

Moon Area School District Curriculum Map

Course: Intro to Psychology

Grade Level: 11 & 12

Content Area: Social Studies

Frequency: Semester Course

Standards - PA Core Standards ELA 6-12 and National Standards for High School Psychology Curricula

Big Ideas

1. As the science that studies behavior and mental processes, psychology seeks to answer the question “why do people do the things they do?”
2. There are 6 contemporary perspectives employed today to understand behavior and mental processes.
3. The science of psychology includes subfields in areas from biology to sociology. Psychologists study the juncture between brain function and behavior and the juncture between the environment and behavior. Psychologists follow scientific methods, and they are creative in the way they apply their findings.
4. The nature/nurture debate is embedded in the field of Psychology.
5. Psychologists must gather and use accurate data in order to obtain correct results, when conducting experiments and observing behaviors.
6. Psychologists must be aware of factors that can influence research results, such as self-fulfilling prophecy and the placebo effect.
7. Behavioral psychologists apply animal research results to further their understanding of human behavior.
8. Behavioral psychologists recognize that humans learn with a purpose that animals do not have.
9. Some psychologists focus their efforts on giving people resources to help them, learn more effectively.
10. All conditioning involves establishing relationships between two events. The two forms of conditioning though, use quite different procedures to reach their goals.
11. Operant conditioning occurs when the consequences that follow a behavior increase or decrease the likelihood of that behavior occurring again.
12. Latent learning is the alteration of a behavioral tendency that is not demonstrated by an immediate, observable change in behavior.
13. There are two types of cognitive learning: Latent Learning and Modeling
14. Albert Bandura demonstrated molding with the Bobo Doll experiment.
15. Group projects can help students develop a host of skills that are increasingly important in the professional world. Skills include breaking complex tasks into parts and steps, planning and managing time, refine understanding through discussion and explanation, challenge assumptions and develop stronger communication skills.

16. Communicating complex information in simple and interesting ways helps to keep the audiences engaged.
17. Intelligence is not solely based on academic achievement.
18. Psychologists do not agree on the meaning of the word intelligence. Most believe that intelligence is the ability to acquire new ideas a new behavior and to adapt to new situations.
19. Psychologists have presented several different views of intelligence.
20. The Stanford-Binet and Wechsler tests are the most commonly used IQ tests in the US and are structured differently.
21. Cultural bias can affect test results.
22. Both nature and nurture impact IQ.
23. During adolescence, many changes are occurring in ways of thinking and feeling. Becoming an adult involves much more than becoming physically mature, although that is an important part of the process. During the transition from childhood to adulthood, people try on different roles, seeking answers to the “who am I?” and “What do I believe?” Gradually a sense of self begins to develop.
24. The phenomenon of teenage depression is much more widespread than most parents or educators suspect.
25. Warning signals of teenage depression and suicide are much different than that of adults.
26. Your sex greatly influences how you dress, move, work, and play. It can influence your thoughts and others’ thoughts about you.
27. Psychological Disorders affect the whole family.
28. The DSM 5 provides a system for classifying abnormal symptoms.
29. The DSM contains five major axes to describe a person’s mental functioning.
30. Anxiety Disorders, Mood Disorders, Somatoform Disorders, Schizophrenia, Dissociative Disorders, Personality Disorders, Alcohol Abuse Disorder and Drug addiction are classified in the DSM.
31. Cohabitation is common among many of the disorders.
32. Drug and Alcohol abuse can hurt an individual physically, socially, and psychologically.
33. Not all people who commit suicide are depressed, and not all depressed people attempt suicide.
34. 26.2 percent of adults experience episodes of mental disorder each year, though not all seek treatment. The percentage of young people with mental health disorders is on the rise.
35. The focus of Positive Psychology is on the character strengths and behaviors and behaviors that allow individuals to build a life of meaning and purpose- to move beyond surviving to flourishing.

Essential Questions

36. What are the goals of psychology?
37. How did psychology develop as a unique form of study?
38. How can the current perspectives explain and help treat behaviors?

