**Contact Information**:

Teacher: Mrs. Tara Hammond

E-mail: thammond@aacps.org

NEST availability: Monday's and Wednesday's during Blue Block

School Phone #: (410) 956-5600

Required Textbook: Ciccarelli, White, Psychology 4th Edition ©2015

**Book is to be covered and kept at home! You will also be given access to MY Psych Labe which includes the web-based text and resources.**

**Purpose:** 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 methods psychologists use in their science and practice.

**Course Outline**: The AP Psychology course consists of fourteen chapters, which are listed below. The number of classes that we spend studying each chapter will be directly proportionate to the percentage of questions on the AP exam which concern that chapter. In addition, we will NOT necessarily be going in the order presented in the textbook. Please pay close attention to the calendar given in class.

History and Approaches (3 classes) Motivation & Emotion (5 classes)

Research Methods (5 classes) Developmental Psych (5 classes)

Biological Bases of Behavior (7 classes) Personality (3 classes)

Sensation and Perception (5 classes) Testing & Indiv. Diff. (3 classes)

States of Consciousness (3 classes) Abnormal Psychology (7 classes)

Learning (6 classes) Treatment of Psychological Disorders (5 classes)

Cognition (6 classes) Social Psychology (5 classes)

**Important Note for Parents/Guardians – Classroom Activities/Demonstrations:** Throughout the course of this class your student will be given the opportunity to participate in a variety of psychology demonstrations/activities. On occasion, this may include sampling food etc. Students are ***never*** required to participate and have the option to simply observe. In addition, I always ask that if students have food allergies of any kind that they opt out of participating in the demo. If you have any concerns or would rather your student not participate in the demonstrations, please note this on the signed portion of this syllabus.

***Common Core Literacy Standards in AP Psychology***:

Students will be building their social studies/historical literacy skills as outlined in the Common Core Literacy Standards. These standards focus on ensuring that students are college and career ready when they graduate from high school. These standards are divided into three main categories- Reading, Writing and Research.

**Reading**- students will read and comprehend complex informational texts independently and proficiently.

**Writing**- students will produce clear and coherent writing in which the development, organization, and style are appropriate to task, purpose, and audience.

**Research**- students will conduct short and long research assignments where they gather credible sources, compare points of view and perspective of sources, formulate research questions and thesis statements to answer the research question, and share their research findings through formal presentations, writings, artwork, discussions, and other means of expressions.

***These common core standards can be accessed in full at: http://www.corestandards.org/assets/CCSSI\_ELA%20Standards.pdf. SS/Hist Standards start on page 60.***

**Required Materials:**

1. Assigned textbook (to be covered and kept at home)
2. Binder w/**15 dividers**. I will provide an outline of the required labels for each divider in class. ALL handouts and class notes will go in the binder.
3. **4-5** Clear Sheet Protectors
4. **5 Subject Spiral** – This will be for **“Reading Notes.”** It is to be used *only* for notes that you take from the textbook for assigned readings. BRING TO EVERY CLASS – as you will be allowed to use your notes on reading check quizzes AND I will check assigned reading notes a *minimum* of 1 X per marking period.
5. Something with which to write or take a test – **pen** (blue or black ink) and a **pencil with eraser.**

**Highly Suggested Materials:**

* Highlighters
* **Write on Tabs (to mark reading notes)**
* Colored pencils or markers
* Index cards – for making flash cards

**Course Grade**: The course grade will be calculated as follows -

**80%**- Assessments and Class work (reading check quizzes, chapter tests, free response questions, practice worksheets and class assignments)

 **10%**- Quarterly Assessment (1 each marking period)

 **10%**- Homework

* A minimum of 50% will be awarded for a *good faith* effort to ***appropriately*** complete/respond to an assignment.

**Late Work:**

I. To be eligible for *full* credit, an assignment must be submitted when I call for it on the specified due date.

II. Assignments submitted after the due date shall be **penalized** on the following sliding scale:

# of School Day(s) Late  **1** **2** **3** **4** **5**

% Penalized -10% -20% -30% -40% -50%

\*Please note – **this is based on school days NOT A/B days.**

III. After the fifth school day an assignment is late, the assignment will **not** be accepted and the zero will remain in the gradebook.

No late work will be accepted during the last 5 school days of the marking period.

