CALVERT™ HOMESCHOOL

Psychology

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Psychology Course Overview

Psychology is an introductory elective course for high school students. Throughout the course students will examine influences on human actions and beliefs, factors influencing behavior and perception, and basic psychological theories. Students will develop and apply their understanding of psychology through lessons and projects that require interaction and observation of others.

- **Unit 1:** Students will be introduced to the beginnings of psychology, research methods, and ethics of the profession.

- **Unit 2:** Students will examine the biology of behavior, sensory processes, motivation, and stress.

- **Unit 3:** Students will learn about the stages of human development and personality.

- **Unit 4:** Students will discover the different methods of learning, aspects of memory, language, and levels of consciousness.

- **Unit 5:** Students will explore mental disorders and abnormal behaviors and how to treat them. They will also why people obey and influence other's behavior.

Unit 1: Introduction and Methods		
Assignments		
1.	Course Overview	10. Statistics
2.	Introduction to Psychology	11. Balancing Right and Wrong (Ethics)
3.	Experimental Psychology and Schools of Thought	12. Experiment: Bouba-Kiki Effect
4.	More About Psychological Perspectives	13. Essay: What Would You Do?
5.	Report: Influential Psychologists	14. Quiz 2: Research and Methods
6.	Psychological Fields and Careers	15. Special Project*
7.	Report: Understanding More about Careers in Psychology	16. Review
		17. Test
8.	Quiz 1: Introduction to Psychology	18. Alternate Test*
9.	Research and Methods	19. Glossary and Credits

Unit 2: Biopsychosocial Psychology		
Assignments		
1.	The Biology Behind Our Behavior	9. Stress
2.	Sensory Processes	10. Essay: Reflecting on Stress in Your Life
3.	Project: Blind Spots	11. Quiz 2: Motivation, Emotion, Stress
4.	Project: Smell vs. Taste	12. Special Project*
5.	Quiz 1: Biology and Sensory Processes	13. Review
6.	Motivation	14. Test
7.	Essay: What Motivates You?	15. Alternate Test*
8.	Values and Expectations	16. Glossary and Credits

Unit 3: Developmental Psychology

Assignments

1. Lifespan Development
2. Piaget and Erikson: Theories of Development
3. Critical Periods
4. Research: Hereditary Conditions and Deformities
5. Quiz 1: Lifespan Development
6. What is Personality?
7. Free Will vs. Determinism
8. Essay: Do You Have a Choice?
9. Personality Tests
10. Essay: Character Counts
11. Quiz 2: Personality
12. Special Project*
13. Review
14. Test
15. Alternate Test*
16. Glossary and Credits

Unit 4: Cognitive Psychology

Assignments

1. What is Learning?
2. Conditioning
3. Observational Learning
4. Essay: Who is Your Role Model?
5. Quiz 1: Learning
6. Memory
7. The Brain and Memory
8. Project: Serial Position Effect
9. Quiz 2: Memory
10. Thinking
11. Language
12. Consciousness and Sleep
13. Dreams
14. Report: Dream Analysis
15. Research: Hypnosis
16. Quiz 3: Thinking, Language, Consciousness, and Sleep
17. Special Project*
18. Review
19. Test
20. Alternate Test*
21. Glossary and Credits

Unit 5: Abnormal and Group Behavior

Assignments

1. Abnormal Behavior
2. Mental Disorders
3. Treating Disorders
4. Report: Medication
5. Quiz 1: Abnormal Behavior
6. Obedience to Authority
7. Altruism
8. Social Influence and Conformity
9. Project: Conformity
10. Essay: How Can You Use Influence for Good?
11. Quiz 2: Group Behavior
12. Special Project*
13. Review
14. Test
15. Alternate Test*
16. Glossary and Credits

Unit 6: Course Review and Exam

Assignments

1. Review
2. Exam
3. Alternate Exam*

(*) Indicates alternative assignment