

# READINESS PROFILE & COURSE EXPECTATIONS

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## AP Psychology

### COURSE DESCRIPTION

- The AP Psychology course is designed to introduce students to the systematic and scientific study of the behavior and mental process 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.
- This course may be used to meet the UC/CSU "G" requirement.

### COURSE CONTENT AND EXPECTATIONS

The *Advanced Placement Psychology* course is a college level course that is taught at an accelerated pace. Students will study the major facts and principles in the fields of psychology. They will also learn about the methods psychologists use to monitor and evaluate psychological processes. Topics will include research methodology, statistics, personality development and theories, therapy, developmental psychology, biological bases of behavior, learning, social psychology, sensation, perception, states of consciousness, memory and other cognitive processes, intelligence and testing, motivation, emotion, mental illness, stress and diversity. The course also seeks to prepare students to take the College Board Advanced Placement Examination in Psychology, offered every year in May.

### MAJOR UNITS OF STUDY

History and Approaches  
Methods and Research  
Biological Bases of Behavior  
Sensation and Perception  
States of Consciousness  
Learning  
Cognition  
Motivation and Emotion  
Developmental Psychology  
Personality  
Social Psychology  
Disorders  
Treatment

### STUDENT BACKGROUND

Students entering AP Psychology should already have a good understanding of the following:  
Minimum of 9<sup>th</sup> grade proficiency in writing and reading standards.

### Suggested preparatory courses:

(There are no prerequisites, however, the following courses would be helpful in giving AP Psychology students a head start):

Biology  
Psychology (1-2) (absolutely not mandatory)

**Please see syllabus for additional course rules and information**

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## WORKLOAD EXPECTATIONS

Students will read and take notes on approximately 10 pages of text per school night. Chapter quizzes, Unit Exams, Midterm, and Final, consisting of multiple choice and free response questions will assess student learning.

**Please see syllabus for additional course rules and information**