



Northwest High School

AP Psychology

Dr. Swope



Course Description: The AP Psychology course introduces students to the systematic and scientific study of human behavior and mental processes. While considering the psychologists and studies that have shaped the field, students explore and apply psychological theories, key concepts, and phenomena associated with such topics as the biological bases of behavior, sensation and perception, learning and cognition, motivation, developmental psychology, testing and individual differences, treatment of abnormal behavior, and social psychology. Throughout the course, students employ psychological research methods, including ethical considerations, as they use the scientific method, analyze bias, evaluate claims and evidence, and effectively communicate ideas.

(College Board, 2014)

Academic Expectations: During each class meeting, students will be expected to participate in demonstrations and discussions. Due to the accelerated nature of the course, students are required to take notes and be responsible for the material from class lectures. If students have missed or will miss class, it is their responsibility to keep pace with the class. Due to the online assessments and the recorded video lectures, students' ability to succeed is not limited to attendance.

Grades: Grades are determined from formative and summative assessments. Students are welcome to submit work early for feedback and then resubmission. Because all assignments and their due dates are posted well in advanced, late work cannot be accepted.

- The formative assessments are:
 - Chapter outlines submitted to www.turnitin.com
 - Written work via www.sagrader.com
 - Written work via www.reviseabl.com
- The summative assessments are given via swopepsych.com.
 - If a student is absent during a test, alternative an alternative test date will be arranged.

Communication: Grades are posted online and updated frequently. Thus, student progress can be easily monitored and improved. Students are welcome to email Dr. Swope frequently. Students are encouraged to keep up with class announcements and to communicate with their classmates about projects via [twitter.com@swopepsych](https://twitter.com/swopepsych).