

**Psychology I Course Syllabus**  
**Kennedy High School**  
**Sara Lyons**

**Purpose**

Psychology I will introduce students to the systematic and scientific study of human behavior and mental processes. Students are exposed to the psychological facts, principles, and phenomena associated with many subfields within psychology. Students will study and evaluate a general survey of the concepts and ideas in the field of Psychology.

**Course Outline**

<p><b>Psychology's Purpose &amp; Research Methods</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A. Experimental</li> <li>B. Correlational</li> <li>C. Clinical Research</li> <li>D. Ethics in Research</li> </ul> <p><b>Biological Bases of Behavior</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A. Physiological Techniques (e.g., imaging, surgical)</li> <li>B. Neuroanatomy</li> <li>C. Functional Organization of Nervous System</li> <li>D. Neural Transmission</li> <li>E. Endocrine System</li> <li>F. States of Consciousness             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Sleep &amp; Dreaming</li> <li>2. Hypnosis</li> <li>3. Psychoactive Drugs</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<p><b>Social Psychology</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A. Group Dynamics</li> <li>B. Attribution Processes</li> <li>C. Interpersonal Perception</li> <li>D. Conformity, Compliance, Obedience</li> <li>E. Attitudes and Attitude Change</li> <li>F. Organizational Behavior</li> <li>G. Aggression/Antisocial Behavior</li> <li>H. Cultural Influences</li> </ul> <p><b>Abnormal Behavior</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A. Definitions of Abnormality</li> <li>B. Theories of Psychopathology</li> <li>C. Diagnosis of Psychopathology</li> <li>D. Types of Disorders             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Anxiety</li> <li>2. Mood</li> <li>3. Schizophrenic</li> <li>4. Personality</li> <li>5. Dissociative</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
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**Textbook**

- Myers, D.G. 2013. *Psychology in Everyday Life, 2<sup>nd</sup> edition*. Worth Publishers.

**Required Daily Materials**

- One three-ring binder with filler paper -OR- Folder & Notebook
- Pen and/or pencil
- Fully charged Chromebook

## Course Objectives

- Students will study the core concepts and theories of psychology. They will be able to define key terms and use these terms in their everyday vocabulary.
- Students will learn the basic skills of psychological research. They will be able to devise simple research projects, interpret and generalize from the results, and evaluate the validity of research reports.
- Students will be able to apply psychology concepts to their own lives. They will be able to recognize psychological principles when they encounter them in everyday situations.
- Students will develop critical thinking skills. They will become aware of the danger of blindly accepting or rejecting reports of research findings without careful and objective evaluation.

## Contact Information

Email is the best way to contact me: [slyons@isd271.org](mailto:slyons@isd271.org)

If you need extra help, please request to be in my Academic Seminar. There is a sign-up sheet on my classroom door. I will try to pull everyone whose name is on my request list by Friday of the week prior to the Seminar date. Additionally, students who need extra help are welcome to drop by after school. Please let me know when you would like to come in case I have a meeting.

## Course Calendar Access

1. Classroom: The daily agenda and weekly homework schedule will be posted on the board.
2. Google Classroom: We will be enrolling in Google Classroom during class time.
3. HUB: The Kennedy HUB will have a link to your course calendar, including due dates for homework and assessments.
4. Moodle: We will regularly use our classroom Moodle page for activities, review, calendar functions and much more.

**\*IMPORTANT NOTE:** Due dates may change, but you will receive ample notice.

## Grading Standards

A	94%	C	74%
A-	90%	C-	70%
B+	87%	D+	67%
B	84%	D	64%
B-	80%	D-	60%
C+	77%	F	below 60

## Formative Assessments Policies

- Formative/Practice is worth 20% of your grade. This category includes class activities, daily assignments, guided reading questions, quizzes, & homework.
- Formative work is practice designed to help students master the skills and content of the course. Formative work is essential to student success in this course.
- Revisions or resubmissions of formative work will not be accepted for grading purposes.

- Formative work will be accepted late, but with a 20% penalty. A final deadline for all late work will be announced near the end of the trimester. After the final formative deadline, no late formatives will be accepted.

### Summative Assessments & Retakes Policies

- If a student is verified absent on a test day, s/he will have one week in which to make-up the missed test. Arrangements need to be made with your instructor within that window. Exceptions will be granted for extenuating circumstances. Missing tests may only be completed after school or during Academic Seminar. Students who wait to make-up the test until *after* the one-week timeframe will not be eligible for a retake on that assessment. The one-week timeframe will be extended for students with multiple verified absences.
- Students will be allowed TWO retake opportunities per trimester. Students may retake one summative assessment of their choice on the official “retake day” at mid-trimester. Additionally, they will be allowed a second retake of an assessment of their choice on Final Exam day during the Review Hour prior to the Final. Students may also elect not to retake an assessment on these days. These students will be given the time to complete homework or study instead.
- Students are expected to put in additional study time prior to retaking any assessment. Students must complete any missing formative work (i.e. Guided Reading Questions) for that unit prior to their retake. If formative work is not completed by the retake day, the student will not be allowed to test and will have forfeited their retake opportunity. Students who are verified absent on the official retake day will need to make arrangements with the instructor to complete their retake within one week of the original retake day.
- After a retake, the higher of the two test scores will be used for the grade book.
- If a student is unverified absent on a test or retake day, they will not be allowed a retake for that assessment. Their first score will stand.
- There will be no retakes on Final Exams. □
- If a student is unverified absent on a project due date, it will be marked late and they will not be allowed to revise it. A 10% late penalty will be applied to late projects or papers. Students who are verified absent on the due date should turn in their project or paper on the first day they return to class to avoid the late penalty. Exceptions will be granted only for extenuating circumstances. Kennedy High School’s cheating & plagiarism policies will apply to students in this course.