***Course Description:***

Psychology is the scientific study of behavior and mental processes. It is about the things people do and the thought process (or sometimes lack thereof) behind those actions. An intro Psychology course is about the ***language of the discipline*** and learning to ***use the language by thinking like a psychologist***.

***Classroom Expectations:***

You are expected to conduct yourself in a respectful and productive manner. In addition to all the rules and expectations listed in the student handbook, I expect you to have a positive attitude, treat others with respect, practice self-discipline, and demonstrate responsibility. If these conditions are not met, you can expect one-on-one meetings with me, parent/instructor conferencing, and administrative action, if necessary.

Cell Phones/Electronic Devices --- Cell phones and earbuds/headphones will NOT be allowed to be used during classroom instruction time. Phones and earbuds/headphones will be put away in a location designated by the teacher and placed in silent mode. In secondary schools, students will have access to their phones and earbuds/headphones outside of classroom instruction time such as between classes and lunch. Failure to follow these procedures will result in a disciplinary referral to the office.

Other Classroom Expectations:

* Students are expected to arrive on time and be prepared and attentive.
* Students are expected to participate in class discussions and activities.
* Students are expected to read the material and know the terminology.
* Note-taking is HIGHLY recommended.
  + How you choose to do this is up to YOU!
* Students are expected to turn in all assignments on specified due dates.

***Grading and Make-Up Policy:***

Grades will be updated weekly in PowerSchool. The average found in PowerSchool is the OFFICIAL AVERAGE for the course. Each grading period will consist of nine weeks.

Course Grades: Grades are determined by weighted categories based on the following percentages:

Tests/Projects 70%

Quizzes/CW/HW 30%

Make-up Test: ALL test and quizzes missed due to EXCUSED absences can be scheduled for make-up with the instructor before school, after school, or during Patriot Path. Students may make up quizzes/tests on Monday – Friday mornings starting at 7:30 AM, Monday – Thursday after school, or during Patriot Path Students have **two weeks** from the date of the quiz or test to make it up or the score will remain a zero.

*\*\*\*Times must be scheduled with the instructor IN ADVANCE.*

Late Work: ALL work is due on the due dates indicated in class. Late work will not be accepted. Any work due on a day of absence is expected to be turned in on the student’s FIRST day back in class.

***Items of Interest:***

* Terminology for each chapter can be found in your textbook and on Schoology. YOU are responsible for knowing each term and definition prior to each vocabulary quiz and for the unit test.
* You WILL have two vocabulary quizzes for each unit usually on the day before tests unless otherwise indicated. This quiz will consist of identifying 25 randomly chosen terms. After the first quiz, you will be allowed to work with a partner.
* Quizzes may also be given at the beginning/end of class to assess previous content.
* All tests will consist of multiple-choice questions and may consist of an FRQ.
* All quizzes and tests will be timed. You will have 40 minutes to complete multiple choice sections, 25 minutes to complete FRQS and 20 minutes to complete vocabulary quizzes.
* You will have guided reading to complete for each unit. Guided reading assignments are due on TEST DAY for each unit. Answers to guided reading MUST BE HAND WRITTEN. No typed copies will be accepted.
* Our main goal is to work towards the AP exam. In order to achieve this goal, you MUST be willing to work hard. After all, this is AP!
* Feel free to share stories related to what we are discussing. I will share a great deal with you…please do so with us.
* Leave other school subjects OUT of the room!
* If you are here on quiz/test day, you are taking the quiz or test. You have plenty of advanced notice and you are expected to be prepared.

***Text and Other Materials:***

In addition to lecture and classroom activities, students are encouraged to use some of the resources cited below.

* David G. Myers. Psychology for AP 4th edition – A widely used textbook on college campuses that Myers has reorganized for high school AP will be the required textbook for the course and the mainstay of instruction. It is a very necessary resource for students to use faithfully.
* College Board/Advanced Placement Psychology sample exams and free response materials.
* Crash Course Psychology: This is a video series that can be found on YouTube and is good for review of main concepts.

***Laptops:***

Concerning laptop utilization: 1. Student laptops should not be hard-wired to the network or have print capabilities. 2. Use of discs, flash drives, jump drives, or other USB devices will not be allowed on Madison City computers. 3. Neither the teacher, nor the school is responsible for broken, stolen, or lost laptops. 4. Laptops and other electronic devices will be used at the individual discretion of the teacher.

***ADA Accommodations:***

Requests for accommodations for this course or any school event are welcomed from students and parents. If you require any special needs or assistance during the semester, please notify the instructor sometime during the first week of class.

***AP PSYCH EXAM --- FRIDAY, MAY 16th AT NOON!***

The AP Psychology Examination includes a 90-minute, 75 question multiple-choice section that accounts for two-thirds of the student's exam grade and a 70-minute free-response section made up of two questions, which accounts for one-third of the student's exam grade.

***18 WEEK PLAN: THIS CAN BE FOUND ON SCHOOLOGY.***