

Advanced Placement Psychology Course Syllabus

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Room W113

Fall 2025

Description and Purpose

From the College Board (Company that owns/operates the “AP” system)

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. Throughout the course, students employ psychological research methods, including ethical considerations, as they use the scientific method, evaluate claims and evidence, and effectively communicate ideas. The AP Psychology course is designed to be the equivalent of the Introduction to Psychology course usually taken during the first year of college.

AP Psychology Course Content

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. Throughout the course, students employ psychological research methods, including ethical considerations, as they use the scientific method, evaluate claims and evidence, and effectively communicate ideas. The AP Psychology course is designed to be the equivalent of the Introduction to Psychology course usually taken during the first year of college.

Unit	Exam Weighting (Multiple-Choice Section)
Unit 1: Scientific Foundations of Psychology	10%–14%
Unit 2: Biological Bases of Behavior	8%–10%
Unit 3: Sensation and Perception	6%–8%
Unit 4: Learning	7%–9%
Unit 5: Cognitive Psychology	13%–17%
Unit 6: Developmental Psychology	7%–9%
Unit 7: Motivation, Emotion, and Personality	11%–15%
Unit 8: Clinical Psychology	12%–16%
Unit 9: Social Psychology	8%–10%

AP Course Skills

The AP Psychology skills describe what a student should be able to do while exploring course concepts. The table that follows presents the skills that students should develop during the AP Psychology course. These skills form the basis of tasks on the AP Exam.

Skill	Description	Exam Weighting (Multiple-Choice Section)
1. Concept Understanding	Define, explain, and apply concepts, behavior, theories, and perspectives.	75%–80%
2. Data Analysis	Analyze and interpret quantitative data.	8%–12%
3. Scientific Investigation	Analyze psychological research studies.	12%–16%

Proposed Calendar of Topics

Attached is a proposed course calendar to ensure that we get through all of the material covered on the exam.

There is an *immense* amount of information that we must get through in this course. Be prepared to go through units very quickly and complete large amounts of independent work during our semester together! Students will be REQUIRED to meet during flex in the Spring with Ms. Conboy to review for the exam. **PLEASE NOTE, THIS CALENDAR IS HIGHLY SUBJECT TO CHANGE!**

AP Psychology Exam

The AP Psychology exam will be administered on Thursday, May 9, 2024, at 12:00 p.m.

Advanced Placement courses are designed to prepare students for the corresponding AP test; therefore, students at MaST are anticipated to take the AP exam in the spring. **Any student who fails to register for the AP exam will instead take a 100-question multiple choice cumulative final exam with one written FRQ response. Students will only be given ONE block to complete this exam, with no additional time awarded. NO study guide will be provided.**

The AP exam fee will be \$97 for each exam or \$62 with a fee waiver (if eligible for the Federal Free/Reduced Lunch Program). **A deposit of \$50 for each AP course exam is required by the school. The date on which this is due will be communicated to students in a timely manner. The deposit of \$50 will be non-refundable if you fail to take the AP Exam.** If you have difficulty paying for your exam, please contact your counselor.

Class Expectations

Respect the teacher, yourself, and your classmates at all times.

Respect yourself and all others. Offensive and derogatory language will not be tolerated in my class.

Put forth your best effort at all times.

Always do your own best work! Emphasize learning and quality of work submitted.

Be prepared for class every day.

Be sure to have all necessary materials (including a charged Chromebook) with the assigned work completed.

Actively participate in class.

Please engage with what is going on during class! Don't be afraid to ask questions, give answers, or engage in group discussions. This truly fosters the AP environment and allows you to better understand the material being taught.

Classroom Rules

Be mindful of your behavior.

Be mindful of calling out, talking over others, and the language that you use. Again, offensive and derogatory language will not be tolerated. That being said, we love a lively discussion.

Cell Phone Usage

Cell phones and airpods are **absolutely prohibited** during class. First offense will result in a warning, otherwise, cell phone use will result in confiscation of the cell phone along with a detention.

Do not cheat, plagiarize, or copy work

Cheating is completely unacceptable. If I see you cheating on any assignment, even for another class, I will give you a zero and report the incident to the other teacher as well as your guardians.

Plagiarism (copying work from another source OR student without giving proper credit) is

completely unacceptable. If you plagiarize on any assignment you will earn a "0" on that assignment with no opportunity to re-do the work for credit. **The use of AI software, like ChatGPT, is absolutely prohibited.**

Grading

Grades will consist of two marking period grades and a final exam grade. Each marking period will be 45%, and the final will be worth 10%.

Quarter Weighting

- Assessments - 40%
- Quizzes - 15%
- Homework - 10%
- Classwork **and** Participation - 35%

Assessments and Quizzes

Ample notice for quizzes and tests will be given, along with review materials. Assessments will be administered intermittently through Google Forms or on paper. Essays and large projects will also be included in this category.

THE INSTRUCTOR RESERVES THE RIGHT TO ADMINISTER TESTS AND QUIZZES WITHOUT NOTICE BASED ON CLASS PERFORMANCE.

Assignments

Most assignments will be posted on Google Classroom with due dates attached. Students will have additional work to do at home to complete all the course content on time. All assignments will be due at the exact due date time as seen in Classroom or communicated with by the instructor. **Late assignments will not be accepted** (within reason).

Contact

Students and families are encouraged to reach out to me if there are any questions or concerns.. My email address is imitin@mast2.org and Remind codes for each class can be found on my teacher page. Students can also schedule a meeting after school during my office hours of 2:20 to 3:15 on most days, as long as I am not hosting a club meeting.

I wish all my students a great semester. Above all, **I want all my students to win.**

Ilya Mitin