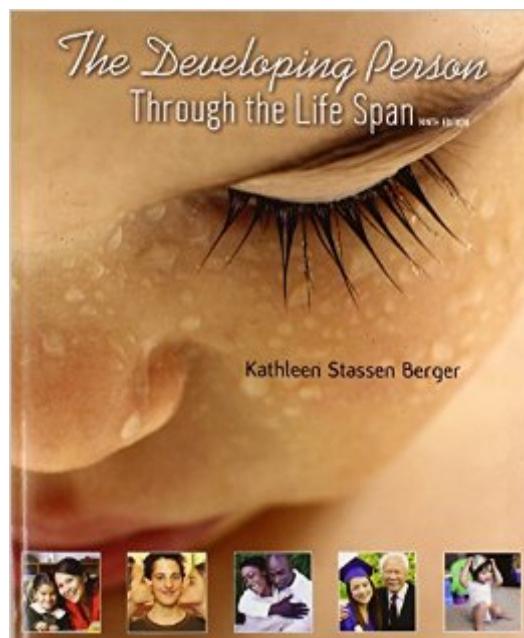


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The Developing Person Through The Life Span: Paperbound



Synopsis

With Kathleen Stassen Berger's always contemporary, always compelling textbook, students learn to see how the basic ideas of developmental psychology apply to their own lives, the lives of those around them, and the lives of others of all life stages and in cultures all around the world. Berger's narrative voice, wide-ranging cultural perspective, and focus on universal themes captivate students from the outset, helping them grasp the important theoretical and scientific work driving the field of developmental psychology today.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

For those of you looking for "The Developing Person Through the Lifespan" 9th Ed, this is it! It is a loose leaf version, meaning that it has NO binding but it has 3 holes so you can put it in a sturdy binder. While that may be a deterrent for some, price-wise this was a win for me! This new version came out this year so my professor decided to change his class to what is in this new edition.

Bummer for me since renting the 8th edition from was only going to cost \$30. Now I was looking at renting it for \$100 on or paying \$180+ to buy. Neither choice appealed to me so when I found the looseleaf I jumped on the deal. I mean, if I'm going to pay \$100 to rent, might as well cough up another \$20 to own it, right? With no photo though I was hesitant to do it. Luckily for me it's EXACTLY what I need and I saved some cash. So if you are looking for this book for your Psychology class and don't want to pay more than you have to, get this! Just get a sturdy binder and be sure to pass along this knowledge so your fellow classmates don't have to keep lining the pockets of the authors of these overpriced books!

This book has been revised so many times that it appears the formatting of lists and detailed information has been forgotten. On several occasions, there are lists of two items in the text, then in the questions it will ask for three items for that topic. The writing is too chatty in places, and vague or repetitive in others. The information is muddled in far too many layers of explanation. There is far too much in the way of social commentary as well. Although I think I agree with the author's opinions, there is no need for them in this text. Her addition of that kind of commentary makes this book about 30% longer than it could be and probably make more sense. The book also appears to be trying to reach out to more different fields than is practical. Questions in the margin are directed to law enforcement, teachers, nurses, medical personnel, psychiatrists, judges, public servants of all sorts, etc., etc., etc. As an older student, I find this text extraordinarily frustrating to have to work with. If the questions on my tests are based on the questions in the book, and the questions in the book are very poorly written, or based on partial information in the text, that affects my grade. I am not exactly pleased with that outcome. I've been trained to design evaluation material, and know I could do much better writing this text.

I used this book for a developmental psychology class. Although I did not purchase it from , I have a hardcover version that holds up good. The bad part about this book this book is the organization (besides starting with babies and ending with old people through chronological order) where Piaget's, Erikson's and Vygotsky's theories will be spread out in the book to the point of confusion and frustration are never listed concurrently on any page. With that said there is so much filler in this book, such as irrelevant information and bogus statistics/charts I may have overlooked the "golden pages" where each of these theories may have been fully listed in a single chart. Overall if you do purchase this, it will teach you a lot however the vital information; however it will be fairly unorganized. As long as you have a good amount of time to read through every page, this is a book that will teach you quite a bit about the different stages we experience in life and characteristics that come along with those stages.

I have had to use this textbook for two different psychology classes because it does such a good job of covering all phases of life, from infancy to old age. I like that each age group has three chapters devoted to it: one for biological development, one for cognitive development, and one for psychosocial development. There are also very useful reviews, summaries, and vocabulary lists at the end of each chapter.

Garbage. As a former psychology teacher, I am disappointed in this book on so many levels. The organization is awful and it is difficult to find things. For example, Piaget's stages of cognitive development are not identified all together but rather as a few stages here in this chapter and a few there in that one. A HUGE drawback to this text is the looseleaf. I am on a budget and feel no need to purchase a book that is \$180. I purchased this one and was disappointed. I keep thinking that whenever I turn a page, it is going to rip. I have only used this book for half the semester and it is already falling apart. I cannot imagine that I will get any money on a return of this text. In the long run, perhaps it would be more financially beneficial to purchase the \$180 version as by the time this book reaches the end of the semester, it will not be worth the paper it is printed on.

Over all it is an easy book to read, until you get to sections that talk in circles. I also do find that there are some biases in the book, whether they were just overlooked in the editing process or are intentional to press their opinion.

There are a lot of typos, and I noticed some inaccuracies in graphs and charts as well. Throughout the textbook it was pretty common for the author to compare apples to oranges when discussing statistics, so it came across like she was trying to persuade and push an agenda rather than represent reality. As far as I know, much of the developmental information and descriptions of various theories are accurate, but since I'm not a psych major or fact checking the textbook, the above problems make the whole book seem suspect to me. If you are an instructor, think twice before assigning this book. The publisher should be ashamed to be selling such a shoddily edited book at these prices.

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