

Marion P Thomas Charter High School

History Department

AP Psychology



Welcome to AP Psychology! In order to prepare you for the high level of analysis and critical thinking that will be expected of you, the AP Psychology team has designed tasks to accompany the REQUIRED Summer Reading. Assignments are due on the **first day of school** and will count as an assessment grade.

During the 1st marking period, you will also engage in additional tasks related to this text, therefore, the reading of this book is critical and required.

AP Psychology-Overview: Welcome to AP Psychology: The AP Psychology course is designed to introduce you to the systematic and scientific study of the behavior and mental processes of human beings and other animals. You will be exposed to the psychological facts, principles, and phenomena associated with each of the major subfields within psychology. You will also learn about the ethics and methods psychologists use in their science and practice. AP Psychology is two semesters, and will provide you with a learning experience equivalent to that obtained in most one semester college introductory psychology courses. I am excited about having you all in this course locked in and ready to go. This course will help to catapult many of you who are interested in this course to go on to do exciting things once you go off to a college or university. I look forward to teaching and learning with you this fall.

Educationally Yours,

Dr. Brooker

1. **Assignment #1** Scholars will access <https://apclassroom.collegeboard.org/30/home> and watch the Overview AP Videos for each unit. The Units will identify the scholars that watched and completed the viewings.

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1. **Assignment #2 – Branches of Psychology**

For each approach listed below, complete the following:

- 1) Describe each approach to psychology.

2) List prominent psychologists associated with each approach.

3) Provide an example of a famous experiment/study associated with each approach.

1. Evolutionary

2. Behavioral

3. Psychoanalytic/Psychodynamic

4. Biological

5. Cognitive

6. Socio-cultural

7. Humanistic

Overview Cont:

AP will enable you to receive a taste of college while still in an environment that provides more support and resources for students than do typical college courses. AP teachers work closely with their students, giving them the opportunity to reason, analyze, and understand for themselves. As a result, AP students frequently find themselves developing new confidence in their academic abilities and discovering previously unknown capacities for college studies and academic success.

Continue to Part 3 Assignment

Assignment #3 Using the evolutionary approach, explain how each of the following behaviors or psychological traits might have been advantageous for early humans. Be sure to clearly connect each behavior or trait to its evolutionary benefit.

1. Parental Investment:

- Describe what is meant by parental investment.
- Explain how high parental investment in offspring might have contributed to the survival and reproductive success of early humans.

2. Social Anxiety:

- Define social anxiety.
- Discuss how experiencing social anxiety could have been beneficial for early human societies.

3. Mate Selection Preferences:

- Describe two common preferences that individuals might have when selecting a mate.
- Explain how these preferences could have improved the reproductive success of early humans.

4. Aggression:

- Define aggression in an evolutionary context.
- Explain how aggression could have been advantageous for early human survival and reproduction.