



Southern Lehigh School District

High School Syllabus

AP PSYCHOLOGY 2014-2015

Course Description:

The AP PSYCHOLOGY 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. They also learn about the ethics and methods psychologists use in their science and practice. This course is open only to juniors and seniors. This is a weighted class.

Course Content:

- . These are the major areas covered by the AP Psychology Exam, as well as the approximate percentages of the multiple-choice section that are devoted to each area.
- . I. History & Approaches 2-4%
- . II. Research Methods 8-10%
- . III. Biological Bases of Behavior 8-10%
- . IV. Sensation and Perception 6-8%
- . V. Developmental Psychology 7-9%
- . VI. States of Consciousness 2-4%
- . VII. Learning 7-9%
- . VIII. Memory, Cognition, & Language 8-10%
- . IX. Motivation and Emotion 6-8%
- . X. Personality 5-7%
- . XI. Intelligence, Testing, & Individual Differences 5-7%
- . XII. Abnormal Psychology 7-9%
- . XIII. Treatment of Psychological Disorders 5-7%
- . XIV. Social Psychology 8-10%

Required Textbooks and/or Other Reading/Research Materials

- . Textbook: *AP Psychology* 9th Edition 2010, Worth Publishers New York, NY by David G. Myers with accompanying instructor's resources.

- . Study Guide to accompany David G. Myers AP Psychology 9th Edition, Worth Publishers New York, NY, by Richard O. Straub
- . Various articles, diagrams, & pictures from newspapers, magazines, and websites.

Course Requirements:

- o You will be given a list of terms to identify for each chapter. Index cards will be needed to create flash cards. These identifications will be collected and graded as homework for every chapter we cover.
- o You should have a notebook and a 3 ring binder for notes and handouts. These should be brought to class everyday.
- o You will need a separate notebook for journal assignments.
- o You are expected to take notes on class discussion and material presented in class. Students are ultimately responsible for their own learning and are expected to read assignments on time and come to class prepared to take part in discussions.
- o You will be expected to contribute to class discussions and will be given a grade for class participation.
- o All assignments should be done independently unless otherwise directed. The sharing of work will not be tolerated unless otherwise directed.
- o There is a strong writing component on the AP Exam that requires frequent exercise and rehearsal that demonstrates analysis and application of scientific concepts. You will be expected to learn how to write effective analytical and document-based essays.

Grade Components/Assessments:

Grades will be based on scores from tests, essays, quizzes, homework, journal assignments, alternative assessments, and class participation. You will also have a final exam.

Each marking period is worth 20% of a student's overall grade. The final is worth 20% of a student's overall average:

Quarter 1	20%
Quarter 2	20%
Quarter 3	20%
Quarter 4	20%
Final	20%

Required Summer Reading/Assignments:

There are summer requirements & vary year to year.