

TEACHER INFORMATION

Name: Jamie Barnes

Phone: Will be provided in class.

E-mail: jamie_barnes@ccpsnet.net

Office Hours: Elluminate Sessions from 8-9pm on Sundays and by appointment.

COURSE DESCRIPTION

CS 238 0.5 Credit

This semester long course provides students with an introduction to the study of behavior and mental processes. They will learn the facts and concepts important to the different fields of psychology and explore the methods used within these fields. This course is .5 credit as a Social Studies elective for the high school diploma.

Each unit of study will have the following structure:

1. A reminder
2. Course overview
3. Course content
4. Discussion
5. Assignment
6. Evaluation

COURSE OUTCOMES

Your journey through the exciting science of psychology will begin as a class discussion and then a brief history of the roots of psychology. Since we are social beings it is only natural to begin with an in depth investigation of socio-cultural psychology. Then you will become a psychologist and conduct a simple experiment, after learning about research design and ethics of course! Next you will explore how the learning, biological and cognitive levels of analysis explain various psychological questions, like, "What is the etiology of: aggression, depression, or gender differences?" After answering the aforementioned questions, you will begin the human development scrapbook as you reflect on the developmental theories that explain the stages of life you have progressed through. You will complete the first half of the course with a celebration of knowledge or the midterm exam.

Memory will be the first topic to start the second half of the course. During this lesson you will have an opportunity to partake in simple experiments that demonstrate the workings of the brain when encoding information. Since language is an integral component to the encoding process we will explore how humans acquire language and debate whether or not primates are capable of language through the use of sign language.

The evaluation of the etiology and treatment for mental disorders will be the last two topics of the course. Depression, eating disorders, anxiety disorders, phobias, and schizophrenia are just some of the topics that will be investigated in addition to the treatments of each disorder. Students will have an opportunity to create a skit demonstrating their knowledge of a particular disorder and its treatments for these lessons.

While the course comes to a close with the final exam, the knowledge you gained will hopefully be applied to your life and you will make the world a better place.

HOW TO MEET COURSE GOALS

Learning about psychology is fun, but make a commitment to the class and schedule the course within your normal week. It is suggested you spend 30 minutes a day working on psychology. There will be discussions, blogs, and short readings that you will need to complete before working on a project or taking a quiz.

Weekly Elluminate sessions will be held and recorded and you are encouraged to attend the "live" classroom. This is an opportunity for students to share their work, discuss concepts, and share experiences.

GRADING:

- Assignments
 - Students will have the opportunity to use their individual strengths when completing assignments. Papers, PowerPoints, movie skits, songs, and informational campaigns are all choices you have to choose from. You will also have some choices in aspects of a particular topic you want to research. This course has been designed to allow you to learn about psychology in relation to your life and what you find important. Elluminate session will provide you and your classmates a time to share what you learned. Since students have a choice on what topics they investigated, you will learn more about psychological theory as it applies to other people and their interests.
- Unit Evaluations
 - The unit evaluation will consist of a multiple choice quiz on key vocabulary, concepts, and theory for that unit. The evaluation is intended to help you reflect on what you've learned and identify any areas that may need to be addressed in more depth.

MATERIALS NEEDED

- Textbooks are not required for this class. The class content in each learning module will act as the textbook for students.
- Headphones and microphone (if possible) are necessary in order to participate fully in Elluminate live discussions.

COURSE SCHEDULE

Unit 1: Introduction to Psychology

Unit 2: History of Psychology

- Psychology's Roots
- Contemporary Psychology

Unit 3: Learning

- Classical Conditioning
- Operant Conditioning

Unit 4: Ethics

Unit 5: Research

- Research Methodology
- Research Design

Unit 6: Social Psychology

- Understanding Social Behavior and Social Thought
- Social Thinking
- Social Influence

- Social Relations

Unit 7: Neuroscience and Behavior

- Neuron
- Neural Communication
- Nervous System
- Endocrine System
- The Brain

Unit 8: Cognitive Processes

- Introduction
- Memory
- Language

Unit 9: Psychological Disorders and Therapy

- History of psychological disorders
- Diagnosis
- Therapy
- Bio-psychosocial approach

Unit 10: Mini Lessons

- Motivation and Emotion
- Sensation
- Perception
- Development
- Nature, Nurture, and Human Diversity

COURSE POLICIES:

- **Assignment Submission Deadlines:** Lesson due dates are noted in the **My Grades** area and will be announced ahead of time.
- Most submission due dates are on Fridays and Sundays of each week. Assignments should be submitted by the **end of the day (11:59 p.m.)** on the date they are due.

CCPS POLICIES:

Chesterfield County Public Schools (CCPS): Students are expected to abide by the academic integrity policies of CCPS, especially those pertaining to plagiarism, cheating, password sharing, and attendance. (For specific guidelines, refer to the *CCPSOnline Student and Parent Handbook* included in the student orientation.)

LEARNING RESOURCES:

[AllPsych Online](#)

[Encyclopedia of Psychology](#)

[Purdue OWL: APA Formatting and Style Guide](#)