



## Course Syllabus

Franklin High School		2020-2021
<b>DIRECTIONS:</b> For each course, complete the syllabus and share with your evaluating/supervising administrator <b>as a pdf</b> ("File-download-PDF document") <b>by 9/28/20</b> . Syllabi will be posted on the FHS website under your name for the public to view.		
<b>Course Overview</b>		
<b>NOTE:</b> For core classes, all elements of this section (except for name and contact information) are the same.		
Course Title: Advanced Placement Psychology		
Instructor Name: Greg Garcia	Contact Info: ggarcia1@pps.net	
Grade Level(s): For the 2020-2021 school year 11-12 grades.		
Credit Type: Elective	# of credits per semester: Due to the 4X4 schedule 1.0/semester.	
Prerequisites (if applicable): While not required, having students take Intro to Psychology is a good way to prepare.		
General Course Description: In this class we will examine psychology: the scientific study of human behavior and mental processes. This class and its content are calibrated to an entry level college class in the subject.		
Prioritized National/State Standards: Since this is an Advanced Placement course, the following three skills are prioritized. <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● <b><i>Conceptual Understanding:</i></b> Students can define, explain, and apply concepts, behaviors, theories and perspectives.</li><li>● <b><i>Data Analysis:</i></b> Students can analyze and interpret quantitative data.</li><li>● <b><i>Scientific Investigation:</i></b> Students can analyze psychological research studies.</li></ul>		
<b>Course Details</b>		
<i>Learning Expectations</i>		
Materials/Texts Upon check-in at the beginning of the year, students should have been issued the following CollegeBoard approved textbook.  Myers, David G., <i>Psychology for AP, 2nd Edition</i> , Worth Publishers, 2014.  Please contact Mr. García if this is not the case and he will make arrangements for students to receive one.		
Course Content and Schedule: <b>Schedule of Topics:</b> Over the school year, we will cover nine psychological units in preparation for the Advanced Placement Psychology Test scheduled for the second week of May.  <b>These topics include:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● <b>Unit 1:</b> Scientific Foundations of Psychology</li><li>● <b>Unit 2:</b> Biological Bases of Behavior</li><li>● <b>Unit 3:</b> Sensation and Perception</li></ul>		



- **Unit 4:** Learning
- **Unit 5:** Cognitive Psychology
- **Unit 6:** Developmental Psychology
- **Unit 7:** Motivation, Emotion, and Personality
- **Unit 8:** Clinical Psychology
- **Unit 9:** Social Psychology

Differentiation/accessibility strategies and supports (TAG, ELL, SpEd, other):

The differentiation strategies used in this course are based on evidence (data) received through multiple forms of pre, ongoing and formative assessments. Described here are the types of assessments used and specific differentiation strategies in place to meet the needs of ALL learners (including TAG, ESL, Special Ed.,)

- \* Use of audio and video
- \* Experimental Exercises-Simulations and Role Plays
- \* Writing for Understanding
- \* Problem Solving Group Work
- \* Flexible Grouping
- \* Depth and complexity extensions—Honors options, additional readings and activities
- \* Tiered lessons-lecture, reading, discussion activities, writing and projects.

Safety issues and requirements (if applicable):

N/A

Classroom norms and expectations:

**Bathroom Policy:** Per our negotiated standards agreed on during the first day of school, students are allowed to use the restroom without asking Mr. García's permission by indicating BRB in the chat and cutting their camera feed. Students are expected to wait until *after* Mr. García has given instructions.

**Food/Drink Policy:** Students provide their own food if they so choose. Its consumption is allowed provided their microphone is muted.

**Answering Questions/Handling "the Floor:"** When someone is officially recognized by Mr. García, please be respectful to that person by not having side conversations and giving that person your attention. If you would like to add something, please raise your hand. **PLEASE TREAT ALL POINTS OF VIEW WITH RESPECT. No sexist, racist, homophobic, transphobic or otherwise derogatory language. This is not just good school policy, it's good Psychology.**

The more perspectives we have, the more our psychological understanding grows. As a major Trekkie, Mr. García runs his classes with the philosophy of **Infinite Diversity in Infinite Combinations**, the ideology of the United Federation of Planets (Earth's government in the 24th Century) where wonder replaces judgment.

*Evidence of Course Completion*

**Assignment Policy:** There are three kinds of assignments Mr. Garcia gives in class.

- **Test Prep Assignments:** To prepare for key portions of the AP Psych Test.

- **OPTIONAL Fun Activities:** A fun application of the stuff we learn in class.
- **Unit Notes:** To show understanding of the materials on the test.

Here's how they all work!

