

AP® Psychology Course Info 2018-19

Mr. Doyle, Room D229

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PURPOSE OF THE COURSE

According to the College Board (the organization that writes and oversees the AP exams):

The purpose of the AP course in Psychology is to introduce the systematic and scientific study of the behavior and mental processes of human beings and other animals...the aim is to provide a learning experience equivalent to that obtained in most college introductory psychology courses.

The bottom line is that I am here to prepare you to take the AP exam, which is held in May. Like it says above, it is definitely a **college-level** class. As such, I expect my students to assume a great deal of **responsibility** for their work and progress in the class.

And if you do what I ask of you, you're going to learn a lot of psychology this year!

TEXTBOOK

We will be using the book, Psychology (8th Ed.), by Lefton & Brannon, and we'll cover about 95% of it between now and the AP exam!

INTERNET

The website for this course is: doyleqhs.com. It is my expectation that all students will become very familiar with it!

Look for the **AP Psychology** link when you get there. You'll find vocabulary reviews, notes, handouts, links to useful websites, and lots more.

Also, everyone must fill out the **Student Info Form** that is on the site. Just click the link that's at the top of every page (or in the menu on phones). This is counted as a quiz grade for the first term.

ASPEN

Grades will be regularly updated on Aspen. It is the **responsibility** of all students to check grades on Aspen **frequently**.

GRADING

Grades are calculated according to the following system:

Exams.....	50%
Quizzes.....	25%
Homework/Classwork.....	25%

UNIT EXAMS

Our unit exams will be based on whatever material we cover during a particular unit. You're responsible for everything in an assigned chapter, regardless of whether we have notes on it.

Exams are at the end of each chapter. As you'll see on your reading guide, we'll usually have 3-4 exams per quarter.

IF YOU MISS A TEST, YOU MUST BE PREPARED TO MAKE IT UP ON THE DAY YOU RETURN TO CLASS.

FINAL EXAM

All students will take a final exam during the week before the AP® Psychology Exam. The 2019 AP® Psychology Exam will be held on Thursday, May 9 at 12pm.

The format of the final will essentially be the same as the actual AP Exam, in that it will be a cumulative exam, covering the material for the whole year.

QUIZZES

To succeed in AP Psychology, it is essential that you do the reading assignments. To encourage this, we will have **lots** of quizzes. For the most part, whenever there is a reading assignment from the textbook, expect a quiz on the date the reading is due.

Also, whenever you do the textbook reading, do yourself a favor and **take notes** on the material, because you'll be allowed to use your notes on the quizzes. The quizzes will be worth 25% of your grade each quarter, so if you do the reading and take notes on it, the quizzes should help your grade. *I will drop your lowest in the first 3 terms!*

HOMEWORK/CLASSWORK/ETC.

Homework and classwork assignments **must be submitted on time** to receive full credit.

- ✓ Unless otherwise stated, anything assigned for homework/classwork will be **DUE AT THE NEXT CLASS**.
- ✓ If you are going to be absent when an assignment is due, you must take a **PHOTO** of it and **EMAIL** it to me, and bring in the **HARD COPY** when you return.
- ✓ Students will receive **HALF CREDIT** for any late assignment.
- ✓ **Once a test has been given on a unit, no late work will be accepted!**

TOPICS WE'LL BE COVERING

This list is drawn straight from the College Board's AP Psychology curriculum. We'll be covering all of it in same shape or form!

- | | |
|---------------------------------|---|
| A. Methods, Approaches, History | H. Developmental Psychology |
| B. Biological Bases of Behavior | I. Personality |
| C. Sensation and Perception | J. Psychological Testing |
| D. States of Consciousness | K. Abnormal Psychology |
| E. Learning | L. Treatment of Psychological Disorders |
| F. Cognition | M. Social Psychology |
| G. Motivation and Emotion | |

FOLDERS

All students will have a manila folder that will kept in a plastic crate at the front table. These folders are for putting your **completed assignments** into. Once I have checked/graded an assignment, it should be promptly **removed** from your folder and kept in your binder.

I expect students to keep their folders free of old, checked assignments. **Folders are NOT to be used for storage!** Folders that are not used properly will be dealt with accordingly.

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EXTRA CREDIT

My expectation is that you will do your best at all times.
I do NOT do extra credit assignments, so please don't ask.

QUIZLET

I can't stress enough how important and helpful using Quizlet® will be for this class. Add yourself to my class by going to this address: <https://quizlet.com/join/xvxRRPgzE>

SCHOOL CANCELLATIONS/SNOW DAYS

In the event of a **snow day** (or any other school cancellation), it is important to keep to the schedule. This means that on the day we return to school, any assignment from the day(s) off will also be due. If we have a snow day on the day a **test** is scheduled, the test will be given on the day we return.

EXPECTATIONS

- You are expected to treat everyone with respect. That means not talking when others are talking.
- You are expected to do any assigned reading or written homework before coming to class.
- **If you miss class, you are responsible for any notes, content, handouts, and/or other information you missed. "I wasn't there" is never an excuse for missing assignments.**
 - **Get the notes from the website or a classmate.**

THINGS YOU WILL NEED TO BRING TO CLASS EVERY DAY

1. A **three-ring binder** to keep your handouts and notes in.
2. A **notebook or paper** for your binder.
3. A pen or pencil. **DO NOT ASK ME FOR SOMETHING TO WRITE WITH!**
4. Your **textbook**.

OTHER STUFF

Just some technical details/rules:

- All students must do their own work. Any student(s) found to be copying/cheating will be given a **zero (0)** for the assignment in question.
- If you're going to be late for class, **get a pass!**
- **NO PHONES OR OTHER ELECTRONIC DEVICES** are allowed during class, unless I give permission!

TEXT & EMAIL ALERTS

To receive alerts & messages from Mr. Doyle via **text**, just text **@apqhs** to **81010**. Your phone number is not shared!

To receive messages via **email**, send an email to: **apqhs@mail.remind.com** (subject can be left blank)

NOTE

Changes may be made to this set of guidelines during the year.
You will be told about any changes or additions.

TAKING NOTES IN AP PSYCHOLOGY

Due to the large number of units we'll be covering this year, AP Psychology moves at a fast pace. And a very important key to your success will be efficient note-taking skills. Being efficient means looking at a PowerPoint slide, and recognizing what's **important**, while not necessarily **worrying** about **every single word**. This might be difficult for some of you at first, but you'll get better as you work at it!

If you think you missed something in class, don't worry! **The notes for each unit are posted on my website!** Feel free to print them out and bring them to class. They work well as a little "crutch" as you get used to being a better note taker.

HOWEVER...printing out the notes should never replace your own note taking! When you write the notes yourself, you are actually **processing the information in a deeper way** than when you simply read or listen. (We'll learn more about how that works in our unit on memory!)