

# Adv PI Psychology

## **Pre-Requisites:**

**Credits:** 0.5 (per segment)

**Estimated Completion Time:** 2 Segments / 32-36 weeks

**Earliest Start Date:** March 2014

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## Description

AP Psychology is a college-level course providing students an overview of the development of human behaviors and thoughts. Along with preparation for the AP Psychology exam, the goals of this course are to immerse students in modern psychological investigation techniques, to accentuate the ethics and morality of human and animal research, and to emphasize scientific critical thinking skills in application to the social sciences. Psychology is a diverse social and biological science with multiple perspectives and interpretations.

The primary emphasis of this course is to help students develop an understanding of concepts rather than memorize terms and technical details; the ultimate goal is to prepare students to successfully take the AP Psychology examination offered in May.

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## Major Topics and Concepts

### **Segment One**

- The history of psychology
- Major historical figures in psychology
- Research methods of psychology
- Biological bases of behavior
- Influence of drugs on the brain
- Sensation and perception
- States of consciousness
- Types of learning: classical conditioning, operant conditioning and observational learning
- Compare and contrast cognitive processes

### **Segment Two**

- Memory
  - Compare and contrast motivational theories
  - Compare and contrast theories of emotion
  - Developmental psychology
  - Nature vs. nurture
  - Compare and contrast theories of personality
  - Intelligence and testing intelligence
  - Abnormal behavior/Psychological disorders
  - Major contributors to the different fields of psychology
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## Required Materials

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## Course Objectives

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### Grading Policy

Besides engaging students in challenging curriculum, the course guides students to reflect on their learning and evaluate their progress through a variety of assessments. Assessments can be in the form of practice lessons, multiple choice questions, writing assignments, projects, research papers, oral assessments, and discussions. The course will use the state-approved grading scale and each course contains a unique end of course assessment. This assessment counts for 20% of the student's overall grade and must be passed with a score of 60% or higher.

Students must take the Advanced Placement exam to receive Advanced Placement credit.

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### Communication Policy

To achieve success, students are expected to submit work in each course weekly. Students can learn at their own pace; however, "any pace" still means that students must make progress in the course every week. To measure learning, students complete self-checks, practice lessons, multiple choice questions, simulated AP exams, projects, discussion-based assessments, and discussions. Students are expected to maintain regular contact with teachers; the minimum requirement is monthly. When teachers, students, and parents work together, students are successful.

Students must take the Advanced Placement exam to receive Advanced Placement credit. Students who complete the course successfully but do not take the AP exam will receive Probability & Statistics credit.

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