



**JOHN F. KENNEDY HIGH SCHOOL
COURSE SYLLABUS
DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SCIENCES**

SPS210-SPS211, PSYCHOLOGY

Fall 2016 – Spring 2017

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Room: T-10

Course Description:

The psychology course is designed to be an introduction into the science of psychology. It is a strong academic survey of the essentials of psychology from the physiological facts and classical theories to current trends. The course content will include the general academic overview of psychology, including its vocabulary, research methods and important individuals in the area of psychology. It will also present the general methods of scientific investigation as they are applied to human behavior. It is a broad academic survey of problems, methods, facts and principles. The course content will give students the opportunity to examine and reflect upon their beliefs, attitudes and feelings about themselves and their ideas of what people are like and why they behave as they do. Also included are topics such as: personality, intellectual abilities and adjustment, learning skills, perception, emotions, motivation, personality disorders, thinking and biological influences on behavior.

Course Goals:

1. Identify historical backgrounds and approaches to psychology.
2. Read contemporary news articles relating to everyday psychology issues.
3. Identify different psychological approaches to therapy and research.
4. Describe the theories of personality.
5. Describe the neurological systems of the body.
6. Analyze sensation and perception.
7. Describe child development and the various theories regarding social influences.
8. Analyze learning, memory and intelligence.
9. Identify the various psychological disorders.
10. Describe the major motives of life: love, food, social approval and work.
11. Analyze one's emotions, stress and mental health.

Textbook:

Psychology And You, Second Edition

West Publishing Company, 1995

Authors: McMahon, McMahon and Romano

Student Responsibility:

1. **Class Participation:** Each of you will be expected to take part in discussions on your own and/or when called upon. Your willingness and ability to contribute to our discussions will be considered as part of your grade. Oral presentations will be conducted by each student.
2. **Homework:** Both short-term assignments and long-term projects and research will require your attention at home. Work will be completed prior to the start of class on its given due date. **Late work will not be accepted.**
3. **Attendance:** Attendance is vital! Should you miss class, it is **your responsibility** to find out what you have missed by asking the instructor and/or classmate. You have the same number of days to turn in work as the number of days for which you have **excused** absences. Many activities and experiences cannot be repeated for an individual who misses class. Poor attendance will affect your grade.

Grading Policy:

Grades reflect the percentage of points earned of the total points possible. The sum of points earned on notebooks, writing assignments, quizzes, tests, projects, homework, activities and participation divided by the number of cumulative total points will determine your overall grade. Keep all papers pertaining to your grade. It is **your responsibility** to prove any discrepancies with your grade. **No late work will be accepted.** Grades will be earned by the following percentages:

90-100% = A 80-89% = B 70-79% = C 60-69% = D 0-59% =F

Materials:

- *A box of colored pencils
- *Highlighter
- *Lined paper
- *Blue and/or black pens and #2 pencils.
- *A ruler

Behavior Expectations:

- *Follow all school rules.
- *Be on time, prepared to work with needed materials.
- *Everyone will be treated with respect.
- *No one will be allowed to disrupt the learning process of anyone else.
- *No use of any type of electronics in class unless given permission.
- *Appropriate behavior and language is expected.
- *Lying, cheating, plagiarism or any form of dishonesty will not be tolerated.
- *No eating in class.
- *If you are **SUSPENDED**, you will **NOT** be allowed to make-up any work.

Infractions that will warrant a referral and/or disciplinary action:

- *Use of cell phone and any other electronic devices without permission.
- *Disrupting the class.
- *Eating food in class.

(Policy subject to additions)

_____ Cut Here And Return _____

We, the student and the parent/guardian, have read the syllabus and agree to its terms and policies to have a successful school year in Psychology. (Perez, T-10)

Print Student Name

Print Parent/Guardian Name

Student Signature

Parent/Guardian Signature

Date:

Date:

