

# Wheaton High School AP Psychology 2011-2012

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Room 329

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## **Text:**

Myers, David G. **Psychology**, 7th edition, New York: Worth Publishers, 2004.

## **Supplemental Text:**

Hockenberry, Don H. and Sandra E. **Psychology**, 4th Edition, New York: Worth Publishers, 2006

## **Suggested Materials:**

Two 8 1/2 x 11" spiral one-subject notebooks, blue or black ink pens, #2 pencils, 3-ring binder, colored pencils or markers.

## **Course Objectives**

1. Students will prepare to do acceptable work on the AP Psychology Examination.
2. Students will study the major core concepts and theories of psychology. They will be able to define key terms and use them in their everyday vocabulary.
3. Students will learn the basic skills of psychological research and be able to apply psychological concepts to their own lives.
4. Students will develop critical thinking skills.

## **Assessment:**

Assessments will include AP style multiple choice and essay unit exams, quizzes, in-class essays, research reports, class presentations and other student productions.

## **Attendance and Tardiness**

The MCPS attendance policy will be strictly enforced.

Students have one day for each day absent to submit missed work. The student is responsible for all missed work.

## **Grading**

### *Weighting*

Grades will be determined by individual mastery of the course's learning objectives. Grades will be weighted as follows:

Summative Assessments	50%
Formative Assessments	40%
Homework	10%

### *Late Work*

All assignments are expected to be completed by the assigned due date unless prior arrangements have been made with the instructor. Late work will be accepted only until the deadline if a deadline has been set. Late work may be penalized by a reduction of ten percent of the point total.

### *Re-Assessment*

Re-Assessment will be done in accordance with the MCPS grading policy.

### *Grading Scale*

A	90%-100%
B	80%-89%
C	70%-79%
D	60%-69%
E	59.5% and lower

## First Semester

### **Unit I: History, Approaches and Research Methods**

In this unit, students learn about the development of psychology as a science, major figures in the history of psychology, and fields in psychology today.

### **Unit II: Biological Basis of Behavior**

In this unit, students learn about the brain, central nervous system and the endocrine system.

### **Unit III: Social Psychology**

In this unit, students learn about group and social behavior.

### **Unit IV: Sensation and Perception**

In this unit, students learn about how we sense and interpret the world around us.

### **Unit V: States of Consciousness**

In this unit, students learn about sleep, waking and altered states of consciousness.

### **Unit VI: Learning**

In this unit, students learn about how we learn with an emphasis on classical and operant conditioning.

### **Unit VII: Memory**

In this unit, students learn about memory processes and the retention of information.

## Second Semester

### **Unit VIII: Cognition and Language**

In this unit, students learn about thinking and language processes.

### **IX: Intelligence**

In this unit, students learn about the development intelligence theories and testing and measurement of intelligence.

### **Unit X: Motivation, Emotion and Stress**

In this unit, students learn theories on emotion, motivation and stress.

### **Unit XI: Development across the Life Span**

In this unit, students learn about human development from birth through old age.

### **Unit XII: Personality Theory**

In this unit, students learn personality theory and how people develop personalities.

### **Unit XIII: Abnormal Behavior**

In this unit, students learn about mental illness and psychological disorders.

### **Unit XIV: Treatment**

In this unit, students learn about the treatment of psychological disorders and mental illness.

## IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER:

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|---|---------------------|
| • End of first marking period-                  | October 28, 2011    |
| • End of First Semester/First Semester Exams-   | January 14-20, 2012 |
| • End of third marking period-                  | March 29, 2012      |
| • AP Psychology Exam-                           | Monday, May 7, 2012 |
| • Senior Exams                                  | May 22-25, 2012     |
| • End of Second Semester/Second Semester Exams- | June 7-13, 2012     |

### First Day Assignment:

Examine the illustration to the right. Identify the man and explain why he is important to the study of psychology. What do you know about him from popular culture? Please give your answer in the form of a well written paragraph.

