

Psychology II – Spring 2020

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Course Summary

This course is devoted to understanding and interpreting human behavior. Our study will include a brief review of the material covered in the introductory course then on to human growth and development throughout the entire lifespan; the adolescent stage will be emphasized. We will also discuss motivation and emotions, theories on personality development, psychotic mental disorders, deviant behavior, and time permitting, even more. Simply put, this course is intended to serve as a continuation of the Intro to Psychology class that you have already taken.

Expected Student Outcome

Students completing this course will have a basic – or better – understanding of why humans act the way they do. Students will understand themselves and the world around them better. For example, students will better understand the following:

- Human growth and development throughout the lifespan
- Infancy and childhood
- Adolescence
- Adulthood
- Death and dying
- Personality development
- Motivation and emotion
- Psychotic mental disorders and personality disorders
- Deviant behavior and social psychology

Teaching Methodology

This course is a combination of teacher-centered activity and student-centered activity. Students are expected to talk about what they have heard and read and to discuss the implications, ramifications, merits, flaws, and so on. Small group activities will be held throughout the semester. Quizzes are given every week (or perhaps every other week). Chapter tests will follow each chapter that we cover in class.

Grading

Grades will be determined by the total number of points accumulated; this includes tests, quizzes, essays, projects, and on how well you are fulfilling your responsibilities to read and discuss in class. Attendance matters here, so does the quality and quantity of your in-class participation. I will always reward effort. Tests will be given at the end of each chapter. Any make-up tests/quizzes *may* be in an all-essay form. Final grades will follow Hopewell's standard grading procedures. For example, 90-100 = A, 80-89 = B, etc.

Plagiarism Policy

Plagiarism is not allowed. Good academic work must be based on honesty; students are expected to do their own work. In the academic community people earn their living through the use of their work, ideas, and words. Their reputation is built, in part, by others using their ideas and giving credit to the author. Students caught plagiarizing will earn no points whatsoever on that particular assignment. Furthermore, they may receive a failing grade for that nine week grading period.

Bring Your Own Device (BYOD)

Personal devices are no longer allowed during instructional periods. This is school policy; therefore, it will be followed in my classroom. That means smartphones, cellphones, smart watches, tablets, et cetera, must be turned off and placed in the "phone holder" hanging on the door that leads to the library. Tablets (since they won't fit into the phone holder) must be turned off and placed on the countertop by the world map. This will be done as soon as you enter the room. After class students will retrieve their devices.

Text

Spencer A. Rathus, *Psychology: Principles in Practice*. (USA: Holt McDougal, 2010.) It's a good textbook. Make sure you read all assigned pages!

Homework

Late homework will be worth a maximum of fifty percent of the normal assignment grade.

Rules of Conduct

The following is a brief list of rules that will be followed by all:

- Be in the classroom on time and be prepared.
 - Participate. I reward effort!
 - If you eat or drink in class don't make a mess.
 - You will work only on psychology.
 - All phones/devices will be turned off and placed in the aforementioned phone holder.
 - Act like a young adult and I will treat you like one.
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Tentative Curriculum (the order is subject to change)

Brief review of previous course

- Introductions – review main ideas from Intro to Psych

Chapter 18

- Psychotic mental disorders – personality disorders

Chapters 20 & 21

- Deviant behavior – social psychology – group behavior

Chapter 10

- Human growth and development – infancy and childhood

Chapter 11

- Adolescence

Chapter 12

- Adulthood – young, middle, late, and death and dying

Chapter 13

- Motivation and emotion

Chapter 14

- Personality development

Website

All Hopewell teachers have a website. If you miss class and want to see what is due, or when we have an upcoming quiz or test, just do the following:

- Go to Hopewell's website, which is www.hopewellarea.org
- Click on the tab marked "Schools"
- Click on "High School"
- Click on the link for "Faculty/Staff Directory" (it's on the left)
- Our last names are alphabetized; click on "Samek" and you will arrive at my website.
- If you click on the other link you can email me at my school email address.
- I try to update the website 2-3 times a week.
- You will see links for a syllabus and a study guide. There will always be updated information on assignments.

This syllabus is meant to be a guide to what will probably happen in our class throughout the semester. It is subject to change at my discretion; however, I will give you plenty of advance notice if there are any changes. Any additional reading assignments will be provided well in advance.

There will be one project due near the end of the semester; details TBA. A comprehensive final exam will be given at the end of the semester.

Please do not hesitate to ask questions about the syllabus, expectations, assignments, tests, etc. I hope you enjoy learning; have fun while you do so!

