



# Dallas High School Home of the Dragons



## Introduction to Psychology

2013-2014

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**Office Hours:** Tues-Friday 3:00-3:30, 6<sup>th</sup> period, additional times by arrangement.

**Course Description:** This class is a basic introduction to the subject of psychology. It will give the student a practical overview of various aspects of psychology. Areas of study will include the following

### **Texts:**

Understanding Psychology

### **Course Outline**

	Unit Topic	Summative Assessment
Unit 1	Definition and historical background of psychology	Unit one exam
Unit 2	Biological bases of behavior	Body and Behavior unit exam NIA-brain research: Standard 1
Unit 3	Learning	Learning unit exam, conditioning experiment: Standard 2
Unit 4	States of consciousness	States of Consciousness unit exam, dream analysis, NIA importance of sleep: Standard 3
Unit 5	Psychological disorders	DSM-IV and the Movies project Disorders unit exam: Standard 4
Unit 6	Theories of Personality	Cornell notes summary: Standard 5

### **Standards to Be Assessed:**

1. Standard 1: The student will describe the major biological bases of behavior.
2. Standard 2: The student will describe and apply the basic principles of learning
3. Standard 3: The student will understand the need and nature of states consciousness and explain factors that may enhance or interfere with states of consciousness.
4. Standard 4: The student will be able to identify and explain variations in individual and group behavior.
5. Standard 5: The student will be able to analyze and describe the major schools of personality theory.

**Career Related Learning Standards:** Career-related learning standards (CRLS) are fundamental skills essential for success in employment, college, family, and community life. We have integrated the Personal Management standard from the CRLS into all courses at DHS. **This standard will be assessed and communicated independent of the academic grade.** It is included below and mainly includes behaviors that will be assessed in this course.

- **Personal Management Standard:** Exhibit appropriate work ethic and behaviors in school, community and workplace.
  - Students will identify tasks that need to be done and initiate action to complete the tasks.
  - Students will plan, organize and complete projects and assigned tasks on time, meeting agreed upon standards of quality.
  - Students will take responsibility for decisions and actions and anticipate consequences of decisions and actions.
  - Students will maintain regular attendance and be on time daily.
  - Students will maintain appropriate interactions with colleagues.

### **Grading and Assessment:**

Student's final grade for each course will be broken down into two categories:

- 1) **Academic:** based on assessments, tests, projects and performances that measure learning.
- 2) **Personal Management:** based on homework completion and other behaviors measuring the CRLS personal management standard.

**The Final grade is calculated as follows: 75%** of the course grade will be based on the **Academic** grade and **25%** on the **Personal Management** grade.

- Any items included in the Academic grade (PA) may be retaken and the higher grade recorded. Teachers may extend the retake time period, but as a rule all retakes need to be done within 2 weeks of the initial assessment.
- Students will complete extra preparation before retaking an assessment.
- Personal management work turned in late may be reduced by up to 50% credit.
- Retakes are not allowed on Personal Management assignments.

- Students must schedule performance retakes at their teacher's convenience. (Speech, drama, labs.)

### **Social Studies Classroom Expectations**

1. Students will show respect toward all staff members and fellow classmates in order to create a "non-disruptive" learning environment.
2. Use proper language at all times (no profanity). This includes articles of clothing.
3. Take care of the physical facilities.
4. Come prepared to work with all materials ready every day (e.g., pencils, pens... blue or black ink, notebook paper).
5. Make a good effort to perform class assignments and participate in the activities of the class. You must remain awake and alert at all times.
6. Do nothing (physically or verbally) which might bother or injure another person in this room.

### **Social Studies Tardy Policy**

1. All tardies shall be considered unexcused unless the student brings a note from an administrator, teacher, etc.
2. The student will be considered tardy if they are not in their proper seat when the final bell rings to begin class.
3. The Social Studies Department will follow all DHS guidelines concerning tardy policies.

### **Social Studies Absence Policy**

1. All absences shall be considered unexcused unless the student is excused by the office.
2. It is the student's responsibility to check with the teacher after an absence to obtain make-up work. If possible the student should get work ahead of time (i.e., pre-arranged). Credit will be granted for all such make-up work except where the student has an unexcused absence.

