

**PELHAM MEMORIAL HIGH SCHOOL  
SOCIAL STUDIES DEPARTMENT  
575 COLONIAL AVENUE PELHAM, NEW YORK 10803**

June 1, 2020

Dear parent and future SUPA / AP Psychology students,

Welcome to SUPA / AP Psychology. This is a Syracuse University class being taught concurrently at Pelham Memorial High School and in addition students will sit for the AP exam administered in May. This course is a college level introduction to the study of Psychology and is intended to give students a survey of the major topics in this field. The topics will range from biological psychology to disorders and treatments. Given the nature of a college level course and the inherent time constraints faced by classes such as this, it is imperative that students complete a portion of the work independently outside of class. In order to make this transition as stress free as possible I have prepared a summer assignment that will give you some indication of the level work required for this course. Your first assignments are listed below.

During the school year you will also be conducting a psychology research project of your choosing. This project is an important part of your grade and it requires significant preparation and execution. In order to effectively complete this project, you should begin thinking about topics over the summer. Your summer assignment should help you begin this process.

Please contact me over the summer if you have any questions or concerns regarding the assignments or research project. I will be checking my email frequently so feel free to contact me at the following address [jmarcotullio@pelhamschools.org](mailto:jmarcotullio@pelhamschools.org). I look forward to a challenging and interesting year of learning.

Sincerely,  
**Mr. Marcotullio**

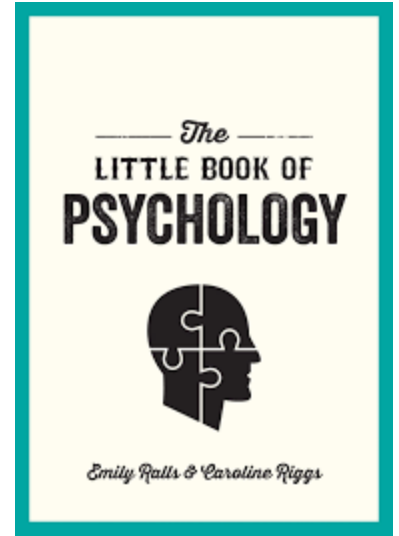
PMHS Social Studies Department

# ***SUPA / AP Summer Assignment***

## **PART I: The Little Book of Psychology by Emily Ralls and Caroline Riggs**

Based upon reading the book, complete these two assignments (due the first day of class):

1. There are many important SUPA / AP Psychology concepts presented in the book. As you read, choose 10 concepts from the book. You will define each of the concepts using your own words and provide a brief summary of a specific example from the book (include the page number on which the example is found). Then, describe an example from your own life; this can be a personal experience or something that you have witnessed/seen or read in the media.
2. Choose ONE of the concepts presented in the book and detailed in your chart, and do the following:
  - Find a news article, video or other related description of a current event (within the last year) in which concept is at work in how humans created the event, are explaining the event, or are perceiving the event. This will be a result of your own perspective, but through an application of the concept.
  - Provide a one-page typed summary of the concept, the event (include date & any pertinent info), and the application of the concept to the event. Format is Times New Roman, 12 font, double spaced with 1-inch margins. Make sure to include a source and date for the event.



## **Part II**

Read and outline all four sections of chapter one in the following online textbook and be ready for a quiz on this material after the first full week of class. This material may not be taught in class.

**Textbook:** <http://www.psywww.com/intropsych/index.html>

### **Sections to be read**

Part One: What is Psychology?

Part Two: The History of Psychology

Part Three: Critical Thinking

Part Four: Observational and Experimental Research

### ***Please read and carefully consider***

SUPA/AP Psychology is a college-level class in which you will be expected to do a great deal of independent reading and note-taking to prepare for class and understand material. You must be highly motivated and focused to do well in this class. If you are not prepared to work, consider whether or not you truly belong in this class. Your success or failure in this course is up to you; you are responsible for your own learning, or lack thereof. You can succeed and pass the AP exam if you put in the sustained effort.