- **Test Prep Assignments:** These are intended to prepare students for the test by either producing or designing a product they will see on the test. These assignments are 21 points a piece.
  - **Students will hand in assignments by sharing their files with Mr. Garcia via google docs at ggarcia1@pps.net.**
  - **Test prep assignments are due the Friday of the following week they're assigned.**
- **Fun Activities:** Because the CollegeBoard curriculum can be mind-numbingly dry, Mr. Garcia has invented some "fun activities" designed to develop the same skills but without the pretentious academic overtones. These are **optional** activities intended to strengthen a student's psychological analysis skills through fun topics such as designing a cybernetic organism (half human/half machine), curing zombie viruses and analyzing sporting events. Accurately completing/turning in a fun activity can result in 6 points extra credit to offset any losses inflicted by the CollegeBoard rubric.
  - **Fun Activities can be delivered in three different ways:**
    - An email attachment sent to Mr. Garcia with its title as the email's subject.
    - A conversation with Mr. Garcia during office hours
    - A recording produced from the student that is sent to Mr. Garcia via email with the title as the email's subject.
  - **Fun Activities can be turned in any time during the Psychological Unit and 2 weeks after its end.**
- **Unit Notes:** To ensure that a student understands the necessary content for the AP Psychology Test, Mr. Garcia will need to grade every handout given to students. However, in an effort to give extended space and grace during these historically unprecedented times, **notes are not due until the week after the unit starts.** Late policies are extremely relaxed with notes.
  - Notes can be handed in by the **last day of the semester without any penalty whatsoever.** While timeliness is important, having the necessary material to properly prepare for the AP Psych test in May is more so.

**Late Work Policy:** With notes having an extended due date, the only assignments eligible for a late work policy are test prep assignments. Said assignments can be handed in **without penalty** for two weeks after the grading period. **Afterwards, a 20 percent deduction is given for every week the assignment is missing (without a valid excuse) until the score hits zero.**

- **PLEASE NOTE:** In light of the historically unprecedented circumstances, a "valid excuse" can be virtually anything. All you need to do is talk to me and we can make a deal. No muss, no fuss, no pilikia.

**Quiz Policy:** To prepare students for the two key components of the AP Psych test: Multiple Choice Questions (MCQs) and Free Response Questions (FRQs), quizzes are assigned **roughly once every two weeks (announcements will be made in advance)** as warm up for the day. Quizzes will be worth 20 points in the case of MCQs and 21 points in the case of FRQs.

**RETAKE policy:** If students are dissatisfied with their original results, **they may retake a quiz/test only once.** Students retaking a quiz or test **MUST** visit Mr. Garcia to review the material prior to the retake so that students can have the best chance of improving on their original score.

**Special Tutorial:** To help students develop their historical analysis skills Mr. García guarantees his availability at least once a week independent of the tutorial schedule. Mr. García's special tutorial happens **every Wednesday from 3:15-4:30+ through the classroom link.**

Progress Reports/Report Cards (what a grade means):

Everything entered in Synergy fits into one of three categories (assignment, quiz and test) and is calculated by the following percentages:

Assignments: 20% of total grade, Quizzes: 30% of total grade, Test/Project: 50% of total grade.

Final Grades: A= 100%-90%, B=89%-80%, C=79%-70%, D=69%-60, F=59% or less

Career Related Learning Experience (CRLEs) and Essential Skills:

**What do we do after the Test?**

After many years of lobbying for it to become an independent class, Mr. García has finally been able to compress a miniature version of his "Psychology of Film and Media" class into the last five weeks of the course. In this mini-course, students will examine the psychological, cultural/political and economic factors responsible for making the motion picture industry what it is today. Students will then articulate their findings by producing a project in which they provide a psychological profile on a film genre of their choice. Students will have access to Mr. García's colleagues with the Academy of Motion Pictures Arts and Sciences.

**Communication with Parent/Guardian**

What methods are used to communicate curriculum, successes, concerns, etc.?

Since the first week of school, parents have been contacted via Synergy with a weekly "Captain's Log" for the class updating parents in both written --and video-- form concerning the class' developments and how they should prepare.

Students who score top marks on a test/quiz will have their parents contacted via telephone as a

good news message.

The purpose of these contacts is to provide an open and congenial relationship with parents so that if issues arise regarding hardships in a family or if possible disciplinary methods must be addressed we can collaborate with parents.

**Personal Statement and other needed info**

**The Philosophy of "A'ole/No Pilikia:"** As a Latino/Native Hawaiian/Lifelong Star Trek Fan, my Mr. Garcia class is a multilingual and multicultural experience with phrases said in English, Spanish, Hawaiian, and Klingon.

One of the most popular phrases spoken in class is "A'ole (pronounced Ah-OH-lay) Pilikia (pronounced Pee-LEE-key-LAH)" which is Hawaiian for "No Problem." Mr. Garcia's philosophy as an educator is minimal problems for students and this year is no exception.

Any test or quiz being eligible for a retake once (provided students talk to Mr. Garcia first to see what "went wrong") and late work is eligible for points for six weeks or more.