

AP Psychology Syllabus

2021-2022

Mrs. Holly Hollon

Contact information: ACHS Phone- 502-839-5118

email: holly.hollon@anderson.kyschools.us

Please contact me at any time with any questions or concerns.

Dear Parents/Guardians and Students,

Welcome to Advanced Placement (AP) Psychology. This course will introduce students to the systematic and scientific study of the behavior and mental processes of human beings and other animals. This course includes a consideration of the psychological facts, principles, and phenomena associated with each of the major subfields within psychology, with particular attention to the ethics and research methods used in psychological science and practice. This course is a yearlong course that meets for approximately 5 hours per week. This course is designed similarly to an introductory level college/university course in Psychology, and as such, students are expected to study, work, and conduct themselves as if they were enrolled in a university course. Therefore, students are expected to study as if they were enrolled in a college course. It is important for students to complete all critical reading assignments, take notes, and assignments. In order to be successful in this course, students must take the course seriously and be willing to commit to spending a good amount of time outside of class in order to complete the mentioned tasks required.

Course Textbook

Myers, D. (2013). Myers' Psychology (10th Edition) Worth Publishing, New York (Can leave this at home.)

Myers, D. Psychology for AP 3rd Edition (will be printed out and given to students and uploaded to Google Classroom)

Required Materials

Students will be issued a copy of the course textbook. Students will be assigned reading and work from the book.

Students will be expected to bring the following to class every day:

- Something to write with
- A three ring binder for this class only
- Paper
- A charged Chromebook!!!!
- Join Remind 101- class code- @eb8agec

Grading Policy

- Classwork/Homework- 25%
- Class Participation- 25%
- Tests/Assessments- 50%

Final Exam

If a student chooses to take the AP Exam, he/she will not need to take the final exam. He/she will be exempt. Students who DO NOT take the AP Exam will be required to take a comprehensive final exam.

AP Grading Scale

- A= 100-85
- B= 84-75
- C= 74-65
- F= 64-0

Homework/Classwork

All homework and classwork will be due on the following Monday from when it is assigned. So for instance, if an assignment is assigned on Tuesday, it is due on Monday. If assignments are not turned in by 8:00am on Monday, they WILL NOT be graded for credit. This policy will be enforced!

Projects

Projects will be assigned at various points during the term. These projects may be in-class, homework based, or a combination of the two. Some projects will be group-based; some individual. All projects will be presented to class on the day they are due. Late projects will not be accepted, and will result in a significant lowering of a student's grade.

Other Policies

- Absent students will be expected to make their own efforts to make up work either before or immediately upon return from absence-promptly.
- Classwork missed during an excused absence MUST be made up. Students will not receive credit or make-up opportunities for unexcused absences.

Tests and Quizzes

Comprehensive tests will be given at the end of each instructional unit. Students are responsible for studying for these exams in addition to completing their required coursework. All unit exams will consist of two sections- 30-50 multiple choice questions and one or more free-response questions.

Makeup Tests

All make-up tests must be scheduled with Mrs. Hollon. Tests will need to be completed after school within three days of the absence. All make up tests MUST be made up after school, no exceptions!

Academic Honesty

Cheating is a serious offense. It undermines the integrity of all involved in cheating. If a student chooses to cheat on an exam, quiz, or plagiarizes an assignment, that student will earn a grade of "0" on that test or assignment. In addition, a referral to the office will be written and parents will be notified. Remember if you cheat in college, you will get kicked out!!!!

Attendance and Tardies

Attendance is very important to each student's opportunity for success in this course. Most of the students who fail to pass this or any course do so because of excessive absences, failure to complete and turn in assigned work, or a combination of those factors. Therefore, it is VERY important to arrive on time to class every day, and complete all assignments promptly. Tardiness will not be tolerated. After 2 unexcused tardies, you will be referred to the office.

