

2010-11
Advanced Placement Psychology Syllabus

Instructor: Mr. Hugh Canterbury (B.S. Berry College; M. Ed. & Ed. S. Georgia State U)
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Prerequisite: none

Textbook: Psychology \$80.99 (ISBN:0-7167-5251-4) 7th ed , David Myers. Worth Publishers

QCC/GPS Standards: none for Advanced Placement Psychology

Course Description: AP Psychology is a one semester course at South Forsyth High School. Since there are no established QCC/GPS standard for AP Psychology, the course conforms to College Board topics for the Advanced Placement Introductory Psychology Examination. Covers methods, approaches and the history of psychology as a science, biological bases of behavior, sensation and perception, states of consciousness, learning, cognition, motivation and emotion, developmental psychology, personality, testing and individual differences, abnormal psychology, treatment of psychological disorders and social psychology.

Course Outline: with approximate time frame; check ANGEL calendar daily

Prologue: The Story of Psychology (1 day)

1. Thinking Critically With Psychological Science (1 ½ weeks)
2. Neuroscience and Behavior (2 weeks)
3. The Nature and Nurture of Behavior (3 days)
4. The Developing Person (1 ½ weeks)

DISCUSSION EXAM 1 (Prologue, ch 1-4)

5. Sensation (1 ½ weeks)
 6. Perception (1 week)
- Unit 1 Exam (chapters 1-6)
7. States of Consciousness (3 days)
 8. Learning (1 ½ weeks)
 9. Memory (1 ½ weeks)

FIRST SEMESTER FINAL EXAM (MULTIPLE CHOICE EXAM) (1-9)

10. Thinking and Language (1 week)
 11. Intelligence (1 ½ weeks)
 12. Motivation and Work (1 ½ weeks)
- Unit 2 Exam (chapters 7-12)
13. Emotion (1 week)

DISCUSSION EXAM 2 (CH 5-11)

- 14. Stress and Health (3 days)
 - 15. Personality (1 ½ weeks)
 - 16. Psychological Disorders (1 ½ weeks)
 - 17. Therapy (1 ½ weeks)
 - 18. Social Psychology (1 ½ weeks)
- UNIT 3 EXAM (CH 13-18)

FINAL EXAM

Evaluation Procedures/Grading:

Chapter/Unit Tests: 80% (Multiple Choice and Discussion Exams)
Daily: 20% (daily grades: class work and homework)

Homework:

All assignments will be posted on the ANGEL calendar; therefore if you miss class for any reason, you will be expected to keep up with your work.

Extra Help:

You are encouraged to consult with me any concerns you have that you are not realizing your potential in this class. Talking to me or using one of the following methods are tools for your use to communicate your concerns: Email: hcanterbury@forsyth.k12.ga.us or Phone: 770-781-2264 Ext: 100239.

Materials:

Bringing your notebook, or a 3 ring binder with notebook paper in it, with a pen or pencil will take care of your needs. On Unit tests and chapter test days pencil will be required. On Discussion exams, blue or black ink pens are required.

Tardy policy:

As per school policy, you have 1st(warning), 2nd= parent notified (I must document) , then on the 3rd and subsequent tardies earns you detention.

Make Up Work:

All students will be given 5 school days to make up any missed work.

THE AP PROGRAM

From its inception 31 years ago, the AP Program has broadened to include more schools, students, and examinations than ever before. The Psychology program began in 1992 and has grown about 15-20% per year since, making it one of the most successful AP programs ever.

I serve as a consultant for the College Board, the organization that oversees the Advanced Placement program. I have seventeen years of AP Psychology teaching experience at Griffin HS, Spalding HS (both in Griffin, GA) and at South Forsyth HS. During the school year I conduct one day workshops for the College Board in Atlanta, Florida, Virginia,

Kentucky, South Carolina, and North Carolina no more than two per year. During the summers I have conducted one week Summer Institutes in the teaching of AP Psychology in Atlanta, Charlotte, Miami, Ft. Lauderdale, Bowling Green, KY and Maryville, TN on multiple occasions. The one day workshops and one week institutes are designed to instruct new (0-3 years of experience) teachers of AP Psychology. I serve as an AP reader (who is either a high school or college psychology teacher) whose task is to evaluate the free response (essay) portion of the national exam that you will take in May. These week long summer events have been held at Clemson, SC, Daytona Beach, FL, San Antonio, TX , College Park, MD and most recently, Kansas City, MO.

