

AP Psychology

Course Description:

This course introduces students to the systematic and scientific study of human behavior and mental processes. While considering the psychologists and studies that have shaped the field, students explore and apply psychological theories, key concepts, and phenomena associated with such topics as the biological bases of behavior, sensation and perception, learning and cognition, motivation, developmental psychology, testing and individual differences, treatment of abnormal behavior, and social psychology. Throughout the course, students employ psychological research methods, including ethical considerations, as they use the scientific method, analyze bias, evaluate claims and evidence, and effectively communicate ideas.

Course Textbook:

Psychology: for the AP Course by David G Myers & C. Nathan DeWall... \$164.04

Supplies:

1. Three-ring binder
2. Black/Blue Pens
3. Notecards
4. Color Pencils/Crayons
5. Optional
 - a. Scissors
 - b. Glue Stick

Assessment:

Your grade in this class will be determined by a number of factors. The factors are each worth a percentage of your grade. The percentages are as follows:

• Final Exam	20 %	AP Psychology Exam....MAY 3, 2022 <i>Students are responsible for AP Exam payment</i>
• Major (Test, Projects)	45 %	
• Minor (Quizzes, Notebook)	20 %	
• Daily Work	15 %	

*Excused absences do not count toward exemption.

**This course includes a cumulative exam at the end of each semester.

Parents also have the opportunity to access your child's grades via "Infinite Campus."

Google Classroom

To encourage blended learning, Google Classroom will be used a variety of ways to best serve students throughout the school year. Teachers will be posting weekly to Google Classroom.

- **Students** must establish a google classroom account and keep up to date with classroom assignments.
- **Assignments:** At least **ONE** Google Classroom assignment per week will be **graded** and entered in Infinite Campus. Students should be familiar with how to navigate the online platform, communicate with their teacher, and submit assignments on time. If there are technology limitations notify the teacher
- **Cyberbullying:** As define by Dictionary.com, "the act of harassing someone online by sending or posting mean messages." *Please keep in mind that Google Classroom is designed to work as an extension of the classroom; therefore, anything done on the site through the access of VHS class will be treated the saem as if it were said aloud in the classroom. Inappropriate comments or use of the site can result in disciplinary action.*

Procedures

- **Food/Drink in Class-** You are not allowed to have any food or drink in class other than water, with exception to breakfast and lunch at designated times.
- **Make up Work-** Check the make up bin for your class, Google Classroom, or see me, if you have any questions about your work. Please ask a classmate for missed notes.
- **Cheating-** Cheating on any assignments will result in either teacher or administration disciplinary action.
- **Retesting-** There is no retesting in an Advanced Placement course.
- **Late Work-** Efficient time will be given to complete all assignments. If you do not complete your work and turn in an assignment late it will result in an automatic 50 on that given assignment.
- **Tardy-** When the tardy bell rings, you will then be counted as tardy. Please read over the student handbook to familiarize yourself with the consequences for multiple tardies.
- **Electronics-** We will be using electronics in class during designated times! BUT if you abuse your technology, it will be taken up and school policy for inappropriate electronic use will be put into place.

AP Exam timeline:

- ✓ 8.21.21– Deadline for students to electronically join all AP classes on College Board website (APcentral.collegeboard.org). *Help line for students and parents 1-888-225-5427
- ✓ 10.29.21 – Deadline for students to register for AP exams on the College Board website.
- ✓ 2.18.22 – Deadline to pay all AP exam fees.

AP Fees

Paid Students:

- \$96.00 per exam

Free and Reduced lunch students:

- First exam regardless of course is paid for by GADOE and is free of charge to the student.
- Additional exams for FR students are \$53 each.

STEM exams

- For students who do not qualify for College Board fee reduction, GADOE will pay for one AP STEM exam for each student enrolled in an AP STEM course.

Exams ordered after ordering deadline:

- \$40 fee per exam **regardless of free and reduced lunch/STEM status.**

Cancel or fail to take AP exam after ordering deadline:

- \$40 fee per exam **regardless of free and reduced lunch/STEM status.**

Course Breakdown

Unit 1: Scientific Foundations of Psychology

Unit 2: Biological Bases of Behavior

Unit 3: Sensation and Perception

Unit 4: Learning

Unit 5: Cognitive Psychology

Unit 6: Developmental Psychology

Unit 7: Motivation, Emotion, and Personality

Unit 8: Clinical Psychology

Unit 9: Social Psychology

Scientific Foundations of Psychology (10-14%)

- Introduction to psychology
- Research methods
- Experimental method
- Selecting a research method
- Statistical analysis of psychology
- Ethical guidelines

Biological Bases of Behavior (8-10%)

- Nature v. Nurture
- Endocrine System
- Nervous System
- The neuron & neural firing
- Influence of drugs on neural firing
- The Brain
- Tools for examining the brain
- Sleep and Dreaming

Sensation and Perception (6-8%)

- Principles of Sensation
- Principles of Perception
- Visual anatomy
- Visual perception
- Auditory sensation & perception
- Chemical sense
- Body senses

Learning (7-9%)

- Introduction to learning
- Classical conditioning
- Operant conditioning
- Social & cognitive factors of learning

Cognitive Psychology (13-17%)

- Introduction to memory
- Encoding, storing, and retrieving
- Forgetting & memory distortion
- Biological bases of memory
- Introduction to thinking & problem solving
- Biases & errors in thinking
- Introduction to intelligence
- Psychometric principles & intelligence testing
- Language & language acquisition

Developmental Psychology (7-9%)

- Lifespan & physical development in children
- Social development in childhood
- Cognitive development in childhood
- Adolescent development in childhood
- Adulthood & aging
- Moral development
- Gender & sexual orientation

Motivation, Emotion, and Personality (11-15%)

- Motivation theories
- Emotion theories
- Stress & coping

Introduction to personality
Psychoanalytic theories of personality
Behaviorism & social cognitive theories of personality
Humanistic theories of personality
Trait theory of personality
Measuring personality

Clinical Psychology (12-16%)

Introduction to psychological disorders
Psychological perspectives & etiology of disorders
Neurodevelopmental & Schizophrenic spectrum disorders
Bipolar, Depressive, Anxiety, & Obsessive Compulsive Spectrum Disorders
Trauma- & Stressor- Related, Dissociative, & Somatic Symptom Disorders
Feeding & Eating, Substance & Addictive, & Personality Disorders
Introduction to treatment of disorders
Psychological perspectives on treatment
Biological perspective of treatment
Evaluating strengths, weaknesses, & empirical support for treatment

Social Psychology (8-10%)

Attribution theory & personal perception
Attitude formation & attitude change
Conformity, compliance, & obedience
Group influences on behavior & mental processes
Bias, prejudice, & discrimination
Altruism & aggression
Interpersonal attraction

Goals:

1. My goal is to earn a final grade of _____ in this course.
2. My goal is to earn a score of _____ on the AP Exam for this course.