

KAP Psychology 2009/2010
Tiffin Columbian High School

Instructor: Mrs. Annette Gardner
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Course Description: This course is in partnership with Kenyon College and is equivalent to introductory psychology at the college level. Topics of study will include those essential to a basic understanding of the field including the history and background of psychology, research methods in the field, the relationship between the physical body and behavior, learning, sensation and perception, memory, intelligence, human development, motivation, emotion, personality, stress, and abnormal psychology. Much emphasis will be placed on the role of science in the study of human behavior.

Required Text:

Carlson, Neil R. (2007). *Psychology: The Science of Behavior*. Boston, MA: Allyn and Bacon.

Requirements:

Attendance

Your attendance at **every** class is required in order to benefit fully from this class. If you miss a class, it is your responsibility to contact me in order to discuss what was missed. Missing class will adversely affect your class participation grade since obviously you cannot participate if you are not present. Please be on time to class as well. Unexcused absences will result in loss of credit for missed assignments, tests, or activities as per school policy.

Participation

Your participation in class discussions and activities is required. Be prepared to interact with your classmates on a regular basis. In order to do this effectively, you must come to class **prepared** with all written work and reading completed. In addition, it is essential that everyone feel free to participate without fear of negative reactions from classmates. This means we must be respectful of all opinions and ideas. Respectful disagreement is expected, as spirited class discussions will help us all to better understand human motivation and behavior.

Grading

Components of Grade:

Unit Exams	40%
Formal Writing Assignments	20%
Class Participation	10%
Quizzes	10%
Vocabulary	10%
Reflective Writing Assignments	10%

Unit Exams

- each unit will comprise two to three chapters in the regular text
- each unit exam will be made up of multiple choice and essay questions

Formal Writing Assignments

- formal writing assignments may include but not be limited to summaries of outside readings, summaries of research, original research, literature reviews, etc.
- at least one formal writing assignment will be assigned per quarter

Class Participation

- class participation will be required on a daily basis
- class participation grades will be based on quantity as well as quality
- this is a subjective grade based on my evaluation from my own anecdotal evidence

Quizzes

- quizzes will be announced, unannounced, in-class, and take-home
- quizzes will occur approximately once a week

Vocabulary

- since it is essential that you understand the vocabulary used in the field of psychology, you will be required to complete a rather extensive vocabulary assignment for each chapter of the text
- you will be given options for completing the vocabulary so as to best fit your learning style

Reflective Writing Assignments

- reflective writing assignments are more informal assignments requiring personal reactions to the content of class readings and/or discussions
- although these assignments are informal, proper spelling, grammar, and sentence structure is still expected
- they may be assigned to be completed in class, or as homework
- several reflective assignments will be completed each week

Final Notes

Any written material presented must adhere to APA guidelines for ethical research and writing. This means material taken from the text or other sources should be cited using APA style documentation.

All Columbian policies as per the student handbook will be followed for this class. This means behavior and attendance policies.