

COURSE INFORMATION SHEET

Course Title: AP Psychology

UC/CSU requirement: Yes

Textbook and/or other learning resources: Psychology, David Myers

Student Learning Outcomes:

The course will introduce you to the workings of the brain and human/animal behavior. The course is intended to challenge students to critically analyze psychological information, documents, case studies, and perspectives to identify their own positions that can be supported with evidence. The course will also serve to rigorously promote reading, research, writing, verbal and written evidentiary argument, and critical thinking skills to not only provide the challenge of an AP course, but also to build skills that will be vital to student success at the university level. The students will also prepare for the AP exam; however it is not mandatory that every student take the AP exam.

Assessment and Grading (BP 5121 / AR 5121): To ensure that every student has an equal opportunity to demonstrate their learning, the course instructors implement aligned grading practices and common assessments with the same frequency.

1. Grading categories and their percentage weights:

<p><u>1st Semester Grades Weighted As Follows:</u> Preparation - 10% Content Mastery - 75% Unit 1: Research Methods (15%) Unit 2: Social Psychology (12%) Unit 3: The Brain and Consciousness (15%) Unit 4: Sensation and Perception (10%) Unit 5: Development (13%) Unit 6: Personality (10%) Final Exam - 15%</p>	<p><u>2nd Semester Grades Weighted As Follows:</u> Preparation - 10% Content Mastery - 60% Unit 7: Learning (12%) Unit 8: Cognition (12%) Unit 9: Intelligence (10%) Unit 10: Emotion and Motivation (11%) Unit 11: Abnormal Psychology and Treatment (15%) Final Exam - 15% Final Project - 15%</p>
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Grading scales:

Letter Mark	SIS Final Grade Percent Scale	Letter Mark	SIS Final Grade Percent Scale
A	92.5 and above	C	72.5-77.49
A-	90-92.49	C-	70-72.49
B+	87.5-89.99	D+	67.5-69.99
B	82.5-87.49	D	62.5-67.49
B-	80-82.49	D-	60-62.49
C+	77.5-79.99	F	59.99 and below

2. Homework/outside of class practices ([AR 6154](#)): Students who have chosen this Advanced Placement Psychology elective need to be aware that a very heavy reading and note-taking load is necessary and required. Thus, students are expected to complete four assignments of homework reading and writing every week. Additionally, some assignments and in-class activities will require homework preparation beyond nightly reading and writing expectations. Prior to due dates students may propose alternative assignments to seek instructor approval. Students in this course are expected to be active learners, who consistently use and share knowledge with classmates.

3. Excused absence make up practices ([Education Code 48205\(b\)](#)):
4. Academic integrity violation practices ([MVHS Academic Integrity Policy](#)):
5. Late work practices: Students who have chosen this Advanced Placement Psychology elective need to be aware that a very heavy reading and note-taking load is necessary and required. Thus, students are expected to complete four assignments of homework reading and writing every week. Additionally, some assignments and in-class activities will require homework preparation beyond nightly reading and writing expectations. Prior to due dates students may propose alternative assignments to seek instructor approval. Students in this course are expected to be active learners, who consistently use and share knowledge with classmates. Students who miss a unit assessment are expected to make up the missed test in a timely fashion, but no later than the following dates for each quarter:
 - 1st quarter: October 11, 2019
 - 2nd quarter: December 11, 2019
 - 3rd quarter: March 14, 2020
 - 4th quarter: May 27, 2020
6. Revision practices: Because making and correcting mistakes is part of any learning process, students are encouraged to keep working all semester on their content and skill proficiency. To capture student improvement over the course of the semester, the final exam provides a chance to raise grades for unit tests.
7. Additional grading practices:
 - a. **Group Work:** Students may do work with a team in a group work assignment, but they will only be graded for the part of the assignment in which they are able to demonstrate individual work.
 - b. **Final:** All students will complete a final assessment at the end of the semester and at the end of year before the AP exam. This final is cumulative and is based on work from the whole year. Students should therefore keep all their papers and throw nothing away.
 - c. **Grade book Update Policy:** The gradebook is updated about every two weeks. Essays and projects may take longer to appear in the grade book.

Additional information:

Digital Device Policy:

Devices can only be used in class at the teacher's discretion and should use them in line with the MVLA Digital Device and Behavior Policies. If distraction becomes an issue, the teachers will manage the situation as they would with any other distraction and in line with the relevant policies.

Help:

See me ____ period or make an appointment to meet with me. Feel free, however, to alert me at anytime if you need help. If we cannot find a solution right then, we will find a time later on to try and work on one. Additionally, both students and parents will find the teacher's email address and home page that includes: daily agendas, homework, hand-outs, assignments and periodic announcements on www.mvla.net under Mountain View High School's Staff Directory. The Tutorial Center and Library also have tutors and resources to assist students.

Instructors' email addresses:

Mrs. Kimmie Marks: Kimberly.Marks@mvla.net
Dr. Paul McHenry: paul.mchenry@mvla.net

Instructors' signatures:

