 Psychology Syllabus

***Mrs. Maher***

Contact Information:

**Email:** tracy.maher@cobbk12.org

**Location:** Jr101

**Office Hours:** Every morning @7:45am

Monday and Thursday Afternoons til 4:15pm

**Course Description:**

Psychology is the scientific study of behavior and mental processes. It is a unique social science that often necessitates the use of special measurements and research methods***. \*\*\*Syllabus subject to adapt to needs of class as year progresses. \*\*\****

**Course Content and Grade Distribution:**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Units of Study** |  |
| **Unit 1: Psychology Foundations & Research**   * perspectives & practices of psychologists * research methods and ethical standards | **Unit 5: Learning and Memory**   * approaches to learning/information processing * development over the life span |
| **Unit 2: Biological Functions**   * development, structure & function of biological systems and role in behavior, cognition * brain/nervous system   **Unit 3: States of Consciousness, Stress, and Motivation**   * states of consciousness/sleep/dreams * components of stress & motivation | **Unit 6: Intelligence and Personality**   * various intelligence and testing * personality traits and theories   **Unit 7: Abnormal Psychology**   * psychological disorders * various treatments |
| **Unit 4: Sensation, Perception, and Emotion**   * translation of physical world to psychological experiences * emotions and body language   **Grading Scale** | **Unit 8: Social Psychology**   * impact of social environment on behavior & attitude * groups/social experiments/bystander effect |

|  |
| --- |
| Teacher Directed (Formative) 20% (2.5% each unit) |
| Common Formatives 30% (3.75% each unit)  Summative Assessments\* 40% (5% each unit) |
| Final Exam 10%  \*Class projects will be counted as a summative grade worth 50 points in the unit,  but will not be given in every unit |

**Textbook:**  No textbook is required for this class. All information will be provided to you or accessed online

**Course Materials:**

* Binder, notebook paper, pens/pencils, colored pencils/markers, and access to Office 365 through school email.
* Other materials will be used such as parallel readings, current media such as websites, links, social media, etc.

**Make Up/Reassessment Work Expectations:**

* Makeup work is the responsibility of **the student** and should be completed in accordance with county policy.
* Reassessment of summative assessments may only be completed if the student took the original assessment, obtains and completes the remediation assignments, schedules the reassessment with the instructor and **take the reassessment within 10 class days from the time the original assessment was returned to the student.**
* If the student is absent on the day of an announced test/quiz, the student is expected to make up this assignment the first day he/she returns to school.
* It is vital for students to attend class daily and be prepared with your textbook, notebook, & a writing utensil.

***Grades will be updated in Synergy regularly. Both Parents and students can get logins to Synergy with a photo ID. This can be done at Open House or in Russell Hall during regular office hours.***

**BYOD:** We will be participating in McEachern’s Bring Your Own Device (BYOD). Students are encouraged to bring their own technology devices to school to assist their learning experiences in the classroom. If you decide you want to participate, parents and students MUST complete and sign the online permission form. [www.tinyurl.com/maherbyod](http://www.tinyurl.com/maherbyod)

**BLOG:**  To access Mrs. Maher’s Blog, please go to <http://maherclassroom.weebly.com/> . You will find various resources for your class and important quick links for McEachern High School, Synergy, Office 365, and CTLS.

**REMIND:** Remind is a service that provides a safe way for teachers to text message or email students and parents. Using Remind helps by having students and parents be connected to the class more effectively. Please note that I use Remind often in this class. *If you do not participate in Remind you will not get the added benefit/reminders for test/quizzes/project dates.*

Depending on your class block: Text the following to **81010**

1st Block -1stmaher

2nd Block- 2ndmaher

3rd Block- 3rdmaher

4th Block -4thmaher

**VIDEOS/DISCUSSIONS:** In this class, we do a lot of discussions on various topics in psychology. To enhance the learning experience, I show videos from YouTube, Vimeo, and movies that pertain to the subject. Some videos may have mild language and graphic topics. If you, parent or student, are not comfortable with the videos, please let me know. I will be more than happy to make accommodations.

**GOOGLE DRIVE or OFFICE 365:** For various group projects, we use Google drive and Office 365. For google drive, you are required to have a google email account. The county has given each student a free account of Office 365. Your login for 365 can be found in Synergy under the account login information tab. If you wish to use google and need to create an email address, please create a school appropriate one (with permission from a parent). The email can be useful in your high school career, for example: applying for a job, college applications, and your resume. If you have any questions about google drive and/or Office 365, please don’t hesitate to ask me. Feel free to download any of the apps for Office or Google to help you.

**STUDENT RECOMMENDATIONS:** I am happy to write students recommendations for a variety of institutions (college, scholarships, jobs, debutante/beautillion, etc.). Please give Mrs. Maher time to get to know you (so she can write the best rec letter) and AMPLE time to fill out the rec form (a minimum of 10 days). Students can fill out Mrs. Maher’s recommendation form online. [www.tinyurl.com/recformmaher](http://www.tinyurl.com/recformmaher)

**McEachern Life Skills Project:** This semester, Mrs. Maher’s students will be participating in a project that aims at student’s learning important life skills such as financial literacy, home economics, “adulting” and McEachern Pride. Each student will be responsible to choose 4 life skills to complete over the semester. They will utilize Pow Wow, class time, and time outside of class. More details will be given out the first week of school.

**Below are the expectations that each student should follow while in the classroom:**

* **BE RESPECTFUL**
  + **McEachern’s Golden Rule:** Do unto others as you would have them do unto you.
* **BE ON TIME**
  + When the bell rings and the door is shut, if you are not in the classroom, you are considered tardy. Please go directly to the SR office to obtain a tardy pass.
* **BE PREPARED**
  + Please bring all required materials **EACH** day of class. This includes: notebook, paper, pen/pencil, book, etc.
* **BE INVOLVED**
  + We will have MANY group activities and daily discussions. Being a part of the groups/discussions can help you better prepare for quizzes/tests.
* **BE YOURSELF**
  + Bring “yourself” to each class. We are working together to not only learn the curriculum, but also to learn about each other!

**FYI**: This class is an **ACADEMIC ELECTIVE;** therefore, this class is not required to graduate. It WILLcount towards your GPA. **BUT** that does not mean this is an **EASY** course. I expect just as much, if not MORE, from **everyone** in this class as I do a class that is required.