



Advanced Placement Psychology

Summer Assignment 2018

Mrs. Schneider

Summer Assignment

Please note that AP Psychology is an elective, college-level course with higher student expectations than most courses taken by high school students. AP Psychology also deals with course material and content at the “college” level, which at times may require maturity from student beyond which is typically expected at the high school level.

Students who come into the course with a background in some of the psychological concepts discussed during the year will have an academic advantage in the class. Prior knowledge allows students to speak intelligently on concepts and topics and have the potential for more success on the AP Psychology exam in the spring. Therefore you will be required to complete a four part summer assignment. All four items are due the first day of school –

August 20, 2018

Assignment #1: Read and Outline Chapters 1 and 13.

Psychological thought and theory is the basis and foundation for understanding the vast subject. Therefore, it is paramount for all psychology students to have a firm understanding of each theory and how it can be applied to both simple and complex psychological phenomenon. The purpose of this section of the summer assignment is to prepare students for the AP Psychology course and expose students to the theories.

Throughout the course you will be required to outline each chapter of the textbook we will be investigating. The outlines are a product of your individual creation that will require you to reflect on the information you have read and focus on the major topics within each chapter along with the influential research that has impacted each area of psychology. These outlines become excellent reference materials for the exams and ultimately the AP exam.

Read chapters 1 and 13 in the *Themes and Variations* textbook – this must be checked out by each student by June 8, 2018. After reading the two chapters, create a thorough outline using the Cornell Method of note taking. In addition, students will define key words and key people on separate sheets of paper - these are located at the end of each chapter. Outlines and vocabulary must be handwritten and the result of each student – no photocopies or electronic copies will be accepted. Place these notes in the Notes section of your binder – see Class Materials section below.

Cornell Notes: What You Know

During the course of AP Psychology you will be required to take notes for each chapter. Specifically you will be required to take Cornell Notes. It is mandatory that you take notes for each chapter and expanded upon them during class time. If you are unfamiliar with Cornell Note Taking Method – search Google there are videos, websites and templates available for downloading. *Please do not spend money on this.*

Assignment #2: Teenage Brain Article – National Geographic

Students will read the assigned article and answer questions.

Article: Located in Schoology.

Questions: At the end of this document.

Please print out – no electronic copies.

Assignment #3: 40 Studies that Changed Psychology

Students will read the first two studies – *One Brain or Two?* and *More Experience = Bigger Brain*. Once done, students will print out and fill out the Analysis Form for each study. All materials for this assignment are in the class' Schoology account under Materials. This assignment should be placed in the 40 Studies Section of your binder – see Class Materials section below.

Assignment #4: Purchase Class Materials

Students should arrive to the first day of school with the following materials.

- One to two-inch binder – anything larger or smaller will not work.
- Six dividers labeled as follows
 - Notes
 - Vocabulary
 - 40 Studies that Changed Psychology
 - Tracking and Corrections
 - Review
 - Practice Tests
- One large box of tissue

If you have any questions at any point please feel free to contact me via email -

jmceballos@dadeschools.net

A.P. Psychology Summer Assignment #2

National Geographic: The Teenage Brain

Read the article, print out this document and answer the questions – the article is in the class Schoology account. [Schoology Access Code: S4C92-K4WJB](#)

1. What were some views of the teenage years from psychologists from the past – like Freud & Erickson?
2. Summarize what happens to the human brain between the 12th and 25th years of life:
3. What does the thickening of the corpus callosum do in the more adult brain?
4. How does the article explain the teenager's inconsistencies in daily decisions?
5. How does the teenage brain and love of the exciting and dangerous assist the human race in terms of evolution?
6. Personally, do you think the risk *versus* the reward idea is true amongst teenagers? Give an example.

7. What two neurotransmitters are at high levels and how do these neurotransmitters affect teens?

8. Adults often state teens are soooo dramatic! Their peers seem to have so much influence on them! Explain why this is true and how it may benefit humans in general.

9. What can parents do to help teenagers make correct and safe decisions?

10. Explain why reinforcing the myelination of the frontal lobes – the decision making areas of the brain – after myelination of the hindbrain is a good thing.

11. Have your parents/guardians read this article and comment: