**Advanced Placement (AP) Psychology**

**Syllabus/Contract**

**Kecoughtan High School**

**2017-2018**

**Mr. Harrington**

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Length of Course: One year

Materials Required: Textbook (*Psychology: Themes and Variations*; Weiten, Wayne, Thomson Wadsworth Publishing)

 Notebook (Loose leaf 2“ binder)

 Folder (For handouts, returned tests, etc.)

 Pen/Pencil (Pen required for all assignments being turned in)

 Chromebooks – when issued

**Course Overview**

 The purpose of Kecoughtan’s AP course in Psychology is to introduce students to the systematic and scientific study of the behavior and mental processes of human beings and other animals. The course emphasizes learning and cognitive process, human development, understanding of basic problems of relationships to self and others, and choice selection. Students are exposed to the psychological facts, principles, and phenomena associated with each of the major subfields within psychology. They also learn about the methods psychologists use in their science and practice. The aim of Advanced Placement Psychology is to provide the students with a learning experience equivalent to that obtained in an introductory college psychology course.

AP Psychology is a highly structured and very demanding course. Students are required to thoroughly read the college-level textbook and prepare text notes, prior to attending the lecture on the assigned reading. A daily schedule of study is required to meet the expectations of this course—typically one to two hours of preparation per 90 minute class meeting.

One of the primary objectives of this course is to expose students to all areas of information covered on the AP Exam. This is accomplished through lecture, class discussion, video clips, outside readings, guest lecturers, demonstrations, and student projects. These teaching methods are discussed throughout this syllabus. The textbook for the course is the ninth edition of Psychology Themes and Variations by Wayne Weiten.

All students are encouraged to take the AP Psychology exam on May 7th.

Chapter 1 and 2: Evolution of Psychology 2 weeks

 Research Methods

Chapter 3: The Biological Basis of Behavior 2 weeks

Chapter 4: Sensation and Perception 2 weeks

Chapter 5: Variations of Consciousness 2 weeks

Chapter 6: Learning 1.5 weeks

Chapter 7 and 8: Human Memory/Language of Thought 2 weeks

Chapter 10 and 14: Motivation and Emotion /Stress 1.5 weeks

Chapter 12: Personality 1 week

Chapter 9: Intelligence and Psychological Testing 2 weeks

Chapter 11: Human Development 2 weeks

Chapter 13: Social Behavior 2.5 weeks

Chapter 15: Abnormal Psychology 2.5 weeks

Chapter 16: Treatment of Psychological Disorders 2 weeks

Student Expectations:

* There will be Free Response Questions due periodically throughout the year. These will be a combination of those written in class, and those written outside of class.
* One Research Project will be due each nine weeks.
* Tests
* Quizzes (Every class on homework readings) and randomly on classwork
* Class participation/discussions based on assigned readings
* Attentive attitude in class
* Students will be responsible for all readings assigned as well as any lecture materials/class notes.

**Grading Policy**

9-Week Grades Semester Grades

50% = Tests, Essays, Research Project 40% = 1st 9 Week grade

25% = Quizzes/Homework 40% = 2nd 9 Week grade

25% = Participation/Classwork 20% = Semester Exam

**Grading Scale**

In Accordance with Hampton City Schools Policy

**Rules and Procedures**

**1**. Students will show respect to their classmates, teachers, and all others in the classroom. This means you will **raise your hand to be recognized**, you will **not get out of your seat without permission**, and you **will be attentive at all times**.

**2**. **Students will come to class prepared.** This means that you will have all your supplies and assignments, and will be ready to work. Failure to do so will affect your grade.

**3**. Once class begins, students will not be permitted to leave class unless it is an emergency. Students will remain seated until dismissed. Students are expected to be judicious with bathroom requests and not abuse the privilege.

**4**. Students will maintain an organized notebook with this signed syllabus as the first page. Random notebook checks will affect your grade.

**5. Always do your own work. Cheating is absolutely forbidden. Cheating includes - but is not limited to - copying the work of others without appropriate citation (plagiarism) or allowing another student to copy your work. Violation of this rule will result in a grade of zero (0) for the assignment and referral to the appropriate administrator.**

**6**. **No late work will be accepted.** Students will be issued a monthly calendar with reading assignments and test dates. Assignments missed due to absence must be collected the day you return. This is your responsibility. Depending on the length of the absence, we will determine how much time you have to make up the work.

**7.** Quizzes on homework reading will be taken with the class. It is **your responsibility** to find out the assignment and complete prior to class. **If you are present for a quiz, you are to take the quiz.**

**8.** I am here to help you. Feel free to ask questions. I am available in Classroom C13 before and after school if there are any questions.

**Your first participation grade will be to sign this page and have your parent/guardian sign it as well. This is so we all understand what is expected of you. When you bring the signed syllabus, I will sign it as well. This syllabus is to be the first page in your notebook. If it is missing, you will lose participation points.**

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Student Name (Print) Student Signature

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Parent/Guardian Signature Teacher Signature