

AP Psychology Course Syllabus

Course Description:

This course is designed to introduce students to the systematic and scientific study of the behavior and mental processes of human beings and other animals. Students are exposed to the psychological facts, principles, and phenomena associated with each of the major subfields within psychology.

AP Courses:

AP Psychology is a year-long course designed to meet or exceed the experience of an introductory one-semester college psychology course. Consequently, you should expect the collegiate rule of thumb: *two hours of study time for every one hour of class time*. We are in class approximately 4 hours a week, which equates to 8 hours of “study time” specifically for AP Psychology.

Text and Readings:

*Myers' Psychology for AP**, 2nd Edition by David Myers

AMSCO Psychology: Preparing for the Advanced Placement Examination by Charles Schallhorn

You Are Not So Smart: Why You Have Too Many Friends on Facebook, Why Your Memory Is Mostly Fiction, and 46 Other Ways You're Deluding Yourself by David McRaney

Helpful Websites:

<http://bcs.worthpublishers.com/myersap2e/>

Launchpad.ocps.net

[AP Classroom - College Board](#)

<https://apcentral.collegeboard.org/courses/ap-psychology/course>

****www.alleydog.com (especially useful, in some cases, for vocabulary)

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Student Expectations:

1. **Be on time to class.** Students are asked to be in their seats or visually “on screen” and ready for class when the bell rings.
2. **Be prepared and on task in class.** Students are to have all necessary materials (laptop, pencil, blue or black pen, paper, and AP Psychology spiral notebook). Students are to be prepared to participate in all class activities and/or discussions.
 - a. You will be expected to have your fully charged laptop daily. Electronic assignments will be submitted via Canvas by the designated deadline. All electronic difficulties or concerns should be submitted to the following web address: studenttechrequest.ocps.net. If you have forgotten your password, go to studentid.ocps.net to change it. **Technological difficulties do not excuse late work.**
 - b. Headphones are to remain off and in your backpack for the duration of the period unless otherwise noted.
3. **Respect the rights and responsibilities of others.** Students have a right and responsibility to learn. Mrs. Schellbach has a responsibility to teach. When students cause disruptions in class, they deprive others of their basic right to learn.
4. **Strive for excellence.** Quality performance is always required. Always make an effort to do the best work you are capable of doing.

Evaluation:

Students will be informed of their progress on a regular basis. Evaluation is based on both effort and quality.

Exams/Projects/FRQs:	60%	
Quizzes/Mind Maps:	25%	
Homework/Assignments:	15%	Use this link to help calculate your quarter grade.

Students are always expected to follow the rules and regulations set forth by Olympia High School in the Student Handbook.

Cheating of any kind is absolutely not tolerated. Cheating is defined (but not necessarily limited to): talking at any time during a test or quiz, even if you have already submitted your own; leaving answers uncovered during an exam or quiz; wandering eyes during an exam or quiz; copying the work of another student, collaborating when not permitted, and plagiarism. Violations of the honor code will result in the consequences listed in the Student Handbook, in addition to an automatic zero on the assignment, quiz, exam, or project. There are no warnings or make up opportunities given when a student has cheated.

Attendance/Make-Up Work:

1. Generally speaking, no late work is accepted. However, if a student has an excused absence, the student will be given the same number of class days missed plus one to make up assignments. The word "assignments" includes tests, quizzes, FRQs, homework, etc. Work missed due to an unexcused absence, e.g. "skipping," may not be made up. To ensure this doesn't happen, you must sign in/out via the attendance office.
2. You will be responsible for checking Skyward and/or Canvas to see what you have missed and for completing assignments. Copies of all assignments can be found on Canvas.
3. Exams can be made up before school or during class by appointment. Students have until the following unit exam to make up exams or quizzes from the previous unit. Once this deadline has passed, students will receive a zero on said exams or quizzes. *As an incentive to have good attendance on exam days, I will offer a bonus of two exam points to all students if the entire class is present on an exam day.*

Materials:

- Charged laptop (or bring charger)
- Blue/black pen and pencil
- Spiral notebook for AP Psych notes
- 500+ index cards (for vocabulary)
- Rubber band or paper clip for vocab
- Other materials as needed for projects
- Headphones that plug into laptop

AP Exam:

The AP exam will take place on **Tuesday, May 11, 2021** at noon. You are taking this class in hopes of passing the exam and obtaining college credit. Colleges vary in what score is required to receive college credit.

The test is two hours long. Seventy minutes are devoted to 100 multiple-choice questions and 50 minutes are devoted to two free-response questions. **Please note that I do not submit grade changes due to AP exam scores.**

ITINERARY:

Fall Semester

History and Research
Memory, Thinking, and Language
Intelligence
Biopsychology & Consciousness
Sensation and Perception
Learning
Motivation, Emotion, Stress & Health
Developmental Psychology

Spring Semester

Personality
Clinical Psychology
Social Psychology
Course Review

TIPS FOR STUDENTS TAKING AN ADVANCED PLACEMENT CLASS FOR THE FIRST TIME

1. Take complete class notes and date them. Handwrite them!!! Put them in your own words. Don't write something you don't understand without asking about it. Leave some blank space on each page to make additions and clarifications. It is very important to review your class notes each day while they are fresh in your mind. Expand them, clarify them, and add examples so that they will make sense when going back to study them later.

2. Learn to read more effectively. You can read more effectively by doing the following:
 1. Read actively; don't just look at the words. If you spend a half-hour "reading" (but are unable to recall anything when you are done) you have wasted your time. You should be taking notes in the margins (checking your understanding, summarizing, asking questions, etc.)
 2. Do not ignore pictures, diagrams, tables, and sidebars in your textbook. These features serve to make the text more interesting and may include important information.
 3. Complete your Essential Questions as you read. The purpose of EQs is to guide your reading and identify important concepts to master. They are not intended as "busy work" or as a "scavenger hunt" to replace reading the unit.

3. 75% of the battle is vocabulary! You are required to make a set of vocabulary flash cards on 3x5 index cards for each unit. As you make the cards, you are already beginning to learn the vocabulary. The flashcards provide an excellent means of review and should be kept for the duration of the year. Do not forget to use [Alleydog](#) as a resource for alternative definitions! Also, don't procrastinate them. They become worthless if you do!

National Examination Date is May 11, 2020

Strive for a 5!!!!!!