

Social Studies Department
2009-2010

Course Title: Psychology

Teacher: Agnes Kirkland

Contact Information: (301)372-0140 Agnes.Kirkland@pgcps.org

Course Description:

The Psychology course is designed to introduce students to the systematic and scientific study of the behavior and mental processes of human beings and other animals. Students are exposed to the psychological facts, principles, and phenomena associated with each of the major subfields within psychology. They also learn about the ethics and methods psychologists use in their science and practice.

Course Objectives:

Students will:

- learn about some of the exploration and discoveries made by psychologists over the past century.
- assess some of the differing approaches adopted by psychologists, including the biological, behavioral, cognitive, humanistic, psychodynamic, and sociocultural perspectives.
- come to an appreciation of how psychologists think (or at least an appreciation of the kind of critical analysis that psychologists espouse and hope to model in their words and actions).

Units of Study:

Unit 1 Approaches to Psychology

Unit 2 The Life Span

Unit 3 Workings of the Mind and Body

Unit 4 Learning and Cognitive Processes

Unit 5 Personality and Individuality

Unit 6 Adjustment and Breakdown

Unit 7 Social Psychology

Text:

Richard A. Kasschau, Understanding Psychology (New York: Glencoe, 2003) with accompanying ancillary materials

Grading Factors:

Preparation

Class work 25%

Homework 25%

Assessment 50%

Quizzes, Tests, Projects

Materials/Supplies:

The following items should be brought to class each day:

- Textbook
- Notebook
- Paper
- Black/blue ink pens

Guidelines:

- The school uniform should be worn each day.
- ID badges should be worn each day.
- Personal needs should be taken care of before class.
- All needed materials should be brought to class each day.
- Be prepared to begin work at the sound of the bell.
- Respect everyone in the classroom.
- Remain seated unless you are given permission to move.

Attendance:

Students who are considered lawfully absent from class will have the opportunity to make up missed assignments. The number of days allowed to make up missed work will be equivalent to the number of days of lawful absences. (Procedure 5121.3)

In secondary schools, five (5) days of unlawful absences per semester course or ten (10) days unlawful absences per full year course shell result in the assignment of an “E” for the course. (Procedure 5121.3)

Parent Signature

Date

Student Signature

Date

Teacher Signature

Date

Approved: _____

Carletta Marrow, Principal