39. What insights can you gain by studying Psychology?
40. How can psychologists gather information?
41. What can influence the results of experiments?
42. Why must experimenters keep their own expectations from influencing their experiments?
43. What did Pavlov's discovery demonstrate?
44. How do our experiences change our behavior?
45. How has cognitive behavior therapy become one of the most successful ways to treat phobias and anxiety?
46. How are different types of reinforcers used to change behavior?
47. What is the principal behind cognitive learning?
48. What are the benefits of presenting information to the class?
49. How does the nature/nurture debate relate to Intelligence?
50. How can cultural and gender bias impact standardized test scores?
51. How do physical changes impact emotional, cognitive, and social development?
52. How does culture influence behavior?
53. How do peer groups reinforce parental values for an adolescent?
54. What is one area in which genders differ significantly?
55. How do nature and nurture affect gender differences?
56. What happens when the psychological process breakdown?
57. Why is the deviance approach not a useful standard on its own when identifying psychological disorders?
58. How do psychologists distinguish the normal from the abnormal?
59. How are mental disorders categorized?
60. How is a phobia/anxiety deeper than simple fear?
61. What is the relationship between anxiety and somatoform disorder?
62. How are personality disorders different from anxiety disorders?
63. How is schizophrenia a split between the emotional and intellectual parts of a person?
64. How does the diathesis-stress hypothesis explain the development of schizophrenia?
65. How does depressive disorder differ from occasional depression?
66. How are depression and suicide linked?
67. How can the class help to educate classmates on the mental health crisis that our country faces today? What resources are available within the school to help students at risk?
68. How can we help people become happier?

Primary Resource(s) & Technology:

Textbook Series, IXL online software,
Microsoft Teams, Promethean Boards, Student Laptops/iPads

Pennsylvania and/or focus standards referenced at:

www.pdesas.org
www.education.pa.gov

Big Ideas/ EQs	Focus Standard(s)	Assessed Competencies (Key content and skills)	Timeline
1, 2, 3, 4, 36, 37, 38, 39, 68	Biological Bases of Behavior 1.6, 2.2, 2.3 Therapies 2.1, 2.2, 2.3 Scientific Inquiry Research Methods 1.1, 1.4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Describe Positive Psychology and discuss how it relates to happiness. • Identify the Ripple Effect of Mental Illness. • Summarize five key moments in the history of Psychology. Discuss the importance of the Phineas Gage accident, in Psychology. • Describe the main fields of Psychology. Identify the difference between a psychiatrist and a psychologist. • Describe the six psychological perspectives. • Conduct a behavioral analysis using the perspectives, on the two main characters from the movie “What About Bob.” 	August – Late September
4, 5, 6, 7, 14, 40, 41, 42,	Scientific Inquiry Research Methods 1.2, 3.1, 3.2, 2.1, 2.5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Research a famous experiment in Psychology. (Milgram, Stanford Prison, Loftus Effect, Brown Eye/Blue Eye, Asch Conformity, Bystander Effect, Learned Helplessness, Harlow Monkey, Bobo Doll. • Create a Power Point Presentation and present it to the class, on one of the above experiments. • Describe the difference between a longitudinal and cross-sectional study and note the pros and cons of each. • Identify ethical issues in conducting experiments. • Identify the pros and cons of case studies. • Identify the methods of observation often used in Psych research. 	Late September- Mid October
8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 43, 44, 45, 46, 47	Learning 1.1, 1.2, 2.1, 2.2, 3.1, 3.2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Describe the importance of Pavlov’s experiment in psychology. • Diagram Classical Conditioning, including the US, UR, CS and CR. • Describe the difference between Generalization, Discrimination and Extinction in Classical Conditioning. • Describe the difference between Flooding and Cognitive Behavioral Therapy, in the treatment of phobias/anxiety. • View an episode of Hoarders, outlining CBT in action, and the symptoms and causes of Hoarding. 	Mid October- Early November

