

# AP Psychology Course Syllabus

2025-2026

Ms. Alberghini

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B 201 (1), B 209 (3), C 125 (4)

*"Most people are overconfident about what they can accomplish in any given day. However, most people underestimate how much they could accomplish in a week, month, or year. Small, regular, and systematic steps can lead to very comprehensive and complete results."*

-David G. Myers, *The Pursuit of Happiness*

Is there a "sixth" sense? How accurate is eyewitness testimony? Do parents make a difference in a child's upbringing? Does the brain control different parts of the body? Can we condition fear into a person?

These are all examples of the many questions that will be addressed throughout the course. Students will explore both historic and contemporary research on observable behavior, and the intricacy of the human mind. AP Psychology is a writing intensive class that introduces and examines major ideas and concepts equivalent to an introductory level college course. This course is designed to introduce students to the systematic and scientific study of the behavior and mental processes of human beings. Most importantly, students will discover why we do what we do.

## Course Overview

### AP Exam: Tuesday, May 12, 2026

#### Unit 1: Biological Bases of Behavior

- Interaction of Heredity and Environment
- Overview of the Nervous System
- The Neuron and Neural Firing
- The Brain
- Sleep
- Sensation

#### Unit 2: Cognition

- Perception
- Thinking, Problem-Solving, Judgements and Decision Making
- Introduction to Memory
- Encoding Memories
- Storing Memories
- Retrieving Memories
- Forgetting and Other Memory Challenges
- Intelligence and Achievement

### Unit 3: Development and Learning

- Themes and Methods in Developmental Psychology
- Physical Development Across the Lifespan
- Cognitive Development Across the Lifespan
- Communication and Language Development
- Social-Emotional Development Across the Lifespan
- Classical Conditioning
- Operant Conditioning
- Social, Cognitive, and Neurological Factors in Learning

### Unit 4: Social Psychology and Personality

- Attribution Theory and Person Perception
- Attitude Formation and Attitude Change
- Psychology of Social Situations
- Psychodynamic and Humanistic Theories of Personality
- Social-Cognitive and Trait Theories of Personality
- Motivation
- Emotion

### Unit 5: Mental and Physical Health

- Introduction to Health Psychology
- Positive Psychology
- Explaining and Classifying Psychological Disorders
- Selection of Categories of Psychological Disorders
- Treatment of Psychological Disorders

### Grade Breakdown

Test, 50%                      Quiz, 25%                      Homework, 25%

### Absences/Late work

In the case of an absence, you will have as many days as you were absent to make up the work. If you are absent for one day, you will have one day to make up the assignment. Each day the assignment is late will be a reduction of credit by 20% per day. After five days, the assignment will no longer be accepted. If you are absent for a test, you will have five days to make up that test.

### Technology

Per school policy, cell phones will be put in the calc-pals for the entirety of the class period. If you have some kind of extenuating circumstance, talk to your teacher to see if an exception can be made.

Always come to class with a charged computer.

### Google Classroom

Period 1A: [nqg62ms5](#)

Period 1B: [boyrq7nt](#)

Period 3A: [ymebkz2p](#)

Period 3B: [gbgwrrxc](#)

Period 4A: [jz5sjgue](#)

Period 4B: [alfkbtttd](#)