**Psychology Syllabus**

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**What is this class about?**

* How human beings’ behavior is shaped by both biological and environmental factors
* What research and studies show us about how humans tend to think act

**What is the purpose of this class?**

* Improve your understanding of why people behave the way that they do
* Deepen the extent to which you reflect on your own thoughts and actions
* Explore how everyday practices and institutions may be improved by a knowledge of psychology
* Provide a foundation of knowledge to prepare for the AP Psychology exam

**What will I need to bring to class?**

* Laptop (and charger)
* Headphones/earbuds
* Planner
* Writing utensils: pencil and blue/black pen
* *\*\*If you would prefer to take notes by hand:*
	+ 3 ring binder or folder(s)
	+ Loose leaf paper or notebook(s)
	+ Highlighter
	+ Course handouts and readings (usually textbook chapter)

**What will this class look like on a daily basis?**

* Do Now opening exercise/question
* Occasional quiz
* Direct instruction via note-taking or review of homework
* In-class discussion, simulation, or video

**How will I be graded?**

* Assessments (25%): quizzes and tests
* Writing Assignments (30%): informal "journal" essays and formal academic essays
* Participation (25%): seminars, class discussions of videos and readings
* Daily Work (20%): notes checks, questions about
* *\*\*Semester grade = Quarter 1 (40%) + Quarter 2 (40%) + Final exam (20%)*

**Which policies are especially important for me to know?**

* Most coursework will be completed via Canvas.  Your laptop is now among your most critical academic tools.
* This class will request your consistent (respectful) participation
* If you are absent, check the modules page for the daily course work.  Keep up from home if you can.  If you cannot, e-mail me or talk to me when you return, and we will set up a custom catch-up plan.
* Homework is considered late if not turned in by the date and time listed in Canvas.
* Late work is accepted within the following guidelines:
	+ 1 week after the due date- up to 80% credit
	+ 2 weeks after the due date- up to 50% credit
	+ After 2 weeks past the due date- 0% credit
* Plagiarism (i.e., turning in work that is not your own or based upon someone else’s) earns a zero
* If you plan to take the AP exam in May, you will need to study beyond your work for this class
* Regardless of whether you are at home or in the classroom, you will be expected to be in uniform.
* Distance learning students:
	+ Plan to log in to class on Zoom (using your first and last name) at our class start time.  I will let you in from the waiting room when cleaning is finished.
	+ I will ask that you make a habit of keeping your video on and yourself muted, unless you are asking a question or making a comment.
	+ if you are struggling with any tech issues, contact me as soon as possible.
* Cohort students:
	+ Coming to class prepared is even more critical than usual.  Do not count on having extra laptops, chargers, or writing utensils available.
	+ We will be cleaning the classroom and out hands often.  Please prioritize following the cleaning routines.
	+ We will not always be online, but you will be asked to use your laptops to turn things in.

**What do I need to do to be successful in this class?**

* Attend class regularly
* Complete homework on time
* Engage during class
* Explore during discussions: ask questions, muse aloud
* Take good notes
* Ask for help when you need it