



AP Psychology

[Grade Level(s)] (10 Credits)

- Meets high school graduation requirement for (Subject)
- Meets the UC/CSU subject area "(A-G)" requirement

General Information

Description

This college-level course is a general, introductory investigation into the field of psychology and human behavior. The course explores the history of psychology as well as many theoretical psychological applications to our daily lives. Content-wise, the course delves into 14 units:

- History of Psychology
- Biological Basis (Brain)
- States of Consciousness
- Cognition & Memory
- Life Development
- Testing & Intelligence
- Treatment of Abnormal Behavior
- Research/Testing
- Sensation & Perception
- Learning
- Motivation & Emotion
- Personality
- Abnormal Psychology/Behavior
- Social Psychology

The course uses Myers' Psychology for AP (2nd Ed.) and a number of articles, journals, and media clips to find answers to the mysteries of human behavior. Key individuals in the field of psychology (i.e. Freud, Watson, James, Skinner, Jung, Rogers, Maslow, and Bandura) and their theories (i.e. Psychodynamic, Behavioral, Humanist, Cognitive and Evolutionary) help better explain and help students understand the psychological concepts that are investigated in this course. At the conclusion of the class, students should be prepared to take the annual AP Exam for Psychology (all content will be sufficiently covered prior to the exam date).

Expectations and Goals

There are no prior knowledge/class expectations for this class. Students understand what they know about psychology through their own experiences and circumstances. This course will assist in identifying and understanding these psychological applications and concepts in their lives more formally and give better understanding to why they do what they do (as well as why other's do what they do). Ideally, students will be prepared for the AP Exam and a little better prepared for the real world in which they interact and participate.

Estimated Homework

Students should anticipate a **moderate** level of homework in this advanced class. This involves textbook and article readings, taking notes, projects (group and individual), and research activities. Unit Exams, Mid-term Exams and Final Exams are all a possibility. Free-response essay writing and a research paper are also likelihoods for this course. Generally speaking, one Module of reading (6-15 pages) is assigned per class meeting.

This Class Is Best For...

This is a college-level (101 level) psychology class that is both challenging and fast-paced. Due to the relevant content, students typically handle the pacing and rigor well. This class is the most popular elective offering at Torrey Pines – there is something for everyone in the course. Understanding why we do what we are supposed to do, why we don't do what we are supposed to do, why we don't do what we are not supposed to do, and why we do what we are not supposed to do is a worthwhile goal for all of us. This course is designed for **Juniors and Seniors** who wish to better understand themselves and others before they venture off to college and the real world.

Course Materials

Required Materials

This is a great place to include information about the textbooks used in class, or other required materials so families can do some research before taking the class.

- Myers' Psychology for AP (2nd Ed.)
- many on-line resources
- many journal and magazine articles