

## AP Psychology Syllabus - Abridged

James M. Bennett High School

Instructor: Mr. Garlock

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- AP Psychology Exam – Tuesday May 12, 2020 @ 12:00 noon.
- Class website address - <http://jmbpsych.weebly.com> (Contains entire syllabus.)
- Remind101 – Send a text containing the appropriate code to 81010 OR tell me your e-mail and I will send you an invitation. Period 2 - @44c73h Period 3 - @jmbpsy Period 4 - @9ag2b7
- Twitter – @JMBPSYCH

### Course Description

AP Psychology is a college level introductory course designed to prepare for the AP exams given in May. *The expectation is that every student enrolled in this class will take the AP exam.* Students will identify and discuss the major psychological theories that are used to explain tendencies and behaviors in human populations. Areas of study include, research and methods, historical perspectives, neuroscience, bio-psychosocial, and social-cultural perspectives. Through the study of psychology, students will demonstrate a greater awareness and appreciation of individual and group differences in the world society.

### How to be successful in this class

In 2019 over 70% of test-takers from JMB passed the AP Psychology exam, while 60% of test-takers earned a 4 or a 5. These students were diligent in all aspects of the class. They were in class, engaged, inquisitive and focused. Many stayed after for review sessions throughout the year and stayed for multiple review sessions in the spring for the AP exam. They came to several of the 6 review sessions I held on the weekends at Lombardi's throughout April. Several also purchased or borrowed *AP Psychology review books* by Barrons, 5 Steps to a 5, Princeton Review, or other publishing companies. Although not necessary, these books are helpful tools to use throughout the year, not only to prep for the test. Most psychological concepts are abstract, and class time is focused on making these concepts more real for the student. If the student is not engaged in *semantic encoding* during class, then the year will essentially be an exercise in autodidacticism. When students have approached the class this way in the past, the results have generally not been positive.

### Required Materials

*Text:* Myers, David G, *Psychology for AP\**

***Materials: 3 ring binder and two spiral bound notebooks dedicated to AP Psychology.***

Throughout the year you will be provided with handouts and articles that will benefit you throughout the year, which should be kept in a binder. I suggest that you purchase one 3 subject notebook for taking notes from the textbook and lectures. It will be the student's responsibility to keep up with notes from the text and class. Each student should have an **additional** spiral bound notebook for psychological terms. AP Psychology is a term-driven course, and this notebook will be collected after each chapter and graded for completeness and accuracy.

### Grading

Grades are broken into 2 categories, each worth 50% of your total grade. These categories are labeled *formative* and *summative*. Some of the activities in these categories will be as follows:

<u>Formative</u>	<u>Summative</u>
Homework	Homework
Classwork	Classwork
Other activities at the discretion of the instructor	Quizzes
	Exams
	Terms

### Miscellaneous

*Participation:* Simply being present in class does not provide the level of understanding necessary for success in an AP class. We will learn early in the year about **semantic encoding**, and students will be expected to use this type of cognitive approach in class, and when completing the assigned readings. Healthy discussion will also aid in your understanding of the psychological principles we will cover, and is expected during class. Being prepared and focused during class is the key to your ability to participate and succeed in this class.

*AP Exam:* This is an AP course, and it is expected that each student will take the AP exam.

*Due Dates:* **Homework and projects are due at the established class time and WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED LATE**

### Review and Prep for AP Exam

- If time allows there will be class review sessions to prepare for the AP exam in class. There will also be multiple after school review sessions beginning the first week of April. There is a positive correlation between 4's and 5's on the AP exam and attendance at the review sessions.

***THIS IS AN ABRIDGED VERSION OF THE SYLLABUS. STUDENTS SHOULD READ THE ENTIRE SYLLABUS, WHICH IS POSTED IN THE AP SECTION OF THE CLASS WEBSITE LISTED ABOVE, AND INCLUDES INFORMATION ON THE EXTRA CREDIT POLICY.***