



Course Description:

AP Psychology provides an overview of current psychological research methods and theories. The equivalent of a 100-level college survey course, AP Psychology prepares students for the AP Exam and for further studies in psychology and life sciences. Students will explore the therapies used by professional counselors and clinical psychologists and examine the reasons for normal human reactions: how people learn and think, the process of human development and human aggression, altruism, intimacy, and self-reflection. Students will study core psychological concepts, such as the brain and sense functions, and learn to gauge human reactions, gather information, and form meaningful synthesis. All of these concepts are part of the 14 units that are covered throughout the year.

To help prepare students for the AP exams, each unit exam is designed to replicate the AP Psychology exam. Students are required to answer 60 multiple choice questions within a 50 minute period, while one Free Response question is assigned every other unit. Students also participate in a variety of experiments, field studies, or projects. These range from quick in-class exercises to replications of famous experiments, as well as self-designed experiments.

Course Objectives:

Students will:

1. Examine the study of human behavior and mental processes
2. Study the major topics of study in the field of psychology
3. Learn and use the vocabulary and terms of psychology
4. Participate in psychological experiments that complement the core topics of study
5. Learn the skills of psychological research, statistics, and methods
6. Be prepared for the AP Psychology exam in May

Texts:

- Myers, David G. *Psychology for AP*. 9th. New York: Worth Publishers/BFW, 2011. Print.
- Zimbardo, Philip G., Robert L. Johnson, Weber L. Ann, and Craig W. Gruber. *Psychology*. 1st. Boston: Allyn & Bacon, 2010. Print.
- Weseley, Allyson J., and Robert McEntarffer. *Barron's AP Psychology*. 4th ed. Hauppauge: Barron's Educational Series, Inc., 2010. Print.
- Various resources in the form of video clips and magazine and journal articles.

Recommended Supplies:

Supply	Why you need it
3-ring binder	AP Notes Notebook
Loose leaf college-ruled paper	For notebook
Colored pencils, sharpener, glue sticks	Diagramming or projects
Ruler	Diagramming and Cornell Notes
3x5 Cards	Vocabulary
Multiple highlighters/Variou pen colors	Help on FRQs and reading by color chunking information

Class Procedures and Expectations:

We have so much to learn before the AP Exam in May! It's very important that we do not waste an ounce of time. In order to be successful, you need to do the following:

- Arrive to class organized, prepared, and on time
- Read the required pages **before** class the next day (yes, you will have reading every night!)
- Take Cornell Notes on your reading
- Be an active and positive participant in class
- Complete your best work; take pride in it.

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Grading:

Description	Percentage of Grade
Tests and Major Projects	65%
Classwork/Notes/Vocabulary	35%

Units and Objectives:

