

Intro to Psychology: Fall, 2022

Mr. Waniata

Hellgate High School Rm. 241

Phone: (406) 728-2400 ext. 6534

Email: jbwaniata@mcpsmt.org

Course Description: Why do we do the things we do? What underlies who we are and how we act? How do researchers investigate the answers to these questions? Psychology is a scientific discipline and profession focused on addressing these issues. This course presents a general survey of the field of psychology, emphasizing natural and social science principles. Students will discover various influences on integrated behavior, including culture, environment, social setting, heredity, and physiology. Students will also be introduced to psychological disorders, including prevention and therapeutic strategies. This introduction to psychology will also include topics such as personality, human development across the lifespan, motivation, emotion, interpersonal behavior, sensation, perception, and basic processes in learning, problem solving and thinking. Students will learn psychological concepts, processes and theories as well as skills in using basic psychological terminology. More importantly, students will develop a better understanding of the self and others, and be able to apply their new knowledge to real life issues.

Important: An introductory psychology course necessarily covers a great deal of material, and contrary to all of your notions about what psychology is, much of it is challenging. Each of your chapters is actually its own specialty area in psychology and psychologists will spend their whole working lives on one area. In short, there is a lot of material to cover and you will only get a “taste” of these major areas in psychology. Since most students have no background in the concepts and terminology in psychology, it is extremely important to keep up with reading assignments and to be forthcoming when any difficulties arise.

Units covered in Psychology:

- Intro to psychology, terminology, and basic ideas
- Psychological Research Unit
- Obsessive Compulsive disorders
- Schizophrenia
- Dissociative Identity Disorders (DID)
- Autism Spectrum Disorders
- Motivation and emotion
- Happiness Unit
- Types of therapies

Grading System:

Project (15%): Anticipate at least 1 group project in the form of a book trailer.

Quizzes, crash course notes/book work: (20%) Quizzes will be used to see if crash course assignments have been completed and understood. They will be unscheduled and given at the instructor's discretion. **All quizzes will be open note.** Crash course reviews will be given at the instructor's discretion but anticipate one/week outside of discussions in class

Participation: (20% or 30 pts per month)

- 10 pts: -Homework/projects/critiques handed in on time and completed
- Participation in class/small group discussions
- Learning/synthesis of the material
- 10pts: -Respect for all opinions
- Citizenship
- Appropriate use of electronic devices
- 10pts: -Attendance
- Tardiness
- Time management in and out of class

Movie Reviews: (45%) You will be given an opportunity to view many films in this course. You will participate in reviews of these films and how they relate to different psychological subjects. All answers to critiques will be submitted in complete sentences. Please be aware that missing this course will often mean missing films. **You will be responsible for all the material covered in the films you miss.**

Make Up and Late Work:

Students who miss class for any reason must hand in makeup work no later than two days after their return. All make up work must be marked "Make up" in the upper left hand corner, accompanied with a date and explanation of the absence. **Please be aware that missing this course will often mean missing films.** I will consider making exceptions to this rule ONLY if students conference with me prior to their absences or, at the very latest, on the day they return. All work that was due on the day of the absence is due THE DAY that the student returns to class. Students who are present and who do not hand in their assignments at the beginning of the period will be docked one letter grade for every day they are late. That is to say, an *A* assignment handed in three days late would receive a *D* grade to start with. *The minimum starting grade you can receive on an assignment is 50%.*

***Anything turned in after this grace period will receive an F but will still get 50% of the original grade until the end of each month! I will accept all late work up until the week before the end of each calendar month.* Your first date of "no turn in" is 10/6/2022**

Google Classroom:

Each section will have its own google classroom. Please check the board now for your code and take a minute to either write it down, if you do not have your device, or sign up using the code if you do! I will also have it on the monitor at the beginning of the class period for the next few days. Everyone is required to be on this classroom and this will be a 25pt assignment (due Sept 9th 2022). Everything you need (whether you are absent or in class). You are responsible for all this material and there will be daily postings.

Mr. Waniata's Classroom Expectations

Be Safe:

*Please do not enter or leave the classroom without a pass. This is for your safety as I am responsible for you during the time you are in this class.

Be Respectful:

*Please don't let food be a distraction in my class.

*Please raise your hand in class and wait to be called upon

*Respect all opinions by listening to others

*When the bell rings I will release you ASAP! I may have one thing to add so please remain in your seats attentively until I release you.

*Keep your hands and feet to yourself

***Cell phones may not be used during class unless given permission by me. You all have one "freebie". If your phone rings during class or if you are caught texting/checking your phone, you have used your "freebie". After that "freebie" the cell phone will be left on the corner of your desk (after you have turned it off) and you may collect it at the end of the period. If this happens more than two times, Hellgate policy will be observed, i.e. parent contact, lunch detentions, dean contact.**

Be Responsible:

***MBI policy states:** You must be in your seats with materials (writing implement, notebook, and textbook) ready to go when the bell rings. If you are not, you are late. The trick is to be a bit early.

* Please do not ask me for a bathroom pass unless it is an emergency. You must check with me before leaving the room for any reason.

*Please do not ask me "What are we doing today?" The agenda is posted on Google Classroom.

*Help keep the classroom clean.

*Return any borrowed items

Be a Graduate:

*Please check IC regularly! I try to update grades once a week so if you see something missing we can discuss it.

Be a Knight:

What does it mean to "Be a Knight" in my classroom? What does it mean to "Be a Knight" at HHS? What does it mean to "Be a Knight" in the community?

Consequences:

1.) Failure to meet any of the above expectations will result in consecutive implementation of the following interventions

- a) Loss of positive behavior incentive (ex. Friday five).
- b) Classroom consequence (ex. staying in for lunch, after school to clean my classroom.)
- c) Dean Referral
- d) Parent contact (ex. phone call or conference)

2.) If expectations are still not met after three interventions, a referral will be sent through the steps established by the Hellgate High School administration. -I reserve the right to make changes to this syllabus at any time.

By signing this I attest that I have read and understand the contents of this syllabus/
classroom rules and I will abide by this contract for the school year indicated.

Please sign and return this portion by Friday, Sept 9th. This is an assignment and is worth 25 points!

Student Name: (Please Print)

Student Signature:

Parent / Guardian Signature: (This is required if you are under the age of 18)