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Describe behaviorism. • Describe how positive and negative reinforcement can be used to reinforce behavior. • Describe the difference between negative reinforcement and punishment. • Identify examples of Cognitive Learning. • Identify the three types of Modeling and give examples of each. 	
15, 16, 48,	PA Core Standards ELA 6-12 cc 1.5 11-12a,11-12b, 11-12c, 11-12d	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Research an assigned topic related to Psychology (IQ, Adolescence, Gender, Depression, Anxiety, Bipolar Disorder, Schizophrenia, Somatoform Disorder, Dissociative Disorder, Personality Disorders, Drug/Alcohol Addiction, Eating Disorders, Suicide. Treatment/Therapy Options. • Create a PowerPoint on the assigned topic to present to the class. • Class discussion to follow each presentation, led by the group. 	Early Nov-Beginning of December Present-December
17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 49, 50	Intelligence 1.1, 1.3, 3.1, 3.2, 2.1, 2.2, 2.3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify the two qualities that make a test useful. • Describe how changes in the brain can cause IQ to change. • Identify the different views on intelligence. • List and describe the two main IQ tests • Describe the uses and meaning of IQ scores. Why are they so controversial? • Describe the Flynn Effect. • Describe cultural and gender bias in standardized tests. 	December
23, 24, 25, 26, 51, 52, 53, 54, 55	Gender 2.1, 2.2 Social 1.2 Life Span Development 1.1, 1.3, 1.4, 2.1, 2.2, 2.3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify what makes adolescents prone to think idealistically? • Identify what ability is key to reaching higher levels of moral thinking. • Describe Erikson’s theory of the identity crisis. • Describe Marcia’s view of the identity crisis. • Describe the Social Learning view of human development. • Make a list of how the role of the family changes during adolescence. 	December

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify why some researchers are concerned about the development of boys. Why are boys more at risk for incarceration, infancy death, learning disabilities, suspension. Etc. • Describe the parenting style that is well equipped to respond to teenage depression. • Describe how families and peer groups help to socialize adolescents. • List the warning signs of teen depression and suicide. • Describe the best ways to deal with teenage suicide. Identify why it is not a promising idea to publicize teenage suicide. • Describe how body image and eating disorders are linked. • Describe the causes, types of eating disorders and different treatment options. • Describe how gender roles differ from gender stereotypes? • Identify the difference between sex and gender. • Identify the difference between gender identify and gender roles. • Identify how gender stereotypes develop. • Discussion on how standards of acceptable gender roles are changing. • Identify the gender differences in personality and cognitive abilities. • Discussion on the perspectives on Gender Differences. • Discussion on how gender roles have changed throughout the last 60 years. 	
27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 56, 57, 58, 59, 60, 61, 62, 63, 64, 65, 66	Disorders 1.1, 1.2, 1.3, 1.4, 1.5, Theories 1.1, 1.2, 1.3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Describe how psychologist distinguish the normal from the abnormal. • Identify how deviation form normality, adjustment, and psychological health can be used by psychologist to determine abnormal behavior. • Class discussion on the DSM. What is it, how is it used, why is it criticized at times and why is it revised? • Describe Anxiety Disorders (GAD, Phobic Disorder, Panic Disorder, PTSD, Obsessive- 	December- Early January

		<p>Compulsive Disorder) including causes, symptoms, and treatments.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Describe Somatoform Disorders (Conversion Disorders, Hypochondriasis) including causes, symptoms, and treatments. • Describe Dissociative Disorders (Amnesia, fugue, DID) including causes, symptoms, and treatments. • Define schizophrenia including types, causes, symptoms and treatments. • Describe the developmental disorders (autism, Asperger’s) including causes, symptoms, and treatments. • Describe Mood Disorders including causes, symptoms, and treatments • Describe the Personality Disorders noting causes, symptoms, and treatments. • Explain the importance of callous-unemotional traits in diagnosing and treating antisocial personality disorder. • View the documentary “Out of the Shadows” highlighting Symptoms and recover of Depression/Bipolar is order. • Describe how dependence makes an addiction difficult to overcome. • Identify the social effects of alcohol abuse disorder. 	
15, 16, 67	PA Core Standards ELA 6-12 cc 1.5 11-12a,11-12b, 11-12c, 11-12d	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Work a booth at a Psychology fair, for the student body. Info would be given on IQ, Adolescence, Gender, positive psychology, and the disorders. 	Mid December
35, 68	Health 1.1, 1.2, 1.3, 1.4, 2.1, 2.2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • View a Ted Talk highlighting the importance of positive thinking. • Read an article on the key to happiness in life. • List the diverse ways you can practice mindfulness. • Describe how mindfulness and positive psychology are related. • Class discussion on why the field of psychology has a sub-branch of positive psychology and how did it develop. 	Late August and mid-December

		Discussion Topics may vary as relevant topics emerge	
--	--	--	--