

Introduction to Psychology

School Year 2022-2023

Ms. Emily Wheeler

Periods 2 & 3

Helena High School

Rm. 20

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“The brain is wider than the sky...”

Brief Overview

Welcome students and parents! This course will delve into the mysteries of the mind. Offering a brief overview of the expansive study of psychology, we will attempt to have some fun along the way. Through energetic discussions, readings, immersive activities, and comprehensive projects; we will explore some of the major theories of modern psychology. Class participation, regular attendance, and hands-on projects are also incredibly important to this course.

Students will learn...

what elements of psychology classify it as a science.

how the seven major schools of psychology approach the study.

the brain's structures and functions.

the intricate relationship between biology and experience in psychology.

Students will demonstrate...

the ability to use print and online sources to answer questions and complete research.

the skill to analyze scientific studies and their applicability to general theories.

the expertise to compile several sources to express a relevant point of view.

the articulation of opinions and facts through written and verbal mediums.

the completion of a high-quality research and demonstration project.

Required Materials

School Supplies: Students are expected to bring all necessary school supplies to class every day, unless otherwise stated. This includes a notebook (or binder) that is specifically designated for Psychology, pens/pencils, **FULLY CHARGED** Chromebook (or personal computer or device), and an agenda (or similar organizational tool). Artistic supplies (colored pencils, markers) will be needed when requested ahead of time.

Technology and TEAMS: This is necessary to view schedule updates, view deadlines, class announcements, collaborate with classmates, make-up absent work, and complete projects. It is your responsibility as a student to regularly check TEAMS for updates. If you do not have this access, please come speak with me.

Policies and Procedures

Rules:

1. Be Responsible:

Examples include coming with the appropriate reading materials, notebook, pens/pencils, project materials, on-time, ready to learn, work completed, putting your name on papers, checking TEAMS regularly, messaging with concerns, BEING in CHARGE of YOUR OWN LEARNING...

2. Be Safe:

Helping keep the classroom clean & orderly, following all posted safety instructions, surfing the internet with safe practices...

3. Be Respectful:

Examples include cleaning-up after yourself, asking permission before borrowing/touching possessions, following directions (the first time), staying off electronic devices when instructed, avoiding talking (or other distracting behaviors) when the teacher is instructing...

4. Be Caring:

Examples include respecting others' opinions, including everyone in group activities and discussions, working with partners/groups assigned easily and readily, avoiding foul or inappropriate language, greeting each day with as much enthusiasm and cheer as possible, under no circumstances engaging in bullying or degrading behaviors...

Cell Phones/Electronics: Cell phones and electronics are only permitted when permission has been explicitly given by the instructor. If use is deemed inappropriate or disrespectful, your cell phone will be confiscated. Use of cell phones must be EARNED on an individual basis.

Late Work: LATE WORK WILL ONLY BE ACCEPTED until the end of that unit. It will be deducted by 10% per each day late up to 50%. This does not apply to excused absences. I am happy to make accommodations when you speak with me ahead of time.

Absences: It is your responsibility to contact me when you are absent to receive work and check understanding. Excused absences will receive 2 additional days to complete work. Assignments or quizzes that were scheduled before your absence are due or expected to be taken that day you return. E-Mail me if you have unexpected absences that conflict with large projects. I am happy to accommodate.,

Plagiarism/Cheating: In accordance with HHS Academic policies, dishonesty of any kind will not be tolerated in my classroom. I am always checking your assignments for plagiarism through extremely sensitive databases. IT IS CONSIDERED CHEATING WHEN I HAVE NOT GIVEN EXPLICIT DIRECTION TO WORK TOGETHER. Any assignment that was completed dishonestly will be given a 0 and you will be referred to the administration for further disciplinary actions.

The inability to follow these guidelines will result in the following actions: ONE warning, detention, home communication of the behavior with detention, and then administrative attention such as suspension or expulsion. Depending on the severity of the misbehavior, one or more disciplinary actions may be skipped.

WARNING about Sensitive Topics and Concepts:

Psychology is a discipline that will often confront tough subjects like **human sexuality, gender identity/orientation, social issues/inequalities, race, drug/alcohol use, trauma, and violence**. While this is always presented through a scientific and careful lens, it can be blunt and controversial. I will always send home permission slips for movies/readings that may be too mature for some students. However, these topics will still be readily taught and discussed. If this is something you would not like your student to participate in, please consider changing their class schedule.

Grading Policies:

Unit Projects: 40%

Near the end of each Unit, students will complete a cumulative project often requiring research, presentations, and artistic expression.

Assignments: 20%

Throughout the Unit, short noteguides, responses, and readings will often be assigned.

Quizzes: 30%

Quizzes which consist of multiple-choice questions and short answer questions over the major concepts of each unit which will be reviewed in class with lectures and activities.

Daily Questions & Exit Tickets: 10%

Students will be randomly called-on at the beginning of the period to answer the Daily Question each day. They are mostly graded on effort and preparedness, rather than accuracy, so just preparing an answer at the start of class is half the battle. Exit Tickets will often be administered at the end of class and are also largely graded on effort and completeness, but with feedback provided.

I agree to follow the guidelines outlined in Ms. Wheeler's 2022-2023 Introduction to Psychology Syllabus as stated directly.

Student Name (printed): _____

Student Signature: _____ **Date:** _____

Parent Name (printed): _____

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____ **Date:** _____