Unit	Objectives (3 examples for each unit)
Unit 1: History and Approaches (Prologue)	-Trace the historical and philosophical development of psychology as a science -Identify famous psychologists and describe their contributions to the discipline -Explore different career options for people who earn degrees in psychology
Unit 2: Research Methods (Chapter 1)	-Identify the elements of an experiment -Apply elements of an experiment to different situations -Evaluate the importance of ethics in research
Unit 3: Biological Bases of Behavior (Chapters 2 and part of 3)	-Explain the process of neural communication -Explain how neurotransmitters work -Analyze the difference between the neural and hormonal systems
Unit 4: Sensation and Perception (Chapter 6)	-Identify the major components of the visual and auditory systems and the functions of each -Identify the two body senses and contrast one with the other -Identify the views of the Gestalt psychologists related to perceptual phenomena
Unit 5: Consciousness (Chapter 3)	-Describe the different stages of sleep -Analyze the different theories of dreaming -Analyze the consequences of addiction, tolerance, and withdrawal
Unit 6: Learning (Chapter 7)	-Describe the elements of classical conditioning -Describe the elements of operant conditioning -Apply elements of classical and operant conditioning to different situations
Unit 7: Cognition (Chapters 8 and 9)	-Analyze how humans encode, store and retrieve information in memory -Differentiate between algorithms and heuristics -Analyze how fixation, confirmation bias, overconfidence, framing, and belief perseverance influence the ability to solve problems
Unit 8: Motivation and Emotion (Chapters 11 and 12)	-Discuss the similarities of instinct and drive theories -Determine how psychologists measure achievement motivation -Identify the physiological changes that occur when people experience different emotions
Unit 9: Developmental Psychology (Chapter 5)	-Describe the physical and cognitive development of infants and children -Analyze how the reasoning ability of adolescents differs from that of children -Describe and analyze Kohlberg's theory of moral reasoning
Unit 10: Personality (Chapter 13)	-Explain how different perspectives—psychodynamic, humanistic, trait, and social-cultural—approach the study of personality -Evaluate the advantages and drawbacks of each personality theory -Determine how psychologists assess personality according to the various perspectives
Unit 11: Individual Differences (Chapter 10)	-Compare and contrast Gardner's and Sternberg's theories of intelligence -Evaluate Alfred Binet's contribution to intelligence testing -Explain the difference between reliability and validity
Unit 12: Abnormal Psychology (Chapter 14)	-Identify the criteria psychologists use to diagnose psychological disorders -Describe the characteristics of mood, anxiety, somatoform, dissociative, and personality disorders. -Describe the characteristics of brain-based disorders.
Unit 13: Treatment of Psychological Disorders (Chapter 15)	-Describe the different treatment options for the various types of psychological disorders
Unit 14: Social Psychology (Chapter 16)	-How do people explain (attribute) the behavior of others? - Under what conditions do people obey, conform, make friends, find love, and help others? -How do attitudes and actions influence individual and group behavior?



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Course Schedule:

Unit Title and AP Exam %	Day	Date	Class Activities and Readings* <i>*The readings need to be completed BEFORE you come to class that day</i>
	W	9/2	Welcome and Course Introduction
Unit 1: History and Approaches 2-4%	Th	9/3	Prologue Reading : 1- 6: Psychology's Roots
	F	9/4	Reading: 6-13: Contemporary Psychology Historical Approaches: The Outrageous Celebrity
	Tu	9/8	Historical Approaches: The Outrageous Celebrity
Unit 3: Biological Bases of Behavior 8-10%	W	9/9	Chapters 2 & 3 Reading: 48-54: Neural Communication Introduce Unit Project: Superheroes, Villains, Sidekicks and the Brain
	Th	9/10	Reading: 55-58 The Nervous System
	F	9/11	Reading: 58-60 The Endocrine System
	M	9/14	Reading: 60-68 Brain: the Tools of Discovery and Older Brain Structures
	Tu	9/15	Reading: 68-75 The Cerebral Cortex
	W	9/16	Reading: 75-81 Divided Brain Quick Vocabulary Check
	Th	9/17	Reading: 85-91 Consciousness
	F	9/18	Reading: 133-143 Behavior Genetics
	M	9/21	Reading: 143-149 Evolutionary Psychology
	Tu	9/22	Unit Project DUE : Superheroes, Villains, Sidekicks and the Brain Reading: 166-169 Nature and Nurture Review
	W	9/23	Cornell Notes Due Unit Test
Unit 4: Sensation and Perception 6-8%	Th	9/24	<i>Test Autopsy</i> Chapter 6 Reading: 229-236 Sensing the World: Basic Principles
	F	9/25	GET CAUGHT UP ON ALL YOUR READING! Sensing the World: Basic Principles
	M	9/28	Sensing the World: Basic Principles
	Tu	9/29	Reading: 236-245 Vision
	W	9/30	Reading: 245-252 Hearing
	Th	10/1	Reading: 252-263 Other Senses Article: <i>5-year-old unable to feel pain</i> Quick Vocabulary Check
	F	10/2	Reading: 263-272 Perceptual Organization
	M	10/5	Reading: 272-281 Perceptual Interpretation
	Tu	10/6	Reading: 282-285 Is there Extrasensory Perception (ESP)?
	W	10/7	Review
	Th	10/8	Cornell Notes Due Unit Test



