

Course Title: Psychology
Credit / Hours: 1 credit

Board Approval Date: June, 2010

Course Description:

This course focuses on mastery of the National Academic Standards for Psychology as defined by the American Psychological Association at:

<http://www.apa.org/education/k12/national-standards.aspx#>.

Psychology is the study of behavior and mental processes. It is a science with roots in the fields of biology, philosophy and physiology. The philosophical background causes psychologists to wonder about the behavior and thinking of humans, and the more science-based knowledge allows us to test our hypotheses. Discussions, lectures, and assignments will introduce the student to developing an understanding of human behavior. The primary questions addressed in the course, will be "Why do people act the way that they do in specific situations?" and "How can people change their behaviors?"

This introductory course will expose students to many of the fields of interest within Psychology. Topics covered that will be the more familiar include Personality Development, Learning, Memory, and Abnormal Behavior. Students will also study the Biological Basis of Behavior, Motivation, Sensation, Perception, Memory and Life Span Development. Students will learn about the methods psychologists use in their science and practice. In addition, students are expected to develop their critical thinking skills throughout the course, while building their reading, writing, and discussion skills. As a final project, students will complete personal case studies that integrate three or more psychological theories that apply to their own personal development.

Learning Activities / Modes of Assessment:

Large group instruction
Tests and Quizzes
Small group work
Writing assignments
Classroom experiments
Teacher Observation
Natural Observation
Classroom Projects and Presentations
Computer simulations
Personal, Introspective Case Studies

Instructional Resources:

Kasschau, Richard A. Understanding Psychology. Columbus: McGraw Hill, 2001.

LCD Projector with DVD, speakers and smartboard

CFF Computer Cart with 28 laptops

TV with VHS

Appropriate Internet resources

Course Pacing Guide

Course: **Psychology (One Semester, 16 weeks)**

Course Unit (Topic)	Length of Instruction (Weeks)
1. Approaches to Psychology	1 Week
2. Body and Behavior	2 Weeks
3. Sensation and Perception	2 Weeks
4. Motivation and Emotion	2 Weeks
5. Stress and Health	1 Week
6. The Life Span	2 Weeks
7. Personality, Individuality & Psychological Testing	2 Weeks
8. Learning: Principles and Applications	2 Weeks
9. Abnormal Behavior	1 Week
10. Time for remediation or Concentration on Areas of Interest	1 Week