

Mr. Shawn Dugan

Syllabus: Psychology I

COURSE OBJECTIVE: After completing this course, students will be able to (1) gain insight into their own behaviors and the behaviors of others, (2) explore the biological and social influences on individual behavior and group relationships, (3) analyze behavior by using the theories discussed in the course, and (4) apply scientific method to the writing of a research paper about a psychology topic.

REQUIRED MATERIALS: Binder (with four tabs, including homework, vocabulary, lecture notes, and tests/quizzes.)

TEXTBOOK: Understanding Psychology (2008). Glencoe Publishing

COURSE OUTLINE:

1. Lecture notes will be given daily and the material from the lectures will appear on tests and quizzes. Students, who wish to perform well in the class, should record all notes in a three-ring binder strictly reserved for psychology. Class participation is based on verbal contributions and the teacher's observation of notes being recorded by students. Binders should be kept neat and organized. They will be checked at the end of the month, as the quarter allows. They will be used to as credit for 15% of each student's average.
2. Quizzes could be given weekly. Students must be prepared everyday for these quizzes, even though they may not occur every day. They will most often be announced in class and on-line.
3. Tests will be given at the end of every chapter and unit. They will be announced in class and on-line two to three days in advance. This provides a prepared student adequate time to review.
4. Anyone absent from school (for an excused reason) during a test or a quiz will take a make-up test/quiz (during class or after school) one to two days after their return (unless otherwise decided by the teacher). If a student misses a test or a quiz due to a school activity and fails to warn Mr. Dugan of the conflict in advance of the absence, they will be penalized with a point deduction on the make-up test.
5. Homework will be given frequently. It will be checked on random days, so every student is advised to do it every night, and may be counted as a quiz grade. Note this work will affect your quiz grades and class participation grade. Homework not done to the student's best ability will earn them a failure or zero for homework. Zeros add up!

GRADING:

Class Participation 15%	Homework 15%
Quizzes 30%	Tests 40%

STUDENTS AND PARENTS PLEASE NOTE: Class participation, although only 15%, can very easily help or hurt a grade. With approximately 40 days per quarter, a student stands to either earn or lose 2 ½ points per class day.

How to earn 2 ½ points per day...

- Follow the lecture, with full attention on either the book or the virtual white board/teacher.
- Take notes and participate in class discussions.
- Arrive in class before the final bell, dressed in full uniform (hair included), with no gum, purse, or electronic device.

PARENTS PLEASE NOTE: Any parent wishing to contact me with any questions or concerns may do so via e-mail (sdugan@shhslions.com) or phone (856-691-4491 Ext. 1205). Students may not e-mail or call me at any time. If a student has any questions, they must see me after class