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Unit 2: Research Methods 8-10%	F	10/9	<i>Test Autopsy</i> Chapter 1 Reading: 15-22 The need for psychological science Introduce Unit Project: Grant Application
	M	10/12	Reading: 22-25 Description
	Tu	10/13	Reading: 25-30 Correlation
	W	10/14	Reading: 30-33 Experimentation EARLY RELEASE
	Th	10/15	Reading: 33-42 Statistical Reasoning Quick Vocabulary Check
	F	10/16	Reading: 42-46 Frequently Asked Questions Statistical Reasoning Continued...
	M	10/19	Statistical Reasoning
	Tu	10/20	Unit Project DUE : Grant Application Multiple Choice Testing Strategies and Review
	W	10/21	Cornell Notes Due Unit Test
Unit 6: Learning 7-9%	Th	10/22	<i>Test Autopsy</i> Chapter 7 Introduce Unit Project: Conditioning Fun Reading: 291-294 How do we learn?
	F	10/23	Reading: 294-303 Classical Conditioning
	M	10/26	Classical Conditioning
	Tu	10/27	Reading: 304-317 Operant Conditioning
	W	10/28	Operant Conditioning
	Th	10/29	Operant Conditioning Quick Vocabulary Check
	F	10/30	Reading: 317-323 Observational Learning
	M	11/2	Observational Learning
	Tu	11/3	Practice FRQ
	W	11/4	Unit Project DUE : Conditioning Fun Review
	Th	11/5	Cornell Notes Due Unit Test
Unit 7: Cognition 8-10%	F	11/6	End of 1st Quarter <i>Test Autopsy</i> Chapters 8 & 9 Introduce Chapter Project: Memory Essay Reading: 327-330 The Phenomenon of Memory
	M	11/9	Reading: 330-337 Encoding
	Tu	11/10	Reading: 337-345 Storage
	W		NO SCHOOL: VETERAN'S DAY: November 11
	Th	11/12	Reading: 345-349 Retrieval Quick Vocabulary Check
	F	11/13	Reading: 349-356 Forgetting



	M	11/16	Reading: 356-364 Memory Construction
	Tu	11/17	Reading: 364-365 Improving Memory Review
	W	11/18	Chapter Project DUE : Memory Essay Cornell Notes Due Chapter 8 Test
	Th	11/19	<i>Test Autopsy</i> Introduce Chapter Project: Application of Application Process Reading: 369-373 Thinking: Concepts and solving problems
	F	11/20	Reading: 373-382 Making decisions and forming judgments
	M	11/23	Reading: 383-391 Language structure and development Quick Vocabulary Check
	Tu	11/24	Reading: 391-401 Thinking and Language
	W	11/25	EARLY RELEASE Due: Memory Practice Listening Exercise
	Th	11/26	NO SCHOOL: THANKSGIVING BREAK: November 26-27 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Chapter 9 test: take over break(if Senior)</i> • <i>Finish Application of Application Process Project</i>
Enterprise	M	11/30	Chapter Project DUE : Application of Application Process Cornell Notes Due Chapter 9 Test Keep Up on Reading
Unit 11: Individual Differences 5-7% Enterprise	Tu	12/1	<i>Test Autopsy</i> Chapter 10 (Intelligence) Reading: 405-415 What is Intelligence? Keep Up on Reading
Enterprise	W	12/2	Introduce Unit Project: Intelligence War Debate Reading: 415-419 Assessing Intelligence Keep Up on Reading
Enterprise	Th	12/3	Reading: 419-422 The Mathematics of Intelligence Keep Up on Reading
Enterprise	F	12/4	The Mathematics of Intelligence Keep Up on Reading
Enterprise	M	12/7	Reading: 422-427 The Dynamics of Intelligence
	Tu	12/8	Reading: 427-439 Genetics and Environmental Influences on Intelligence <i>Make sure research is done!</i>
	W	12/9	Genetics and Environmental Influences on Intelligence Get Vocabulary Finished
	Th	12/10	Unit Project Debate in class: Papers DUE
	F	12/11	Review
	M	12/14	Cornell Notes Due Unit Test
Unit 5	Tu	12/15	Test Autopsy



