AP PSYCHOLOGY

CREDIT HOURS: 0.5  COURSE LENGTH: 1 Semester

COURSE DESCRIPTION
This course is a survey of psychology that introduces students to the major topics of the field, the terminology and methodology of psychology, and the historical and current understanding of human behavior and thought-processes. Students learn to analyze human experiences like psychologists do and to apply what they have learned to the world around them. The focus of the course is to prepare students to take the Advanced Placement Psychology course administered by the College Board in the spring of each year.

COURSE OBJECTIVES
After successfully finishing the course, students will be able to:

1. Understand the concepts, terminology, and research findings presented in an introductory college psychology course.
2. Utilize investigative and critical thinking skills necessary in the study of psychology.
3. Express interest in the study of psychology and appreciate the place of psychology as a science in modern society.
4. Demonstrate their knowledge of introductory psychology on the Advanced Placement Psychology Examination.

COURSE PREREQUISITES
Psychology, General Biology Suggested

TOPIC OUTLINE

Unit I: Introduction to Psychology
- History of Psychology
- Thinking Like a Psychologist
- Research Strategies in Psychology

Unit II: The Biological Basis of Behavior
- The Nervous and Hormonal Systems
- Nature, Nurture, and Human Diversity
Unit III: Human Development and Awareness
- Life Span Development
- Sensation and Perception
- States of Consciousness

Unit IV: Human Cognition
- Learning
- Memory
- Thinking, Language
- Intelligence

Unit V: Human Motivation and Emotion
- Motivation
- Emotion
- Stress and Health

Unit VI: Human Interaction
- Personality
- Psychological Disorders
- Therapy
- Social Psychology

Unit VII: Course Review
- Preparing for the Exam
- Final Exam