

AP Psychology Summer Assignment 2026

Welcome to AP Psychology! This assignment is designed to prepare you for the research methods component of the course, improve your scientific literacy, and expose you to a variety of topics within psychology. By completing this assignment, you will gain valuable skills in critical thinking, research design, and ethical decision-making, all of which are essential for success in the field of psychology. For students who are taking AP Psychology at Garrison Forest School in the 2026-2027 School Year, the following assignments are required to be turned in on **September 1st, 2026 (first day of class)**. Students are expected to come to class ready to discuss the assigned studies on the first day.

Part I: Research Study Journal

1. Please get access to a USED copy (or find online versions) of *Forty Studies that Changed Psychology* (4th, 5th, 6th, or 7th editions) by Roger Hock. Please do not spend money for a new one; look for used copies. If you want to pool resources and share copies, that's fine. You do not have to own your own as long as you can access one over the summer. Sadly, Baltimore County Public Libraries do not own any.

2. Please read the following studies:

- Chapter 1, Reading 1: ONE BRAIN OR TWO? by Gazzaniga (Split Brain Patients)
- Chapter 3, Reading 12: SEE AGGRESSION...DO AGGRESSION by Bandura (Bobo Doll Experiment)
- Chapter 8, Reading 29: WHO'S CRAZY HERE, ANYWAY? by Rosenhan (The Rosenhan Experiment)
- Chapter 10, Reading 37: A PRISON BY ANY OTHER NAME by Zimbardo (Stanford Prison Experiment)

3. Then, please read any two studies but each must come from a different chapter (each chapter deals with a different theoretical perspective).

3. Create a google doc titled "Research Studies." Please follow these guidelines:

- a. Label the title of each study
- b. Compose two paragraphs per study that answer the following questions:
 - i. Who are the researchers and what aspect of human behavior are they interested in?
 - ii. Summarize the methods used in the study
 - iii. Summarize the results of the study.
 - iv. Discuss ONE example of the significance of the study
 - v. Discuss ONE criticism directed toward the research.
 - vi. What did you learn? How did this study improve your understanding of psychology? Explain. This is your time to reflect so please be detailed.
 - vii. Each paragraph is about 6-8 sentences for this assignment

4. Grading: Your responses will be graded on clarity of thought, quality of ideas, and completeness (Do your comments reflect a thorough reading of the article? Did you address all of the questions asked above?). You will need to write in complete sentences for each of the above questions. **Please bring a printed copy of your responses to our first class.** This assignment is worth 60 points (formative).

Part II: How to succeed in AP Psychology?

Read this interesting article about [highly effective habits of AP Psychology learners](#). Then compose a paragraph answering the following question: *Which strategies or habits do you plan to use in order to be a successful AP Psychology student?* A paragraph is about 6-8 sentences for this assignment. Make this your last entry in your Research Study Journal. This response is worth 10 points (formative). The response will be graded based on quality of ideas and use of specific examples from the text. **Please bring a printed copy to class on September 1st.**