Each May, the AP Examinations are administered at South Forsyth High School and at other participating schools throughout the world. The examination will be two hours in length. The examination is a blend of 100 multiple choice questions and two required free-response essay questions specifically designed to measure the full range and depth of students' knowledge.

The national exam's cost is currently \$87 for the past several years the state of Georgia has paid for you to take one AP exam.

Nationally, an average of 66% of all AP Psychology grades are 3 or higher. In Georgia, the passing rate has been around 60% for Psychology. For 90% of the colleges, a grade of "3" (the University of Georgia) would earn you credit for that course. For schools of the caliber of Duke and Georgia Tech, a score of a "4" is required in Psychology. A "5", the highest score possible, is required by the service academies and Harvard among a very few other schools. The best comprehensive source to discover your colleges score requirements for Advanced Placement is : www.collegeboard.com

GRADING

Since our objective will be to prepare you for the national AP Exam which is given in May, your grade for each grading period will consist of college-level multiple choice exams, discussion exams, and daily grades.

You will be permitted to retake one exam of your choosing per semester. It will be a different exam than the one you took the first time, but of the same difficulty level. If you choose not to use your retake exam first semester, you may carry it over to second semester. *Retakes count, for better or worse, so be prepared!*

Extra credit points will be awarded normally by completing the vocabulary words accompanying each chapter to be turned in at the latest by the date of exam; points will be awarded on the following scale; 1-9 words: 1 point; 10-19 words: 2 points; 20-29 words: 3 points; 30-39 words: 4 points; 40-49 words: 5 points, etc. These points will be added to the test grade of the chapter the words come from. The words must be **HANDWRITTEN** on note cards or notebook paper.

Award opportunities: Any student(s) with an A+ average (97 or higher) for the course will receive a Psychology textbook from me. The student with the highest overall average will be recognized at **South Forsyth's Honor's Night ceremony.** 3. **Student of the Semester:** On each exam, I will recognize the top 5 students on an "Honor's List". Depending on how

often
and your
the list,
recogniz
of the
your

you make the list
placement on
you may be
ed as "Student
Semester" for
particular class.

EXAMS

Multiple _____
will
35-50
covering

Choice Exams _____
usually consist of
questions
1 or 2 chapters..

2 _____
will be
give you
taking a
level

Discussion Exams _____
administered to
the practice of
timed, college-
discussion exam.

KEY TO SUCCESS IN AP PSYCHOLOGY:

3/4ths of the battle is vocabulary. I suggest you make a set of vocabulary flash cards on 3x5" index cards for the term at the end of each chapter. As you make the cards, you are already beginning to learn the vocabulary. The flashcards provide an excellent means of review. These can be turned in for extra credit referred to earlier; they will be returned to you.

RESULTS FROM PREVIOUS YEARS AP PSYCHOLOGY EXAM* (of those who took the AP class @SFHS)

SCORE	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010 *
5	0	15	16	21	20
4	14	27	23	28	18
3	4	19	20	25	6
2	3	11	8	13	5
1	2	5	4	5	3
Exams	23	77	71	93	52
3 +	18	61	59	75	44
% 3 +	78%	79%	83%	83%	85%

- Began part-time teaching: combined AP/IB Psychology scores

THE **STATE** PASSING RATE FOR AP PSYCHOLOGY IS 60%

THE **NATIONAL** PASING RATES FOR AP PSYCHOLOGY IS 66%

LET'S CONTINUE THE STRING OF **EXCELLENCE** @ SOUTH!!!!

NATIONAL EXAMINATION DATE: TUESDAY, MAY 3, 2011/12:00 pm