

Psychology

Course Number: EL2084

Grade level: 11–12

Credits: 1.0

Prerequisite Courses: None

Course Description

This two-semester course introduces high school students to the study of psychology and helps them master fundamental concepts in research, theory, and human behavior. Students analyze human growth, learning, personality, and behavior from the perspective of major theories within psychology, including the biological, psychosocial, and cognitive perspectives. From a psychological point of view, students investigate the nature of being human as they build a comprehensive understanding of traditional psychological concepts and contemporary perspectives in the field. Course components include an introduction to the history, perspectives, and research of psychology; an understanding of topics such as the biological aspects of psychology, learning, and cognitive development; the stages of human development; aspects of personality and intelligence; the classification and treatment of psychological disorders; and psychological aspects of social interactions.

Course Objectives

Throughout the course, you will meet these goals:

- Compare and contrast the field of psychology with other social and physical sciences
- List and explain the goals of psychological research
- Describe social learning and discuss factors that influence socially learned behavior
- Define sensation and describe the study of psychophysics
- Identify brain structures and various factors influencing memory formation
- Summarize the nature versus nurture debate
- Define personality and discuss environmental and biological influences on personality
- Compare and contrast the medical and biopsychosocial perspectives of psychological disorders
- Identify important factors in the formation and maintenance of close relationships

Student Expectations

This course requires the same level of commitment from you as a traditional classroom course would. Throughout the course, you are expected to spend approximately five to seven hours per week online on the following activities:

- Interactive lessons that include a mixture of instructional videos and tasks
- Assignments in which you apply and extend learning in each lesson
- Assessments, including quizzes, tests, and cumulative exams

Communication

Your teacher will communicate with you regularly through discussions, email, chat, and system announcements. Through this communication with your teacher, you will monitor your progress through the course and improve your learning by reviewing material that was challenging for you.

You will also communicate with classmates, either via online tools or face to face:

- Collaborate on projects
- Ask and answer questions in your peer group
- Develop speaking and listening skills

Grading Policy

You will be graded on the work you do online and the work you submit electronically to your teacher. The weighting for each category of graded activity is listed below.

Assignments	10%
Essays	10%
Lesson Quizzes	20%
Unit Tests	20%
Cumulative Exams	20%
Additional	0%

Scope and Sequence

When you log into the Virtual Classroom, you can view the entire course map, which provides a scope and sequence of all topics you will study. Clicking a lesson's link in the course map leads to a page listing instructional activities, assignments, and learning objectives specific to that lesson. The units of study are summarized below:

- Unit 1:** Psychology: History, Perspectives, and Research
- Unit 2:** Psychology and the Body: Biology, Sensation, Perception, and Consciousness
- Unit 3:** Being Human: The Nature of Human Experience
- Unit 4:** Becoming Human: Motivation, Emotion, Development, and Personality
- Unit 5:** Disorders: Classification and Treatment
- Unit 6:** Social Psychology: The Science of Human Interaction