Course Description
This course will provide an opportunity for students to:

- explore the meaning of mood swings and ambivalence; action and inaction, impulse control or lack of it, identity problems, shifting image, experimentation, rebelliousness and submissiveness and emptiness, preoccupation with physical and emotional health, desire for independence and dependency needs, archaic fears and infantile anxieties, projective needs and defenses, feelings of inadequacy, hero worship and the desire to achieve;
- recognize normal and pathological behavior at this age, if possible, and answer the questions about why these years are so chaotic and how the chaos may be resolved;
- have a broad understanding of adolescence drawn from the literature of those theorists who have contributed to current theory about adolescence and its meaning in the life cycle; and
- observe, study and record adolescents and demonstrate a theoretical understanding of their issues, conflicts, and mental and physical states.

Objectives
The student will be able to:

- describe adolescent maturation and its role in the development of the individual's body and mind;
- explain adolescent drives, issues, conflicts and possible resolutions: the inner life and its outer manifestations including sexual/friendship choices and work choices;
- discuss the second reworking of the first years of life within the framework of adolescence, a greater biological maturity; and
- recognize adolescent variation in pathological disturbance and distinguish normative developmental behavior from those disturbances.

Methods of Evaluation
This class will explore the objectives of the course in class discussion of readings, and analysis of contemporary descriptions of adolescence as seen in film, TV and the media coverage of adolescent behavior from laudatory to criminal behavior. Students will be expected to keep a log on observational data accumulated through the semester relative to adolescence, submit a weekly log via email and produce a final project that demonstrates an understanding of adolescent development, integrating the compiled observational data with subject matter of the readings and class process.

Texts

**Assigned Readings**

**Class 1**

**Class 2**

**Class 3**

**ISS #1**

**Independent Study**: Movie, video, tv, or media report on adolescent issue or theme.

**Class 4**

**Class 5**

**Class 6**
Class 7

ISS #2
Independent Study: Film, tv, or media report on adolescent issue or theme.

Class 8

Class 9

Class 10

Class 11

Class 12

ISS #3
Final Paper
Additional Recommended Readings: