Renee Douglas Room # 1202

Email: [douglas.renee@hcbe.net](mailto:douglas.renee@hcbe.net) School #: (478) 218-7537

| **AP Psychology** |
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**Course Description:**

This course introduces students to the systematic and scientific study of human behavior and mental processes. While considering the psychologists and studies that have shaped the field, students explore and apply psychological theories, key concepts, and phenomena associated with such topics as the biological bases of behavior, sensation and perception, learning and cognition, motivation, developmental psychology, testing and individual differences, treatment of abnormal behavior, and social psychology. Throughout the course, students employ psychological research methods, including ethical considerations, as they use the scientific method, analyze bias, evaluate claims and evidence, and effectively communicate ideas.

**Course Textbook:**

Psychology: for the AP Course by David G Myers & C. Nathan DeWall… $164.04

**Supplies:**

1. Three-ring binder with dividers
2. Black/Blue Pens
3. Notecards
4. Optional: Color Pencils/Crayons

**Assessment:**

Your grade in this class will be determined by a number of factors. The factors are each worth a percentage of your grade. The percentages are as follows:

| * Final Exam 20 % * Major (Test, Projects) 45 % * Minor (Quizzes, Notebook) 20 % * Daily Work 15 % | **AP Psychology Exam….MAY 9, 2024** |
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\*Excused absences do not count toward exemption.

\*\*This course is cumulative, content will continually be reviewed and assessed.

**Parents have the opportunity to access your child’s grades via “Infinite Campus.”**

**Google Classroom**

To encourage blended learning, Google Classroom will be used in a variety of ways to best serve students throughout the school year. Teachers will be posting weekly to Google Classroom.

* **Students** must establish a Google classroom account and keep up to date with classroom assignments.
* **Assignments**: Students should be familiar with how to navigate the online platform, communicate with their teacher, and submit assignments on time.  If there are technology limitations notify the teacher
* **Cyberbullying:** As defined by Dictionary.com, “the act of harassing someone online by sending or posting mean messages.” *Please keep in mind that Google Classroom is designed to work as an extension of the classroom; therefore, anything done on the site through the access of VHS class will be treated the same as if it were said aloud in the classroom. Inappropriate comments or use of the site can result in disciplinary action.*

**Procedures**

* **Food/Drink in Class-** You are not allowed to have any food or drink in class other than water.
* **Make up Work**- Check the make up bin for your class, Google Classroom, or see me, if you have any questions about your work. Please ask a classmate for missed notes.
* **Cheating**- Cheating on any assignments will result in either teacher or administration disciplinary action.
* **Retesting-** There is no retesting in an Advanced Placement course.
* **Late Work**- Efficient time will be given to complete all assignments. If you do not complete your work and turn in an assignment late it will result in an automatic 50 on that given assignment.
* **Tardy**- When the tardy bell rings, you will then be counted as tardy. Please read over the student handbook to familiarize yourself with the consequences for multiple tardies.
* **Chromebooks**- All students are issued a district-provided chrome book for instructional purposes, student engagement, and student learning. Chrome book use is at the direction and discretion of the classroom teacher.

**College Board Account**

Students MUST have/create an online college board account. This account will be used for class content, AP Exam sign up, and class assessment.

* 8.25.23– Deadline for students to electronically join all AP classes on the College Board website (APcentral.collegeboard.org).

**\*Students must fix College Board issues. This cannot be done by teachers or administrators.** Helpline for students and parents 1-888-225-5427

* 10.27.23 – Deadline for students to register for AP exams on the College Board website.
* 5.9.24 - AP Exam

**AP Exams**

There is no cost for students to take the AP Exam

Students are responsible for registering online for their exams

Students are responsible for any fees incurred should they change their decision.

**Course Breakdown**

Unit 1: Scientific Foundations of Psychology

Unit 2: Biological Bases of Behavior

Unit 3: Sensation and Perception

Unit 4: Learning

Unit 5: Cognitive Psychology

Unit 6: Developmental Psychology

Unit 7: Motivation, Emotion, and Personality

Unit 8: Clinical Psychology

Unit 9: Social Psychology

**Scientific Foundations of Psychology (10-14%)**

Introduction to psychology

Research methods

Experimental method

Selecting a research method

Statistical analysis of psychology

Ethical guidelines

**Biological Bases of Behavior (8-10%)**

Nature v. Nurture

Endocrine System

Nervous System

The neuron & neural firing

Influence of drugs on neural firing

The Brain

Tools for examining the brain

Sleep

**Sensation and Perception (6-8%)**

Principles of Sensation

Principles of Perception

Visual anatomy

Visual perception

Auditory sensation & perception

Chemical sense

Body senses

**Learning (7-9%)**

Introduction to learning

Classical conditioning

Operant conditioning

Social & cognitive factors of learning

**Cognitive Psychology (13-17%)**

Introduction to memory

Encoding, storing, and retrieving

Forgetting & memory distortion

Biological bases of memory

Introduction to thinking & problem solving

Biases & errors in thinking

Introduction to intelligence

Psychometric principles & intelligence testing

Language & language acquisition

**Developmental Psychology (7-9%)**

Lifespan & physical development in children

Social development in childhood

Cognitive development in childhood

Adolescent development in childhood

Adulthood & aging

Moral development

Gender & sexual orientation

**Motivation, Emotion, and Personality (11-15%)**

Motivation theories

Emotion theories

Stress & coping

Introduction to personality

Psychoanalytic theories of personality

Behaviorism & social cognitive theories of personality

Humanistic theories of personality

Trait theory of personality

Measuring personality

**Clinical Psychology (12-16%)**

Introduction to psychological disorders

Psychological perspectives & etiology of disorders

Neurodevelopmental & Schizophrenic spectrum disorders

Bipolar, Depressive, Anxiety, & Obsessive-Compulsive Spectrum Disorders

Trauma- & Stressor- Related, Dissociative, & Somatic Symptom Disorders

Feeding & Eating, Substance & Addictive, & Personality Disorders

Introduction to treatment of disorders

Psychological perspectives on treatment

Biological perspective of treatment

Evaluating strengths, weaknesses, & empirical support for treatment

**Social Psychology (8-10%)**

Attribution theory & personal perception

Attitude formation & attitude change

Conformity, compliance, & obedience

Group influences on behavior & mental processes

Bias, prejudice, & discrimination

Altruism & aggression

Interpersonal attraction

**Student/ Parent Syllabus Signature Page – Please sign and turn in to the teacher tomorrow.**

**Goals:**

1. My goal is to earn a final grade of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ in this course.

2. My goal is to earn a score of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ on the AP Exam for this course.

**Affirmations:**

* I understand that I, as an advanced placement student, am responsible for registering online for my exams. Failure to do so will mean that I am unable to participate in AP for this course during the current school year.

* The school is responsible for meeting College Board deadlines regarding testing registration. Once I have chosen to test/not test and submitted my registration through the College Board website, I am responsible for any fees incurred should I later change my decision.
* I have read this Syllabus and understand the standards, requirements, and expectations for Ms. Douglas’s 2023-2024 AP Psychology class.

Student Name (Printed) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Student Signature\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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Parent/Guardian Email\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Best Phone number to contact\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_