

#242

GENERAL PSYCHOLOGY

GRADE: 12

LEVEL: 2

CREDITS: 5

PREREQUISITES: NONE

**BASIC TEXT: Psychology: Its Principles and Applications
Harcourt, Brace, 9th edition**

SUPPLEMENTAL READINGS: newspapers, magazines, etc.

REQUIRED MATERIALS: textbook, notebook, and pen

COURSE DESCRIPTION: This course is an overview of the principles of psychology. Topics include: behavior, intelligence, personality, learning, development, disorders and types of therapy

MISSION RELATED GOALS: Academic excellence, respect for others, self-confidence, communication skills, and problem-solving skills.

GENERAL PERFORMANCE OBJECTIVES: The student will:

1. Demonstrate an understanding of the relationship between early childhood experiences and adult behavior.
2. Demonstrate proficiency in techniques of self-analysis as a way of better understanding him/herself.
3. Demonstrate through class discussion an awareness that aspects of assigned readings relate to personal experiences.
4. Make a list of local agencies available for psychological problems.
5. Draw conclusions concerning behavior based on the viewing of pertinent films.
6. Demonstrate familiarity with the biological, social and educational influences on the development of personalities through an analysis of case studies.
7. Show an understanding of the techniques used to measure intelligence and personality by participating in a mock demonstration of a Wechsler IQ Test and other tests.
8. Develop a greater compassion for people with emotional problems through the study of the causes of various disorders.
9. Create a notebook that may be used at the college level.

MASSACHUSETTS FRAMEWORKS STRANDS

Framework strands to be covered include:

1. History and Geography
2. General Economics Skills

CURRICULUM FRAMEWORKS LEARNING STRANDS

Social Science

Explain the difference of cause and effect relationships.

Distinguish between long and short-term cause and effect relationships.

Distinguish between intended and unintended consequences.

UNITS AND THEMES:

- I. An introduction to Psychology (2 weeks)
- II. Human growth and development; theories of personalities (4 weeks)
- III. Understanding human behavior (4 weeks)
- IV. Learning, forgetting and remembering (3 weeks)
- V. Facing frustration and conflicts (3 weeks)
- VI. Coping with stress; the use of adjustment mechanisms and relaxation techniques (4 weeks)

SUGGESTED INTEGRATION ACTIVITIES:

1. Students will choose an author or a character they have studied in their English class and evaluate the author or character's personality based on the literature.
2. An Art teacher (or student) will discuss an artist's emotional problems and show how it is reflected in his/her work.
3. Local resources people (psychologists, psychiatrists, social workers) to describe the nature of their work and report on what is available in their area as a career path.
4. Foreign born students will discuss how cultural differences have shaped their personalities.

USE OF TECHNOLOGY:

1. Students will videotape interviews to demonstrate different types of human behavior.
2. Using the Internet, student will research recent psychological research and writing.

ASSESSMENT:

1. Students will participate in class discussions demonstrating their knowledge of the major issues in psychology.
2. On written essay and objective tests students will demonstrate knowledge of the major issues in psychology.
3. Student will; create a collage depicting aspects of their personalities.
4. Students will demonstrate self-understanding by writing an autobiography and creating a family tree.
5. Students will present one written and one oral report demonstrating an important aspect of psychology.
6. Students will create and describe a four year personal improvement plan that builds on one's strengths and minimizes personal limitations.