

SOCIAL STUDIES DEPARTMENT

AP PSYCHOLOGY

1 Credit

Teacher

Mrs. J. Gorman

Room Number

253

Telephone Number

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E-Mail Address

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Contact Times

Before or after school or prep. time

Extra Help

Before or after school, prep. time, or school-wide tutoring service
Mandatory intervention if grade falls below 70%

Prerequisites

Junior/Senior Standing

Course Standards

Understands history by examining change and continuity over time in order to develop historical perspectives, explain historical relationships, and analyze issues that affect the present and the future.

Understands the concepts of behavioral sciences through psychology by studying factors that influence individual identity and learning.

Most essential benchmarks may be viewed at: www.kUSD.edu.

Lifelong Learning Standards

Knowledgeable person

Complex thinker

Effective communicator

Self-directed learner

Quality producer

Contributing citizen

Lifelong learning benchmarks may be viewed at: www.kUSD.edu.

Course Description

This is a college level course that introduces students to the systematic and scientific study of behavior and the processes of humans and animals. Students will be required to read and study much of the material on their own by forming study groups. Class will emphasize key points and answer questions as students prepare for the AP Psychology exam.

Course Outline

The following content areas will be covered:

History and Approaches

Research Methods

Biological Bases of Behavior

Sensation and Perception

States of Consciousness

Learning

Cognition

Motivation and Emotion

Development

Personality

Testing and Individual Differences

Abnormal Psychology

Treatment of Psychological Disorders

Social Psychology

Relevance

Students will gain a greater understanding of psychological principles and the ability to apply them in the real world. This course also promotes critical thinking which encourages careful analysis of media claims, research reports, and other claims that are met in every day life.

Board-Approved Instructional Materials

Myers, David, Psychology, Worth Publishers, 2004, Seventh Edition.

Myers, David, Psychology, Worth Publishers, 2001, Sixth Edition.

Supplementary Materials

In students quest for knowledge and application of principles they should use a variety of primary source materials, newspapers, journals, audiovisual materials, and software.

Methods of Assessment

A variety of assessment strategies will be used and need not be limited to:

Psychological booklets	Research Projects
Service Learning Projects	Book/Movie Reports
Personal Journal Project	Vocabulary Quizzes
Foundation Questions	Enrichment Activities
Journal Summaries	Comprehensive Final
Comprehensive Written Tests	

Percentage Distribution

<u>55%</u>	<u>25%</u>
Written Tests	Enrichment Activities
Research Projects	Foundation Questions
Service Learning Projects	Psychological Journal Summaries
Book/Movie Reports	Vocabulary Cards
Personal Journal Research Projects	Vocabulary Quizzes

Board-Approved Grading Scale

Excerpts taken from School Board Rule 6452:

GRADING SCALE

A+=98-100 percent
A =93-97 percent
A-=90-92 percent
B+=86-89 percent
B =83-85 percent
B-=80-82 percent
C+=76-79 percent
C =73-75 percent
C-=70-72 percent
D+=66-69 percent
D =63-65 percent
D-=60-62 percent
F =0-59 percent

MAKE-UP WORK

Students submitting work up to ten school days late without prior approval may receive up to two lower on the work than they would have received if the work had been submitted on time (i.e., B+ a D+). Student work submitted after ten school days without prior approval shall not be accepted and shall be recorded with a score of zero.

Upon returning to school after an absence, a student has the responsibility within the number of days the length of the absence or suspension to meet with the teacher to develop a plan for making up missed work, quizzes, and examinations. A truant student has the responsibility on the first day he or she returns to the course/class to meet with the teacher to develop a plan for making up missed work, quizzes, and examinations. Lower grades may not be given for late work due to excused absences, suspension, or suspension unless the work is submitted later than agreed upon deadlines.

See Rule 6452 in its entirety at: www.kusd.edu.

Book/Movie Report

-Title

-Did you **like/dislike** the book/movie? Explain.

-Plot

-**4 psychological factors** that were portrayed in the book/movie

For each factor you will need to:

- **underline** the name of the factor
- **define** the factor
- include **3 specific, detailed examples** of the factor as portrayed in the book/movie and **explain** why you feel each is an example of the factor
- explain whether this an **accurate** portrayal of the factor

-Was this book/movie **helpful/harmful** to the understanding of psychology?

Psychology Booklet

You will be making a psychology booklet. You will use information from at least **3** of the following content areas:

- | | |
|--------------------------|---------------------------------|
| -Biological Bases | -Sensation and Perception |
| -Learning | -States of Consciousness |
| -Cognition | -Motivation and Emotion |
| -Development | -Personality |
| -Psychological Disorders | -Testing/Individual Differences |
| -Therapy | -Social Psychology |

You will need to use at least **6 terms** from each content area. Each term will have a separate page where it will be defined, creatively portrayed (a chart isn't creative enough), you will give an explanation of your creative portrayal and the terms importance in psychology. The booklet will have a title page, table of contents, and preface. In the preface you will explain why you did the project and what you learned by doing it.

You may also want to explain anything that I should consider in grading your booklet.

Propose An Idea Of Your Own/Build and Demonstrate

If you like to build and create things and/or demonstrate psychological concepts, propose your own idea and get it approved.

Service Learning Presentation

Service Learning allows students to apply knowledge learned in class to a volunteer service that they choose to provide. This service needs to meet a genuine need in the community at large. This **presentation** will include a poster/video/etc. explaining your service and the site. It requires a typewritten paper, minimum of 5 pages, using proper essay format. It will completely and insightfully answer the following:

- Why did you choose this community site?
- What were you expectations before going to the site?
- What services this site does provide for the community.
- What did you do while you were at the site?
- How valuable is this service to the community? Explain.
- How you feel about your experience now that you are done.
- What 3 psychological factors that you experienced at this site. Each factor should be underlined, defined, and have at least 2 specific, detailed examples with an explanation of why you feel each is an example of the factor.

Personal Journal

This journal must be kept for at least a month and requires instructor approval. A reaction paper with a minimum of four pages must be handed in with the journal. The reaction paper should include the use of at least 6 psychological terms: definition, one example and an explanation of why this is an example. The purpose of this assignment is to react to concepts covered in class as you apply them to your daily life.

Research Paper

Find a topic of interest and research the topic in depth. Your topic must have instructor approval. You will be writing this in terms of how this topic would or does impact your life. This paper will follow standard research format including a bibliography and cited sources. Rough draft and final copy are required. This research paper requirement is a 5 page minimum.