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Consciousness 2-4%			Chapter 3 Reading: 85-91: The Brain and Consciousness
	W	12/16	<i>EARLY RELEASE</i> Reading: 91-96: Sleep and Dreams
	Th	12/17	Reading: 97-103: Why do we sleep?
	F	12/18	Reading: 103-108: Dreams
	M	12/21	WINTER BREAK: December 21, 2015 – January 1, 2016 Break Assignment: States of Consciousness and Dream Journal Finish Chapter 3
Unit 10: Personality 5-7%	M	01/4	DUE: Dream Journal and Cornell Notes on Chapter 3 Chapter 13 Reading: 554-564 The Psychoanalytic Perspective
	Tu	1/5	Reading: 564-567 The Humanistic Perspective
	W	1/6	Reading: 567-576 The Trait Perspective
	Th	1/7	The Trait Perspective
	F	1/8	Personality Tests!
	M	1/11	DUE: Dream Journal and Cornell Notes on Chapter 3 Recap of Psychoanalytic, Humanistic, and Trait Perspectives Quick Vocabulary Check
	Tu	1/12	Reading: 576-584 The Social-Cognitive Perspective
	W	1/13	Social-Cognitive Perspective
	Th	1/14	Reading: 584-589 Exploring the Self/Culture and Self
	F	1/15	Review
	M	1/18	NO SCHOOL: MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR DAY – January 18
	Tu	1/19	Cornell Notes Due Unit Test
Unit 9: Developmental Psychology 7-9% FINALS	W	1/20	<i>Test Autopsy</i> Chapter 5 Reading: 173-177 Prenatal Development and the Newborn
FINALS	Th	1/21	Reading: 177-196 Infancy and Childhood
FINALS	F	1/22	End of 1st Semester Reading: 159-166 Gender Development
	M	1/25	SEMESTER BREAK (1ST SNOW DAY, IF NECESSARY): January 25
	Tu	1/26	Reading: 149-153 Parents and Peers Quick Vocabulary Check
	W	1/27	Reading: 196-206 Adolescence
	Th	1/28	Reading: 206-223 Adulthood
	F	1/29	Reading: 223-225 Reflections on Two Major Developmental Issues Review
	M	2/1	Cornell Notes Due Unit Test
Unit 14: Social Psychology 8-10%	Tu	2/2	<i>Test Autopsy</i> Chapter 16 Introduce Unit Project: Breaking Social Norms Reading: 673-680 Social Thinking



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	W	2/3	Social Thinking
	Th	2/4	Reading: 680-686 Conformity and Obedience
	F	2/5	Reading: 687-691 Group Influence, Cultural Influence, and the Power of Individuals
	M	2/8	Reading: 691-697 Prejudice
	Tu	2/9	Prejudice
	W	2/10	Reading: 698-705 Aggression Quick Vocabulary Check
	Th	2/11	Aggression
	F	2/12	Reading: 705-712 Attraction
	M	2/15	NO SCHOOL: PRESIDENTS' DAY- February 15
	Tu	2/16	FRQ IN CLASS- you may use your notes
	W	2/17	EARLY RELEASE Reading: 712- 714 Altruism
	Th	2/18	Altruism
	F	2/19	Reading: 714-719 Conflict and Peacemaking
	M	2/22	Unit Project DUE : Breaking Social Norms Review
	Tu	2/23	Cornell Notes Due Unit Test
Unit 8: Motivation and Emotion 6-8%	W	2/24	<i>Test Autopsy</i> Chapters 11 & 12 Introduce Unit Project: What Motivates You? Reading: 444-447 Motivational Concepts
	Th	2/25	Reading: 447-464 Hunger, Obesity and Weight Control
	F	2/26	Hunger, Obesity and Weight Control
	M	2/29	Hunger, Obesity and Weight Control
	Tu	3/1	Reading: 465-471 Sexual Motivation Quick Vocabulary Check
	W	3/2	Reading: 471-478 Sexual Orientation
	Th	3/3	Reading: 478-481 The Need to Belong
	F	3/4	TRIMESTER BREAK (2 ND SNOW DAY, IF NECESSARY): March 4
	M	3/7	Reading: 498-507 Theories of Emotion/ Embodied Emotion
	Tu	3/8	Reading: 507-514 Expressed Emotion
	W	3/9	EARLY RELEASE Expressed Emotion
	Th	3/10	Reading: 514-526 Experienced Emotion
	F	3/11	Experienced Emotion Quick Vocabulary Check
	M	3/14	Reading: 527-549 Stress and Health
	Tu	3/15	Stress and Health
	W	3/16	Unit Project DUE : What Motivates You? Review
	Th	3/17	Cornell Notes DUE



