



AP PSYCHOLOGY
AUBURN MOUNTAINVIEW HIGH SCHOOL
28900 124TH AVE SE, AUBURN, WASHINGTON 98092



Engage – Educate – Empower

Grades: 11, 12

Prerequisite: Psychology

Teacher Email: sgiola@auburn.wednet.edu

Year Long Course

Credit: Social Studies (1)

Course Description:

This is a fast paced course designed to introduce students to the scientific study of animal behavior and mental processes with a focus on human beings. This course is also designed to prepare students for the Advanced Placement Examination held during the beginning of May. The course will draw from a variety of sources and activities including a college level textbook, outside readings, case studies, class discussion, experiments, demonstrations, and labs in order to meet the goal of instructing scientific approaches. Activities are offered for each student to explore and deepen his/her own self-awareness. Students are exposed to the psychological facts, principles, and phenomena associated with each of the major subfields within psychology and student engagement in this course should leave him/her 1) well prepared for success on the AP Psychology Examination, 2) with some original conclusions on human behavior and 3) with a deeper sense of self.

Course Website:

www.giola.weebly.com

We will use this source extensively throughout the term. I will regularly post PowerPoints, video links, web quest links, and discussion boards (which you may be required to respond to at times). It is to your advantage that you become comfortable using the course website.

Course Textbook:

Myers, David G. *Psychology*, 8th ed. New York: Worth Publishers, 2007.

I would strongly suggest you purchase an AP Psychology review book from a retailer such as Amazon, Barnes and Nobel, or a former AP Psychology student. There are many brands to choose from and there is detailed information about choosing a review book on the course website.

Online Supplement to Course Textbook:

Myers, David G. *Psychology*, 8th ed.

<http://bcs.worthpublishers.com/myers8e/default.asp?s=&n=&v=&o=&rau=0>.

It is expected that you register an account with this site.

Components of the course include (detailed outline attached):

- | | |
|--|-------------------------------------|
| 1. History and Approaches | 7. Memory and Cognition |
| 2. Research Methods | 8. Learning |
| 3. Intelligence Testing and Individual Differences | 9. Development |
| 4. Biology and Behavior | 10. Personality |
| 5. Sensation and Perception | 11. Motivation and Emotion |
| 6. States of Consciousness | 12. Social Psychology |
| | 13. Abnormal Psychology and Therapy |

Course Expectations:

I assume that you are among the most mature and well prepared students at our school. This course is designed to replicate a college level introductory course in Psychology. Students are expected to independently utilize the course website, complete readings and notes in advance of class, and set deadlines outlined in the unit guide and course calendar. As this is an AP course I will be available to support, but not hand hold, so I will need to hear from you if you have questions or concerns.

Class Requirements:

- Be present in class and on time.
 - Simply put, the deadline of the AP examination requires that we do not slow down our study and that we cover significant material each day. Missing one day in an AP class is equivalent to missing a week of work in a regular level class.
 - We will follow the attendance policy as outlined in your student handbook.
 - Students may not make up work missed from unexcused absences.
- Be prepared to learn.
 - Students must bring a pencil/pen, 3-ring binder, notebook paper, and any due assignments to class every day.
 - You do not have to bring your textbook to class.
 - Cell phones and other technological devices must remain off and out of sight at all times in class, unless specific permission is granted by the teacher.
 - If you cannot resist your technology, you may leave it on my desk for the duration of class or charge it at the front of the room.
 - Violation will result in confiscation of the device and referral to the main office.
- Complete all assignments by the deadline set by the teacher .
 - In AP the standard is to complete work on time—remember this is a very fast paced course, don't let yourself fall behind and risk not being able to catch up. Late work only hurts yourself.
 - You will have all assigned reading and project deadlines well in advanced. I understand AP students are often involved in many activities, demanding courses, and work outside of school. It is your responsibility to arrange your schedule so that you complete work on time.
 - Homework must be turned in at the beginning of the period.
- Save everything!!
- Produce quality work with academic integrity.
 - Do not copy and paste anything ever.
 - Plagiarized work will receive a zero for the assignment upon first infraction.
 - Subsequent infractions will involve a formal discipline write up and phone call home.
- Ask questions!!!!
- Allow others to participate in all class activities.
 - In this class we will engage in critical discussion and debate; all opinions should be presented and received respectfully.
 - Inappropriate language, gestures, and actions will not be tolerated.

Class grade will be based on the following guideline:

This is an Advanced Placement Course. While much of the material requires advanced critical thinking, equally important are personal organization skills and ability to advocate on behalf of your own learning (aka ask questions!).

Assessment: 80%

- Tests
- Vocab Quizzes
- Lab Reports
- Projects

Classwork: 20%

- Notebooks
- Discussion Posts
- Classwork
- Participation

Note: Grades are not averaged between quarters, but on a 19 day cycle which coincides with CORE/Choice

Tests: Unit tests will follow each unit on the date prescribed in the attached outline. Tests will be composed of thirty-six multiple choice questions (worth 67% of your score) and two essay questions of which you only answer one (33% of your score). This format models the national AP Psychology exam; granted on the exam you are required to answer both essays. I reserve the right to supplement unit tests with reading quizzes as deemed necessary.

Vocabulary Quizzes: Vocabulary quizzes will be assigned with each unit on the date prescribed in the attached outline. Quizzes will be worth thirty points each. Fifteen of the thirty points will be based on completion of your binder vocabulary words (see binder instructions). It is expected that you define all the vocabulary words for that unit from the textbook and write an example for each word. You will pass in your binder while taking the quiz, and I will grade your vocab words based solely on completion.

