



Course Overview

High School | Social Studies | AP Psychology - Last Updated on April 3, 2025

DESCRIPTION

K-12 Content Area | Mission & Philosophy Statement

- Social Studies prepares the nation’s young people for college, careers, and civic life.
- Inquiry is at the heart of social studies instruction which involves interdisciplinary applications, deep understandings, concepts, and skills from the disciplines.
- Young people require analytic, strategic, chronological, and critical thinking skills to prepare for participating in democratic decision-making.
- Social studies instruction directly and explicitly connects to the Common Core State Standards for English Language Arts.

Course Description

AP Psychology is a college-level, year-long elective that introduces students to the systematic and scientific study of behavior and mental processes. Through the exploration of psychological theories, key concepts, and foundational research, students will gain insight into topics such as the biological bases of behavior, sensation and perception, states of consciousness, learning and cognition, development, motivation and emotion, personality, psychological disorders, and social interaction. Students will also explore research methods and ethics, learning how to apply the scientific method, evaluate evidence, and communicate their findings effectively. Instruction includes seminars, simulations, presentations, and discussions that encourage real-world application of course content. Students are encouraged to take the AP Psychology Exam in the spring.

Throughout the course, students will investigate the major domains of psychology and the historical figures who have shaped the field. They will analyze classical and contemporary theories of behavior and mental processes, compare research designs, evaluate psychological assessments, and understand how social, cultural, biological, and environmental influences intersect to shape human behavior. Students will study learning theory, memory, intelligence, and developmental psychology, while also gaining insight into abnormal psychology, therapeutic approaches, and key social psychology concepts. By engaging in case studies, data interpretation, and applied learning experiences, students will build critical thinking and analytical skills essential to understanding themselves and others in a complex and changing world.

STANDARDS

College Board - AP Psychology (2020)

APPSYCH.1

APPSYCH.1A

APPSYCH.1B

APPSYCH.1C

APPSYCH.2

APPSYCH.3

College Board - AP Psychology - Skills and Objectives (2020)



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APPSYCH.1	APPSYCH.1A	APPSYCH.1A.1N	APPSYCH.1A.1O	APPSYCH.1A.2D
APPSYCH.1A.2E	APPSYCH.1A.2F	APPSYCH.1A.2G	APPSYCH.1A.2H	APPSYCH.1A.2I
APPSYCH.1A.2J	APPSYCH.1A.2M	APPSYCH.1A.2N	APPSYCH.1A.2O	APPSYCH.1A.2P
APPSYCH.1A.2Q	APPSYCH.1A.2R	APPSYCH.1A.2S	APPSYCH.1A.3A	APPSYCH.1A.3B
APPSYCH.1A.3C	APPSYCH.1A.3F	APPSYCH.1A.3G	APPSYCH.1A.3K	APPSYCH.1A.5A
APPSYCH.1A.5B	APPSYCH.1A.5C	APPSYCH.1A.5H	APPSYCH.1A.5I	APPSYCH.1A.5J
APPSYCH.1A.6P	APPSYCH.1A.7E	APPSYCH.1A.7H	APPSYCH.1A.8A	APPSYCH.1A.8B
APPSYCH.1A.8C	APPSYCH.1A.8J	APPSYCH.1A.8K	APPSYCH.1B	APPSYCH.1B.2A
APPSYCH.1B.2B	APPSYCH.1B.2C	APPSYCH.1B.3D	APPSYCH.1B.3E	APPSYCH.1B.3H
APPSYCH.1B.3I	APPSYCH.1B.4A	APPSYCH.1B.4B	APPSYCH.1B.4C	APPSYCH.1B.4D
APPSYCH.1B.4E	APPSYCH.1B.4F	APPSYCH.1B.4G	APPSYCH.1B.4H	APPSYCH.1B.4I
APPSYCH.1B.4J	APPSYCH.1B.5D	APPSYCH.1B.5E	APPSYCH.1B.5F	APPSYCH.1B.5G
APPSYCH.1B.5K	APPSYCH.1B.6J	APPSYCH.1B.8F	APPSYCH.1B.8G	APPSYCH.1B.8H
APPSYCH.1B.8I	APPSYCH.1B.9L	APPSYCH.1B.9H	APPSYCH.1B.9I	APPSYCH.1B.9J
APPSYCH.1B.9K	APPSYCH.1B.9L	APPSYCH.1C	APPSYCH.1C.1A	APPSYCH.1C.1B
APPSYCH.1C.1C	APPSYCH.1C.1D	APPSYCH.1C.1E	APPSYCH.1C.5L	APPSYCH.1C.5M
APPSYCH.1C.5N	APPSYCH.1C.5O	APPSYCH.1C.5S	APPSYCH.1C.5T	APPSYCH.1C.6D
APPSYCH.1C.6E	APPSYCH.1C.6F	APPSYCH.1C.6G	APPSYCH.1C.6H	APPSYCH.1C.6I



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APPSYCH.1C.6K

APPSYCH.1C.6L

APPSYCH.1C.6M

APPSYCH.1C.7F

APPSYCH.1C.7G

APPSYCH.1C.7K

APPSYCH.1C.7L

APPSYCH.1C.7M

APPSYCH.1C.7N

APPSYCH.1C.7O

APPSYCH.1C.7P

APPSYCH.1C.8D

APPSYCH.1C.8E

APPSYCH.1C.8L

APPSYCH.1C.8M

APPSYCH.1C.8N

APPSYCH.1C.8O

APPSYCH.1C.9A

APPSYCH.1C.9B

APPSYCH.1C.9C

APPSYCH.2

APPSYCH.2.1L

APPSYCH.2.1M

APPSYCH.2.2K

APPSYCH.2.2L

APPSYCH.3

APPSYCH.3.1F

APPSYCH.3.1G

APPSYCH.3.1H

APPSYCH.3.1I

APPSYCH.3.1J

APPSYCH.3.1K

APPSYCH.3.3J

APPSYCH.3.5P

APPSYCH.3.5Q

APPSYCH.3.5R

APPSYCH.3.6A

APPSYCH.3.6B

APPSYCH.3.6C

APPSYCH.3.6N

APPSYCH.3.6O

APPSYCH.3.7A

APPSYCH.3.7B

APPSYCH.3.7C

APPSYCH.3.7D

APPSYCH.3.7I

APPSYCH.3.7J

APPSYCH.3.8P

APPSYCH.3.8Q

APPSYCH.3.9E

APPSYCH.3.9D

APPSYCH.3.9F

APPSYCH.3.9G

COURSE OBJECTIVES

Objectives for this course are aligned to College Board Learning Objectives for AP Psychology.

ASSESSMENT TYPES

The following assessment types will be used during the course:

- Curriculum-based Measures
- Formative Assessments
- Summative Assessments



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SUGGESTED METHODS OF INSTRUCTION

Below is a list of suggested strategies for high-quality instruction in Social Studies:

- Instructional components outlined in the *Framework for Teaching*
- Lecture/discussion
- Directed research
- Demonstrations
- Inquiry-based instruction

RESOURCES

District Approved Program Resources	District Approved Supplemental Resources	District Approved Technology Resources
Myers, D. G., DeWall, C. N., & Hammer, E. Y. (2018). Myers' Psychology For The AP Course (3rd ed.). New York: Worth.		