

## PSYCHOLOGY 1A CLASS POLICIES FALL SEMESTER

### GRADES

Grades in this class are based on straight percentage of cumulative points for the whole semester. Every assignment you receive back will indicate your points out of the total points possible so you can keep track of your own progress. I will post grades on the Internet at least once a week. *Any questions regarding assignments need to be cleared up at the time the grade reports are posted.* It is your responsibility to let me know of any discrepancies. Extra credit work will be given at certain times throughout the semester. Grade can be accessed at:

<https://www.svusd.org/pportal/Default.asp>

### CITIZENSHIP & WORK HABITS

Here's the policy:

O = outstanding participation, attendance and work in class

S = satisfactory participation, attendance and work

N = excessive tardies (4 or more) or excessive single absences, excessive talking, low work quality, several missing assignments and/or little participation in class

U = those who accumulate 6 or more tardies, 2 or more unexcused absences, 1 or more truants (all per semester), excessive absences, few assignments turned in and/or disruptive behavior in class

### ASSIGNMENTS

All assignments will be given at least one week in advance. You may turn in these assignments at any time up to and including the due date. Assignments turned in before the due date will receive two extra credit points for each assignment. Vocabulary assignments may be turned in on flashcards. Highlighted lecture notes will be collected the day of the unit exam. ***There will be no late assignments accepted.***

### READING ASSIGNMENTS

Reading assignments from the textbook are given in advance to give you time to arrange your busy schedules to complete the assignment. Each reading assignment will comprise half of a chapter. It is recommended that, because of the reading level of the textbook, you plan out your reading of over several days. Assignments begun in class, however, may be due in a shorter period of time depending on their length and accompanying work.

### TESTS

Tests are usually objective and are given by unit. There is one midterm examination covering Units 1-5 and a final examination covering Units 6-10. Tests are usually announced well before they're given and are worth 50 points. The midterm and final examinations will be worth 100 points each.

In testing situations there is absolutely NO TALKING until the last test is turned in. Talking or other disruptive behavior constitutes cheating and will result in a zero on your test. The philosophy is that everyone is entitled to a nice, quiet classroom for as long as they're taking the test.

### QUIZZES

Quizzes may be given at any time, unannounced. Quizzes are objective and occur when reading is due. They are worth 10 points. Each student will have their own Quiz Answer Sheet given to them; this will be used for all quizzes taken in class. *If a student arrives to class after a quiz has been handed out to the entire class, they will skip this quiz and have the next quiz grade count double (see make-up quiz policy).*

### **MAKE-UP TESTS**

If you're absent for a test you will take the make up a few days after your return during tutorial or at lunch. Dates and times will be posted on the board. If you miss the make-up exam you will receive a zero on the exam.

### **MAKE-UP QUIZZES**

If you're absent for a quiz the next one counts double--this is your make-up opportunity. If you're absent for the second quiz, the first quiz becomes a zero and the third quiz counts double. *Doubling quizzes will only occur twice*; make sure you're here on quiz days (they occur when reading is due).

### **ATTENDANCE AND TARDIES**

The usual school policy applies to this class. Letters and calls home to the folks will occur if tardies start to add up. According to district policy a tardy technically occurs when you are not in your seat when the bell rings; *going up to the attendance office to get a readmit during class time can also constitute a tardy and counts as such in this class.*

### **MAKE-UP WORK**

It is your responsibility to see me for the work missed while absent. An appropriate amount of time will be given to complete the work for extended absences. If you have Internet capabilities you can always check homework due dates online at <http://www.cybersisman.com/homework>

### **MATERIALS TO BRING EVERYDAY**

Every day you need to bring your textbook, paper, pens and a hi-liter. You must also bring a printout of the class lecture notes to highlight. Although it will not be collected, it is recommended that you keep all your work organized in a notebook to study for the midterm and final examinations.

### **PERSONAL BUSINESS**

Each student will be given two opportunities to go to their locker or to the bathroom. Please use these opportunities sparingly. You will be asked to leave your cell phone on the desk when you leave class. Students will not be able to leave class for these reasons for 15 minutes after the period starts and 15 minutes before the end of the period.

Make sure you have all your materials, show up to class, be on time and take care in being a responsible student.

### **EXTRA HELP**

If you don't understand the course concepts, extra help is available at snack, lunch or after school. Please see me in advance to set up a time for individual help. I also have workbooks to go along with the text if you would like one to help you study.

### **AP & IB EXAMS**

While Psychology 1A and 1B are both college preparatory courses, they also partially prepare students interested in taking the AP exam in psychology. It is recommended that you take Psychology 1B to receive most of the information you'll be tested on on the AP exam. If you are an IB student I will be giving you suggestions throughout the semester to better organize your material for the standard or higher level IB exams in psychology. Both the AP and IB Exams in Psychology are in May.

### **PSYCHOLOGY 1B**

Psychology 1B is offered in the spring semester and includes the following units: Psychological Disorders, Methods of Therapy, Consciousness, Infancy and Childhood, Adolescence, Adulthood and Experimental Psychology. During the 4th quarter students will be researching, designing, analyzing, and writing-up their own psychology experiment.