

AP Psychology Syllabus

Instructor: Mr. Farber | Room: 219 | Year: 2025-2026

Course Description:

The AP Psychology course introduces students to the systematic and scientific study of human behavior and mental processes. While considering the psychologists and studies that have shaped the field, students explore and apply psychological theories, key concepts, and phenomena associated with such topics as the biological bases of behavior, sensation and perception, learning and cognition, motivation, developmental psychology, testing and individual differences, treatments of psychological disorders, and social psychology. With a score of three or better on the AP Psychology Exam, the student will receive college credit from most colleges.



How to Achieve Success:

1. Be present.
2. Be on time.
3. Pay attention.
4. Be an active participant.
5. Avoid distractions (including digital distractions).
6. Be prepared.
7. Learn from mistakes.
8. If at first you don't succeed, try again.

Student Behavior Expectations:

Two basic expectations that run this classroom are to **be nice** and **work hard**. There will be appropriate consequences for students who fail to act respectfully, safely, or responsibly.

To ensure a productive learning environment, all cell phones must be silenced and put away at the beginning of class. They should remain out of sight for the duration of the class period unless otherwise instructed. Failure to follow this policy will result in the following consequences:

1. Your phone will be collected and returned to you at the end of class.
2. Dismissal from class.

Your Chromebook is your go-to device in this classroom (and should only be accessed at appropriate times). It is also the expectation that students do not wear headphones during class time unless given permission.

Assessment:

Grades will be separated into two, weighted categories: formative and summative.

Formative assessments count for 25% of your grade and will include engagement points, unit packets, and possibly other in-class or homework assignments. A student's engagement points are based on the first five items listed under "How to Achieve Success." Unexcused, late formative assessments will be downgraded 10% to 50%, depending how late they are. An assignment turned in within one day of being late will only receive a 10% penalty. Assignments turned in past one day being due, but within two weeks of the due date will receive a 25% penalty and assignments turned in more than two weeks late will receive a 50% penalty. While there is a penalty for late work, please understand that partial credit is much better than 0 credit.

Summative assessments count for 75% of your grade and will include tests and quizzes. If you miss class the date of a quiz or test you will be expected to make it up the next day of class. Retakes on summative assessments for full credit are allowed. Students in AP Psychology are allowed two retakes per semester. Students must make corrections on the original assessment before scheduling a retake. The retake is a different version of the original assessment and must be completed within one month of the original assessment, unless special arrangements have been made.

Summative and formative assessments together will be weighted to count for 85% of the semester grade; a final exam will count for the other 15%.

Video Disclaimer:

Dear Parents & Guardians,

I believe videos, including television and movie clips, add a dimension of visual understanding to concepts and ideas discussed in class. They can also serve to make class material more relevant and enjoyable. That being said, this school year, we will be viewing psychology-related video content to further enhance our study of psychology. Some of the material we view *may* include R-rated content (e.g., profanity). (Please understand that although this *may* occur, it is not the norm.)

It has been my experience that high school students approach videos used for educational purposes in a very mature way. However, if you will not allow your child to view videos with *R-rated* content, please contact me. If the video includes an assignment, an alternative assignment may be assigned to your child. If I do not hear from you, I will assume you are fine with your child viewing these videos.

If you have any reservations or would like more information regarding the above disclaimer or anything else within the syllabus, feel free to contact me with your questions and concerns. Thank you!

Contact Information:



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