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			Unit Test
Unit 12: Abnormal Psychology 7-9%	F	3/18	<i>Test Autopsy</i> Chapter 14 Introduce Unit Project: Illness, Diagnosis, and Treatment: Case Studies Reading: 594-600 Perspectives on Psychological Disorders
	M	3/21	Reading: 601-608 Anxiety Disorders
	Tu	3/22	Anxiety Disorders
	W	3/23	Reading: 608-611 Somatoform and Dissociative Disorders
	Th	3/24	Somatoform and Dissociative Disorders Quick Vocabulary Check
	F	3/25	Reading: 611-621 Mood Disorders and Suicide
			SPRING BREAK: MARCH 28 – APRIL 1 Get caught up on all reading and vocabulary!
	M	4/4	Mood Disorders and Suicide
	Tu	4/5	Reading: 621-630 Schizophrenia and Personality Disorders
	W	4/6	Schizophrenia and Personality Disorders
Unit 13: Treatment of Psychological Disorders 5-7%	Th	4/7	Chapter 15 Reading: 631-633 Rates of Psychological Therapies
	F	4/8	Reading: 638-650 The Psychological Therapies
	M	4/11	Reading: 650-660 Evaluating Psychotherapies
	Tu	4/12	Evaluating Psychotherapies Quick Vocabulary Check
	W	4/13	Reading: 660-668 The Biomedical Therapies
	Th	4/14	The Biomedical Therapies
	F	4/15	End of 3 rd Quarter Reading: 668-669 Preventing Psychological Disorders
	M	4/18	Unit Project DUE : Illness, Diagnosis, and Treatment: Case Studies Review
	Tu	4/19	Cornell Notes Due Units Test
Review of All Units	W	4/20	Test Autopsy Start Review Sessions in Class Unit 1: History and Major Schools of Thought
	Th	4/21	Unit 2: Research Methods
	F	4/22	Unit 3: Biological Bases of Behavior and Unit 4: Sensation and Perception
	M	4/25	Unit 5: States of Consciousness and Unit 6: Learning
	Tu	4/26	Unit 7: Cognition and Unit 8: Motivation and Emotion and Unit 9: Developmental Psychology
	W	4/27	Unit 10: Personality and Unit 11: Testing and Individual Differences
	Th	4/28	Unit 12: Abnormal Psychology and Unit 13: Treatment of Psychological Disorders
	F	4/29	Unit 14: Social Psychology
AP EXAM!!! [TENTATIVE]	M	5/2	AP PSYCHOLOGY EXAM: 12:00pm

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			Abnormal Psychology in the Media Project Tuesday, May 3 – Tuesday, May 24
			Mentally Fractured Fairy Tales Project Wednesday, May 25- Tuesday, June 7
Tentative??	F	6/7	Final Exam Presentation
Tentative??	SAT	6/4	GRADUATION: Edgar Brown Stadium