



# What to expect when taking . . . **AP Psychology**

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## **COURSE DESCRIPTION**

The AP psychology course is designed to introduce students to the systematic and scientific study of behavior and the mental processes of human beings and other animals. Students are exposed to psychological facts, principles, and phenomena associated with each of the major subfields within psychology. They also learn about the ethics and methods psychologists use in their science and their practice. Students should expect a work load similar to what they would have if they were to take this course at the college level. This includes extensive reading, active involvement in class discussions, and taking notes.

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## **THE TYPICAL CLASS – DAY TO DAY**

In any given week students may be asked (2-3 times a week) to take hand written notes from an oral / PowerPoint lecture. On other days, students may be using these notes to complete graphic organizers or complete scenario based questions on the subfields in psychology.

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## **TYPICAL HOMEWORK**

At home students are expected to read sections from their textbook that correlate with the information being discussed in class. Students will also be asked to complete note cards for the vocabulary in each unit.

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## **ASSESSMENTS**

Formative and summative assessments are integrated into the AP Psychology course. At the close of each unit students, take a 30 question multiple-choice test as part of their summative grade. During the second semester, writing becomes frequent within each unit as students will be completing scenario based free response questions.

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*\* The day to day lessons, homework, and assessments noted above are subject to change at the teacher and PLC discretion. The information above is put forth to help students and their families better understand the expectations of the course. Furthermore, multiple PVHS teachers teach AP Psychology – no student should enroll for this course with the expectation they will get any one teacher in particular.*