

Psychology

Social Studies Department

Marion High School

Marion, SC

Course Syllabus: 2011-2022 (Quarter 1)

Teacher: Mrs. F. Scott

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Room Number: 306

Planning Period: 12:01 – 1:31

Course Description:

Psychology is the study of the behavior and mental processes. Psychology is a science that seeks to describe, predict, understand and influence maladaptive, *[patterns that can hurt self and others]*, thoughts and behavior. There are multiple theories and approaches in Psychology, some successful for one type of disorder but not for another. Motivation, moods, memory, reactions, attitudes, perceptions, attraction, talent, what you enjoy – or despise – all of these things have their roots in your Psychology. While Psychology is in the Social Science curriculum; it is in reality a Behavioral Science that often overlaps with the Natural Sciences.

This is an introductory course and will broadly cover several areas. Students will be expected to examine and have verbal discussion about different concepts. Basic terms, concepts, and principles of psychology are introduced as well as contradicting viewpoints as to how these basic factors can be interpreted. Topics such as emotion, experience, meaning, perception, learning, behavior, personality, and self-concept are reviewed through discussion, lecture, introspection, journal writing, observation, case studies, handouts, a basic text, movies, and field projects. It is expected that students in this course would be willing to make a strong individual preparation in order to share their ideas and, on occasion, engage in group learning tasks. A major goal of the course is to expand our basic curiosity to a point where we can make legitimate evaluative statements about socially significant behavior and the psychological implications for issues now confronting society.

Text: Holt McDougal Psychology: Principles in Practice 2010.

There will be a classroom set to use, and check out is available, if you need it at home.

Objectives:

- **Study the major concepts and theories of psychology**
- **Be able to define and use key terms**
- **Understand and be able to demonstrate research, and also be able to interpret and evaluate the validity of the research**

- **Develop critical thinking skills to evaluate the vast amount of “psychology” that is presented in everyday literature**
- **Be able to apply psychological principles in their own life**
- **Understand the many areas of psychology as both areas of study and possible career options**
- **Building of their reading, writing and evaluation and discussion skills**
- **Learn about the ethical standards that govern psychological research**

Course Outline:

Concept 1: *History...Methods of Study*

- *Introducing Psychology – What is psychology?*
- *Understanding behavior*
- *Theories and approaches*
- *Psychological Research Methods*

Concept 2: *Development & Theories*

- *Infancy & Childhood*
- *Adolescence*
- *Adulthood & Old Age*
- *Theories of Personality*

Concept 3: *Consciousness & Perception/Biological Basis of Behavior*

- *Altered States of Consciousness*
- *Sensation & Perception*

Concept 4: *Learning & Memory*

- *Learning: Principles & Applications/Classical and Operant conditioning*
- *Memory & Thought*

Concept 5: *Psychological Disorders*

- *Psychological Disorders – stress and coping, history of mental illness, major disorders, treatments*

**Units may not necessarily correspond entirely with textbook chapters, although textbook will be used as a reference*

Grading:

Student grades are available and updated regularly on PowerSchool.

Students will receive various **class work** and **homework** assignments throughout the course of the quarter. Such assignments will include, but are not limited to, textbook readings/questions, note-taking, hand-outs, and case studies. All classwork is due by the end of the class block. Homework is due at the beginning of class before the tardy bell rings, or it is considered late, losing 15 points.

Tests:

Following each unit of study, students will be formally assessed through unit **tests**. Unit tests will consist of matching, multiple choice, short answer, and/or essay questions. Students will be responsible for all unit material discussed in class and assigned for homework, as such are subject to inclusion on unit tests.

Papers/Projects/Presentations:

Throughout the course of the semester, students will be assigned essays, **projects**, and **presentations** (group and/or individual). Such assignments will be assessed through content, as well as grammar, organization, structure, and neatness. All papers are to be written in (MLA) format.

Quizzes:

Students will be formally assessed regularly through **quizzes**, which will serve as “benchmarks” to monitor student learning. Quizzes will often consist of multiple choice, short-answer and essay questions. Students will be responsible for reviewing designated course material, as such will be included in each quiz.

Journal Responses/Do-Now's:

As Psychology is a course that allows students to reflect on their own experiences, students will keep a **journal** throughout the duration of the course. In addition, students will frequently be required to respond to “**Writing prompts**” questions in their journals at the beginning of the class period. “Writing prompts” questions will serve as an opportunity for students to anticipate the current day’s lesson, as well as review and be evaluated on prior material. Writing prompt journals will be collected on every Friday we are here, and returned on Monday.

Participation:

Students are also responsible for **participating** in class. Class participation includes, but is not limited to, arriving to class on time, being prepared (having their textbook, notebook, folder, assignments, pens, and pencils), partaking in classroom activities and assignments, asking and answering questions, and being actively involved in class discussions.

Materials:

- **2 – 1 Subject Notebook:**
 - Writing prompts
 - Journal
- **Folder/w prongs and pockets**
- **Pens/Pencils**
- **Textbook:** *Understanding Psychology*
- **Course Syllabus**
- Notebook for notes and either a folder specifically for this course or a notebook with folders in it.

Absence/Tardiness:

Students who are missing work due to absence or tardiness are **responsible** for acquiring all work that they have missed

Late Assignments:

For absent students. Student will have **5 days** after an assignment is due to make arrangements with the teacher to complete missing assignment or improve his/her grade. First day late 15 points will be deducted. After 5 days the assignment can be made up of a maximum of 50% minus effort.

Classroom Rules

1. All Marion High School formal school rules, policies, and procedures apply.
2. All encounters are based upon the foundation of respect. All students are to respect their peers, teachers, the classroom environment, as well as themselves.
3. Raise your hand to speak, and do not speak while others are speaking.
4. Work hard and individually. Do not cheat or plagiarize!
5. Submit all assignments at the time that they are due (or earlier).
6. No Eating in class
7. Do not go behind teacher's the desk, without permission
8. Do not sit in my chair
9. No Horseplay
10. No electronic devices, if seen give it to me, or accept referral
11. No drinks, with the exception of water in the original bottle with a top.
12. Always use inside voice during discussions
13. Absolutely no talking during test, or when other people are reading or talking during discussion
14. Work hard and individually. Do not cheat or plagiarize!
15. Once you enter the classroom go sit in your assigned seat and begin assignment/writing prompt
16. Stay in your seat until I dismiss you, the bell does not dismiss you
17. Absolutely no profanity
18. Do not leave classroom without permission and a pass
19. No passes will be written the first 30 minutes of class, or the last 15 minutes of class, all passes have a 5 minute time limit – or you will serve detention: 5 to 10 minutes

20. Bathroom passes will only be issued as stated above unless you have a doctor's note filed with the nurse. If it is an emergency, you will have to serve 5 minutes of lunch detention
21. Arrive on time and prepared to learn. Always come to class with necessary class material (If not there is a resource center for your needs)
22. Homework is to be turned into me at the beginning of class. Homework can be made up for half credit.
23. If absent or tardy, find out what work you are missing, and submit it within five days following your return.
24. Any assignment not made up after 5 days, will only receive half credit minus the effort you put into it.
25. Keep cell phones, electronics, hats, sunglasses, and all other potential distractions turned off and stored away during class.
26. Think positively, and try your best at all times!

Before you sit down grab a book from the bookcase. Before you leave for the day replace your book on the bookcase

Please detach, sign, and return to Mrs. F. Scott.

I (student) have read and acknowledged the attached **Psychology** course syllabus and classroom rules and policies. I agree to uphold all classroom rules and policies.

_____ Student (Print Name)

_____ Student (Signature) _____ Date