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Psychology Course Syllabus 2020-2021

Instructor: Andrae James

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Room: 1123

Tutorials: Tuesday & Thursday 4:05PM - 4:35PM

Conference: 2nd period

Course Content

In this course students will study the science of behavior and mental processes. Students examine the full scope of the science of psychology such as the historical framework, methodologies, human development, motivation, emotion, sensation, perception, personality development, cognition, learning, intelligence, biological foundations, mental health, and social psychology.

Text

The study material ("textbook") for this course are as follows:

- Book: [Understanding Psychology](#). 4th Edition. Published by Glencoe/McGraw-Hill.
- Book: [Psychology](#). By Sandra K. Ciccarelli and J. Noland White. AP Edition. Published by Pearson Education, Inc.
- Active Classroom- Psychology
- Youtube: search "Crash Course Psychology playlist"
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vo4pMVb0R6M&list=PL8dPuuaLjXtOPRkzVLY0jJY-uHOH9KVU6>

About the Teacher

I was born and raised in Wichita, KS. I am the first in my immediate family to go to college and was fortunate enough to get a full ROTC and an academic scholarship. After graduating from Prairie View A&M University in 2006 with a bachelor's degree in political science, I spent four years as a Commissioned Officer in the United States Army. I retired with the rank of Captain in 2010. I acquired a master's degree in Public Administration (MPA) from the University of Oklahoma in 2009, an Executive Master of Business Administration (EMBA) from the University of Houston Bauer College of

Business in 2013, and I worked almost 5 years as a sales executive for a manufacturing company. I am now working in the field of education to lead by example and influence minds in a positive way.

Ongoing Objectives

By the end of this course, students will be able to:

- Understand the development of the field of psychology.
- Differentiate the processes of theory development and validation.
- Understand the relationship between biology and behavior.
- Understand how sensations and perceptions influence cognition and behavior.
- Understand that development is a life-long process.
- Understand behavioral and social learning theories.
- Understand the principles of motivation and emotion.
- Understand the nature of intelligence and differentiate the various types of intelligence.
- Understand the basic principles of tests and measurements.
- Understand the development and assessment of personality.
- Understand basic elements of cognition.
- Understand the multifaceted aspects of mental health.
- Understand the influence of society and culture on behavior and cognition.
- Apply critical-thinking skills to organize and use information acquired from a variety of valid sources, including electronic technology.
- Communicate in written, oral, and visual forms.
- Use problem-solving and decision-making skills, working independently and with others, in a variety of settings.
- Develop long-term and short-term goal-setting skills for individual and community problem solving.
- Understand the relationship of changes in technology to personal growth and development.
- The student will also strengthen literacy and writing skills through a variety of short essays, quick writes, and group exercises, in addition to reading literature about and/or related to psychology. These activities will heighten comprehension and improve reading and writing skills.

Portfolio/Reflection Journal

You are required to maintain an organized portfolio for the course. It will be kept in the classroom and submissions will be for a grade. Portfolio dividers/folders will be discussed in class.

Grading Scale

Test/Performance Assessment: 35%
Class Work: 30%
Quizzes: 20%
Homework: 15%

*****Late Work Policy (Advanced Placement (AP) classes only):**

Advanced Placement classes are intended to prepare students for collegiate academic environments. As a result, students will be expected to adhere to similar policies. In the event that a student fails to submit an assignment by the posted deadline they will be given a zero (0) for the respective assignment. Afterwards, the student will have five (5) business days (school days) to complete the assignment and submit it for evaluation. If the student successfully submits the assignment within the five (5) business day grace-period then they will be entitled to a maximum grade of seventy (70).

Attendance and Participation

Attendance and participation are required. It is difficult to learn the content if you are not present in class. Your class participation and attendance can be a deciding factor if your class average straddles two grades. Be sure to see me about any missed work if you are absent.

Daily Required Materials

1. Laptop
2. pen
3. three-ring-binder
4. paper

Class Rules:

1. **The Instructor will respect the student at ALL times.** It is NEVER my goal to belittle you or disrespect you. Please feel free to respectfully communicate with me if you feel like I have broken this rule.
2. Cell Phones: If I can't see it, it doesn't exist to me. Please don't let them become a distraction.
3. Dress code: follow the school guidelines on dress code.
4. Restroom breaks: quietly raise your hand and signal for the restroom pass. Please come back promptly as other students may need to go.
5. Participation: Treat this class like a job. Your paycheck is your grades. ALL I ASK is that you show up on time and work. Participate. I will try to make class lessons fun so if you do your part you will enjoy this class!

Unit Overview

Please click this link for the detailed layout of the units taught in this course:

<https://apcentral.collegeboard.org/pdf/ap-psychology-course-a-glance.pdf?course=ap-psychology>