Classroom Expectations

Students are expected to:

- Pay attention
- Use common courtesy at all times (treating others with respect, not interrupting other students, etc.)
- Use appropriate language- no cursing
- Maintain a positive attitude and a solid work ethic
- No phones on your desk while Mrs. Hollon is teaching
- No headphones or airpods in while Mrs. Hollon is teaching
- Follow all school rules

Course Outline

The AP Psychology course consists of 9 units of study. They are as follows:

Units	Exam	Weighting
Unit 1	Scientific Foundations of Psychology: Introduction, Research Methods, Experimental Method, Analysis of Research, Ethics	10-14%
Unit 2	Biological Bases of Behavior: Interaction of Heredity and Environment, Endocrine System, Nervous System and Neuron, Neural Firing, The Brain, Brain Structure and Function, Adaptable Brain, and Sleep and Dreaming	8-10%
Unit 3	Sensation and Perception: Principles of Sensation, Principles of Perception, Visual Anatomy, Visual Perception, Auditory Sensation and Perception, Chemical Senses, and Body Senses	6-8%
Unit 4	Learning: Introduction to Learning, Classical Conditioning, Operant Conditioning, and Social and Cognitive Factors in Learning	7-9%
Unit 5	Cognitive Psychology: Introduction to Memory, Encoding, Storing, Retrieving, Forgetting and Memory Distortion, Biological Bases of Memory, Introduction to Thinking and Problem Solving, Biases and Errors in Thinking, Introduction to Intelligence, Psychometric Principles and Intelligence Testing, and Components of Language and Language Acquisition	13-17%
Unit 6	Developmental Psychology: Lifespan, Physical, Social, Cognitive Development in Childhood; Adolescent Development, Adulthood and Aging, Moral Development, and Gender and Sexual Orientation	7-9%

Unit 7	Motivation, Emotion, and Personality: Theories of Motivation, Specific Topics in Motivation; Theories of Emotion, Stress and Coping; Introduction to Personality, Psychoanalytic Theories of Personality, Behaviorism and Social Cognitive Theories of Personality, Humanistic Theories of Personality, Trait Theories of Personality, and Measuring Personality	11-15%
Unit 8	Clinical Psychology: Introduction to Psychological Disorders; Psychological Perspectives and Etiology of Disorders; Neurodevelopmental and Schizophrenia Spectrum Disorders; Bipolar, Depressive, Anxiety, and Obsessive-Compulsive and Related Disorders; Trauma and Stressor Related, Dissociative, and Somatic Symptoms and Related Disorders; Feeding and Eating, Substance, and Addictive, and Personality Disorders; Introduction to Treatment of Psychological Disorders; Psychological Perspectives and Treatment of Disorders; Treatment of Disorders from the Biological Perspective; Evaluating Strengths, Weaknesses, and Empirical Support for Treatments of Disorders	12-16%
Unit 9	Social Psychology: Attribution Theory and Person Perception; Attitude Formation and Attitude Change; Conformity, Compliance, and Obedience; Group Influences on Behavior and Mental Processes; Bias, Prejudice, and Discrimination; Altruism and Aggression; Interpersonal Attraction	8-10%
After the Exam	Criminal Psychology- if time permits	

Each area of study will be part of a unit of study for this class. Some areas of study will be combined into a single unit; others will stand on their own.

Course Outline

Please keep in mind that there may be changes to the schedule below. You never know what will happen!

Unit	Title	Time Frame
1	History, Research, Methods, and Approaches to Psychology	Aug. 11-31
2	Biological Bases of Behavior	Sept. 1-15
3	Sensation & Perception	Sept. 20-Oct. 6
4	Learning	Oct. 18-Nov. 3
5	Cognitive Psychology	Nov. 8-23
6	Developmental Psychology	Nov. 29-Dec. 17
7	Motivation, Emotion and Personality	Jan. 3-26
8	Clinical Psychology	Jan. 31-Feb. 28
9	Social Psychology	March 1-31
	AP Exam	May 3rd

AP Psychology- Mrs. Hollon

I have read the AP Psychology syllabus and understand the requirements, expectations, and policies for the course. I understand by signing below, I will follow these policies and will meet the expectations as outlined by Mrs. Hollon.

Student Signature: _____ Date Signed: _____

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____ Date Signed: _____

Please return within the first week of school.