

Psychology



**Mr. Vaughn
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Course Description: The object of this one-semester course is to examine the major terms, concepts, and theories which are related to psychology. Topics of study include functions of the brain, development stages, the relationship between mind and body, conditions of learning, stress and emotional disorders, states of memory, understanding of intelligence, and social psychology. Evaluation includes tests, quizzes, short papers, diagrams, course projects, research papers, group work and class participation.

Course Objectives: Psychology 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. Students will also learn about the methods psychologists use in their science and practice.

This course is designed to provide the student with a learning experience equivalent to that obtained in most college introductory courses.

Students will be able to describe, analyze, explain, and demonstrate an understanding of the following:

- The History and approaches of psychology
- The scientific nature of psychology/research methods
- The Biological bases of behavior – relationships between biology and behavior
- The lifespan development – the physical, social, cognitive changes from the prenatal period throughout the lifespan
- Sensation and Perception – concepts of threshold and adaptation
- States of Consciousness
- Learning, Memory, Thinking and Language, Intelligence, Motivation and Emotion

- Social Psychology

Course Texts: Minter, K. and Elmhurst, W. (2012). *Psychology*. Boston, MA: Prentice Hall.

Course Materials:

- Textbook
- Binder or Folder
- Notebook paper or Notebook
- Pens or Pencils

Tentative Course Schedule

1st Quarter

- Science of Psychology
- The Biological Perspective
- Sensation and Perception
- States of Consciousness
- Human Development
- Learning and Acquisition

2nd Quarter

- Memory
- Cognition and Intelligence
- Motivation and Emotion
- Theories of Personalities
- Psychological Disorders
- Psychological Therapies

Student Expectations

Assignments: Students will receive assignments on a daily basis in class. Most of the time, students will have more than enough time to complete those assignments in class. Assignments that are not completed in class are to be finished as homework and turned in the next day. Reports and projects will have assigned due dates. Study guides will be provided before tests with time for students to prepare in and out of school.

Late assignments: All assignments must be turned in on the due date to receive full credit. Late assignments will receive 75% credit for the first week past the due date. Late work will only receive 50% credit for the second week after the due date. Once two weeks have passed from the original due date, no credit will be given for missing or late work. This policy also applies to projects. Assignments from days students have excused absences still receive full credit, but students need to make sure they get their make-up work.

Attendance: Students should attend class regularly. If a student misses class, they are responsible for any work missed. Students are given two days to make up work for the first excused absence and one day for each day missed after that. Students will be given zeros for missing assignments they fail to complete. If a student is absent on a test day, they must make it up when they return from their absence. Students on suspension are responsible to collect the work they missed. However, all assignments must be completed and turned in upon return from out-of-school and in-school suspensions. It is the student's responsibility to obtain and complete all school work by the first day they return from their suspension. Tests and quizzes