Advanced Placement Psychology

Instructor: Mr. Widder

Room: E146

Email: jwidder@lepapps.org

Face-to-Face Meeting time: Conference Mod-⅞ \*\*I must stress that the door is always open for any questions or guidance in regards to this course or academics.

Class website: jordanwidder.weebly.com

**Course Introduction:** This course is to serve as an equivalent to an entry level collegiate Psychology course. The class will be rigorous involving many different reading assignments and assessments. The single most important part to your success in this class is self-accountability. If you can be organized and have a good work-ethic, then you will be successful in this class. The role of the instructor in this AP course is to prepare you to pass the AP exam that follows this course at the end of the school year. We will cover many of the same topics that may have been covered in your introductory course, however we will dig much deeper into the details of each unit and we will think critically on an everyday basis.

**Workload Expectations:** Students in this AP Psychology course should plan to read and/or study at least 1 or more hours per night. The instructor will provide a calendar on when students should expect to have read an assigned reading. Reading quizzes will be given at the start of class, randomly based on the assigned reading the night before.

**General Expectations:** There will be a great deal of “classroom discussion” that needs to be geared directly toward the content at hand. It is asked of students to ask questions and make comments that directly correlate to the topic that we are discussing. These questions and comments should be in the general interest of the entire class. Please use your best judgement as to what questions and comments might be best asked in a one-on-one basis rather than in front of the entire class. Your attendance physically and mentally is imperative to your success in the class. Please avoid any distractions during class hours such as phones, tablets, computers, etc.

**Textbooks:**

Myers, David G. (2011). *Myers’ Psychology for AP*

Hock, Roger R. (2009). *Forty Studies That Changed Psychology*

**Grades:**

Unit Exams- 45%

Reading Quizzes- 10%

Vocabulary Quizzes- 10%

Writing Assignments- 10%

40 Studies Assignments- 10%

Final Exam- 15%

*Unit Exams:* After each unit is complete, a unit exam will be administered. The material that can appear on a unit exam is any content that was read, discussed during class time, or was involved in/on any assignments or quizzes. Study Guides/sessions will be provided for each of the unit exams. These exams will not only reflect the final exam, but the AP exam as well.

*Reading Quizzes:* Reading quizzes will be randomly given throughout the year. It is expected that each student read the material provided BEFORE the due date. Hand-written notes are permitted on all of these quizzes. Textbooks and./or computer generated notes will not be permitted on the quizzes.

*Vocabulary Quizzes:* Vocabulary study guides will be distributed at the beginning of each unit. It will be the duty of the student to complete these study guides as we move through class. Definitions can be found in the book. It is recommended but the instructor that you do not move ahead as we will make applications to each of the vocabulary word. An additional 5 points will be given on each vocabulary quiz to a student who turns in a completed vocabulary study guide.

*Writing Assignments:* There will be one writing assignment per unit. These can vary in structure however each of them will require students to write responses similar to the Free Response Questions on the AP exam. These assignments will be thoroughly reviewed after they are graded.

*Forty Studies Assignments:* Students will be assigned a reading from the text that corresponds to the unit at hand. A comprehension assignment will directly follow the reading and will be scored on its accuracy to the text and to the unit.

Late assignments if turned in within a week from the due date will still be counted but as a maximum grade of 50%. If the student does not turn the assignment in within the week following the due date, the grade will permanently become a 0%. If there are any “extra” assignments that are given that the instructor feels are essential to the overall value of the class, they will be added to the gradebook as extra credit.

**Grading/ Academic Dishonesty:**

The grading scale will correspond to the grading scale for all other courses at Louisville High School. All grades will have corresponding rubrics that are used in fair grading of each assignment and exam. Any academic dishonesty will not be tolerated. If this instance occurs the student will automatically receive a “0” for that particular assignment and will be referred to the building principals. If academic dishonesty becomes a problem with a particular student and occurs more than once, further disciplinary actions will be sought.