The second fifteen points you will earn through a process called Quiz-Quiz. Quiz-Quiz sounds complicated, but I promise it is actually quite simple! For the first quiz in Quiz-Quiz you will work with a team, this team will change for each vocabulary quiz. You will answer approximately thirty vocabulary questions (you will have a word bank) while working with your team. After approximately twenty minutes, I will stop you and give you the answers to the quiz. You will then have approximately ten minutes to study these thirty words with your team, ask me questions, use your textbook, etc. After the ten minutes passes, you will independently take the second quiz made up of fifteen questions. Your word bank will be made up of only the thirty words from quiz one. The best part of all? If everyone on your team scores an 80% or better on the individual quiz, the whole team gets two points extra credit!

Late work/Retake Policy:

Advanced Placement classes are designed to be the equivalent to an introductory college course, as such I attempt to mimic the same academic policies you would see in an introductory college environment. In AP Psychology no late work will be accepted except in highly extenuating circumstances.

Absences: If you are absent due to an excused absence you will have the number of days you were absent to submit your missing work: one day out sick means your assignment is due the day you return, two days sick and your assignment is due the day after you return). It is your responsibility to remember to collect work you missed and turn in work from absences.

Retakes will only be offered on unit tests. Free response questions may be retaken once and must be completed before the next unit's exam. Keep in mind this class moves very quickly, so I would not recommend planning to retake every test. Vocab quizzes may not be retaken because 50% of the grade is based on vocab definition completion.

No retakes will be offered on the multiple choice section of tests. For the multiple choice section, test corrections may be completed before the next unit's exam. For both test corrections and retakes maximum credit earned is 80%.

Retakes and test corrections may be completed before school, after school, and during lunch or CORE/Choice.

Test Corrections Format: Students must re-write test question, define each answer choice with an example, identify the correct answer, and explain why this answer is correct and the other answer choices are incorrect.

Extra Credit:

Throughout the term there will be several opportunities to earn extra credit by going above and beyond expectation and engaging more deeply with the course material. In addition to spontaneous extra credit opportunities that **may** arise, with every unit each student will have the **chance** to earn 10 bonus points (10%) on the unit exam by completing a unit bulletin board.

The bulletin board must be completed with creativity and care and must be highly relevant to the subject matter of each unit (see course website for prior year examples); otherwise, you have complete artistic freedom. One student will be selected via lottery to complete the bulletin board for each unit. Lottery entries are due by the day of the preceding unit's test, and winners will be posted during 6th period. It is the student's responsibility to find me in order to submit their name for the drawing. Bulletin boards are due four school days before the unit test. Students may complete multiple bulletin boards, but if a bulletin board is turned in late or not finished, the student earns 0 points and is ineligible to complete another board. At the end of the term, we will vote on the semester's best bulletin board and this individual will receive an extra ten bonus points.

Note: Syllabus may be revised at the discretion of the teacher

Extra Help:

Students are responsible for completing all work assigned. It is the student’s responsibility to arrange for additional time or assistance if needed. Teacher’s schedule will be posted in the classroom; students may sign up for extra help or to make up work before or after school based on teacher availability, during CORE/Choice, or period five (planning period). Remember, if you sign up to meet with the teacher the appointment **must** be confirmed face-to-face. Do not assume simply signing up constitutes confirmation and guaranteed availability. Homework may not be finished during class time (it will automatically receive a zero), and tests may not be made up/corrected/retaken during class time.

Communication:

As juniors and seniors my expectations for you are higher than for underclassmen. If you have any kind of concern or issue it is my hope that you will first come and respectfully speak with me. I find that 99.9% of the time we can reach a reasonable resolution.

Email is a great tool for quick communications and we will utilize it, in addition to a course website, as a quick and effective way to share course related updates and information. However, remember if you find yourself writing a novel, it would likely be best to come speak with me face-to-face. Also keep in mind that you should not wait until the night before an assignment is due to email me with questions, while I may be able to respond before the morning, I cannot guarantee I will access my email from 9:00 pm to 6:00 am. My email is sgiola@auburn.wednet.edu.

Never hesitate to contact me via email, school phone, or in person! ☺

Movies:

In conjunction with classroom instruction and to supplement the psychology knowledge you acquired throughout the year there are various films I would like to show during the last few weeks of the spring semester. The films selected directly relate to the course content and portray various interpretations of the material presented in the classroom. While we will not watch all the films below, the films selected for this semester may include those listed below. If you have concerns about any of the movies indicated please do not hesitate to contact me. Guardian signature at the end of this syllabus indicates that your AP Psychology student has permission to view these films in an instructional environment.

<u>Title (year)</u>	<u>Rating</u>	<u>Topic</u>
<i>A Beautiful Mind</i> (2001)	PG-13	Abnormal
<i>As Good As it Gets</i> (1997)	PG-13	Abnormal
<i>Lars and the Real Girl</i> (2007)	PG-13	Abnormal/Identify
<i>On Golden Pond</i> (1981)	PG	Family
<i>Adam</i> (2009)	PG-13	Abnormal
<i>Awakenings</i> (1990)	PG-13	Abnormal
<i>Simon Birch</i> (1998)	PG	Abnormal
<i>The Breakfast Club</i> (1985)	PG (Adapted for TV)	Attachment
<i>Rain Man</i> (1988)	PG (Adapted for TV)	Abnormal

I agree to abide by the course expectations outlined in the syllabus above as indicated by my signature below.

Student: _____
(name) (signature)

Gaurdian: _____
(name) (signature)

Note: Syllabus may be revised at the discretion of the teacher