

Course Overview

Welcome to AP Psychology! AP Psychology introduces students to the study of human behavior and mental processes. You will explore psychology theories, key concepts, and phenomena associated with such topics as the biological bases of behavior, senses and perception, learning and cognition, motivation, developmental psychology, testing and individual differences, treatment of abnormal behavior, and social psychology. Throughout the course, you will use research methods, including ethics, the scientific method, analyzing biases, evaluating claims and evidence, and communicating ideas.

This course is a full-year course, culminating in the AP Psychology exam at the end of the year. This course is **writing and content heavy**, will **move at a fast pace**, and is taught at the college level. It is challenging, rewarding, and ultimately, a highly interesting look into one of the most complex sciences available to students at the high school level.

Course Expectations

You are expected to abide by all rules and standards of a student in an AP class, including:

- You will uphold high academic effort; if you are not making the effort to be successful at AP coursework, the student will be asked to attend during lunch or after-school tutoring.
- You will complete ALL coursework necessary for the class.
- You will strive to be on time and prepared for class every day.
- You will interact respectfully with the teacher, each other, and yourself.

The Stone Tablet Policy

Students will submit all work that is due, the DAY it is due – if you have to go out and carve it on a stone tablet, you should carve it in stone rather than be late.

Expectations for Mr. Wise:

It's a bit unfair for me to hold you to a standard if you can't hold ME to one either, isn't it? So, your expectations for me can include that I:

- Will be available during lunch and after school for help
- Will be available to contact for assistance on projects and assignments
- Will provide a learning experience, not just a lesson (so you actually don't just take notes all day)
- Will create a safe environment for students

AP Psychology Year at a Glance 2017-2018

Quarter	Week Of	Unit	Regional Days/Days Off	Assessment?	Projects	
1	8/7/17	Unit 1: History and Approaches			Scientist Portfolio	
	8/14/17	Unit 2: Statistics and Methods				
	8/21/17	Unit 2: Statistics and Methods	Friday, 8/25	Assessment		
	8/28/17	Unit 3: Biological Psychology				
	9/5/17	Unit 3: Biological Psychology	Monday, 9/4/17			
	9/11/17	Unit 3: Biological Psychology	Friday, 9/15/17	Assessment		
	9/18/17	Unit 4: Sensation and Perception				
	9/25/17	Unit 4: Sensation and Perception				
	10/2/17	Unit 5: States of Consciousness			Drug Project	
	10/9/17	Unit 5: States of Consciousness	Friday, 10/13/17	Assessment		
2	10/17/17	Unit 6: Learning	Monday, 10/16/17			
	10/23/17	Unit 6: Learning		Assessment		
	10/30/17	Unit 7: Memory				
	11/6/17	Unit 7: Memory		Assessment		
	11/13/17	AP Research Week	Friday, 11/17/17			
	Thanksgiving Break					
	11/27/17	AP Research Week				
	12/4/17	AP Research Presentations				
	12/11/17	Midterm Review	Short Day - 12/15/17			
	12/18/17	Midterms	Last Day - 12/19/17	Midterm		
Winter Break						
3	1/8/18	Unit 8: Motivation, Emotion, Stress				
	1/16/18	Unit 8: Motivation, Emotion, Stress	Monday, 1/15/18	Assessment		
	1/22/18	Unit 9: Developmental Psychology				
	1/29/18	Unit 9: Developmental Psychology				
	2/5/18	Unit 9: Developmental Psychology	Friday, 2/9/18	Assessment		
	2/12/18	Unit 10: Personality				
	2/20/18	Unit 11: Testing and Individual Differences	Monday, 2/19/18	Assessment		
	2/26/18	Unit 12: Abnormal Psychology				
	3/5/18	Unit 12: Abnormal Psychology	Friday, 3/9/18			
Spring Break						
4	3/19/18	Unit 13: Treatment of Abnormal Disorders		Assessment		
	3/26/18	Unit 14: Social Psychology	Friday, 3/30/18			
	4/2/18	Unit 14: Social Psychology		Assessment		
	4/9/18	Review Week 1			AP Psychology Benchmark	
	4/16/18	Review Week 2	Friday, 4/20/18			
	4/23/18	Review Week 3				
	4/30/18	AP PSYCHOLOGY TEST				
	5/7/18	AP Research Week				
	5/14/18	AP Research Presentations	Short Days - 5/17 - 7/18	Final Project		
5/21/18	Remaining Presentations		Final Project			

Please note that ALL of this is subject to change depending on how quickly (or how slowly) we move through a particular topic. This is my third year teaching and your first year taking AP Psychology – so together we'll both be forming this course for future KAC students like yourselves!

What You Need:

In order to be successful in any college-level course, you need to bring college-level materials. You should have, at all times:

- A 2-inch binder (any color – need to bring every day)
- A packet of college-ruled lined paper
- Highlighters (at least 3 different colors!)
- Tab dividers (you'll need about 15)
- Pens or pencils, as you prefer
- The iOS/Android apps Remind (to keep up with class announcements and reminders) and Cram
- If desired, the Google Classroom app

Your two primary texts will be as follows (keep in mind many secondary texts and resources will also be provided for you):

- Myers' Psychology for AP (2nd edition)
- Forty Studies that Changed Psychology

Grade Breakdown:

Summative Assessments:

70%

Summative assessments include unit exams, major projects, and Free Response Questions (FRQs). You may make these up as you prefer; please allow two to five days for grade return.

Formative Assessments:

20%

Formative assessments include quizzes, classwork packets, mini-FRQs, discussions, and pretty much anything else. You will likely have these AT LEAST 3 of your four classes a week. Allow 1-2 days for grade return.

Homework:

10%

Homework is a CRITICAL part of taking an AP class. As this is a senior-level class, it is a very close approximation of a college psychology course – as such, readings (of your textbook and articles) will be assigned 2-3 times per week, including over weekends. Managing your time is extremely important to your success in college; if you're having difficulty with this homework load, please feel free to see me during tutoring.

Late Papers and Grade Make-up:

This class is aligned to KAC's Gradual Release policy for seniors – NO late work will be accepted after TWO class days, and each day it is late, your grade drops by 25 points. Absent, pulled out of class, or sick? In the back are folders marked with each day; copies of each assignment and notes will be placed in those folders. Be sure you're grabbing ONLY papers marked for AP Psychology and NOT US History!

Students are more than welcome to redo any summative assessments if performed below expectations.

Further Resources:

Website and Resources: <http://appsyatcac.blogspot.com>

Our website is listed above; if you're having difficulty, forgot an assignment, need the Powerpoints, or want new copies of your assigned readings or articles, links will be posted for download on the website. **Look here FIRST before contacting me – this is collegiate behavior and the expectation for AP Psychology students to use all options before contacting a professor. If you can't find what you need, or you're panicking – contact me!**