**Re-doing Assignments/Assessments**:

*Per AACPS regulation, students may redo three assessments and/or assignments each quarter. Students are encouraged, but not required, to participate in teacher-led reteaching. All redo items must be completed within ten days of receiving the original grade and may only be redone one time. The higher of the two grades will be used for calculating the student’s quarter grade. The teacher may choose to have the student redo all of an assessment or assignment or may have student only redo specific items or parts of the work. Students may not redo homework, the quarterly assessment, or a large project; however, students may redo parts of a large project, if graded separately by the teacher, with each part counting as a separate redo. Assessments or assignments due in the last week of the quarter are not eligible.*

**Students will be given the option of redoing multiple choice sections of summative assessments (chapter tests) and receive the higher score. Alternatively, students will be given the option of collaborative buy-backs (working with their peers) on those questions they answered incorrectly for 1/3 point. All other assessments can be redone for the higher score.**

**Accessing Grades:**

Grades will be posted for student and parent review on **Parent Connect** as soon as possible. Any notifications (i.e. grade has dropped more than 2 letter grades) will be noted on **Parent Connect** as well. Parents are encouraged to access this for accurate and up to date grade reporting. In addition, I will post grades by student ID number in the classroom approximately every 2 weeks or after major assignments/assessments have been entered into the gradebook.

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| **Plagiarism, Cheating, and Academic Integrity**Plagiarism is a fancy word for cheating. Cheating is defined as giving or receiving information in any form that is related to all gradeable experiences and will not be tolerated! All students have had a mandatory lesson on what constitutes cheating/plagiarism and have also signed a contract on academic integrity. Any form of cheating is considered a serious infraction. If any student is caught cheating, **he or she will receive a zero for the assignment and a referral will be written.** **The assignment may not be made up for credit.** Violations will be shared with the Academic Integrity Council and infractions may be considered by faculty in writing future recommendations. Memberships in honor clubs will be jeopardized. |

***Absent Work-*** The policy regarding unexcused absences and the related make-up work follows the regulations outlined in the student handbook. In the case of an ***excused absence***, students will have an equal number of days to make up work as days that were missed. This includes quizzes and unit tests that may be missed. Please remember – IT IS THE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE STUDENT TO SEE ME REGARDING ALL MAKE-UP WORK. I WILL NOT TRACK A STUDENT DOWN TO GIVE MAKE-UP WORK. THIS APPLIES TO TESTS AS WELL. If a test or quiz is not made-up within the appropriate timeframe (described above), then the student will earn a “0” on the missed assessment.

**Class Website**- In the event of an absence, you MUST visit my class website to review the Power point notes etc. Go to the following website: <http://tarahammond.weebly.com>

Click on the AP Psychology tab. I will also post assignments (when possible) to the website.

**Remind**

Students and parents can sign up with Remind in order to receive test reminders and important class information. Remind is a web based service that is safe and easy for students and parents to receive important reminders. You can download the APP or go to the website to sign up. All students will be given a unique code and instructions in class. Please sign up ASAP following the instructions given in class.

***AP Classroom Expectations:***

1. You are to be **prepared** for each day’s discussion, having completed the required reading and/or assignment for that class period.
2. You are individually **responsible** for your grade. Therefore, you must attend class, on time, with the required materials.
3. **Food and drinks are allowed** - as long as students clean up after themselves and it does not become a distraction. Please make sure all trash is thrown away/recycled as appropriate. If trash is left behind during a class period, that class period will have this privilege revoked for the remainder of the quarter.
4. **Visit the restroom between classes**. Students will only be given 3 restroom passes per marking period.
5. Common **courtesy** and **respect** is essential. Treat others as you expect to be treated.

**Final Thoughts for My Students:**

The AP Psychology course is designed to mirror its collegiate counterpart. This applies to both the material being presented within the course, as well as the manner in which it will be presented. We are going to be walking a fine line in this class - while you are not yet college students, you will often be expected to act as such. This means that I expect you to work autonomously and I expect that you will come to me if you find you are having trouble with the curriculum (preferably before it is too late). I am always willing to help! However, I will not be policing you to see if you have questions or are having trouble understanding. Since we will be working within the college framework, we have an exciting opportunity to develop a classroom dynamic that will facilitate the free exchange of ideas, encourage discussions and group work, permit questioning, support intellectual curiosity, and result in complete readiness for the AP Psychology exam! **With this end in mind, I do expect you to take the AP Psych exam and I also expect you to do amazing on it ☺**

\*\*\*The AP Psychology Exam will be administered on Monday, May 1, 2017 @ Noon\*\*\*

**AP Psychology** Class Day & Period \_\_\_\_\_

**Students & Parents/Guardians:**

\*\*\*After carefully reading the course syllabus, please complete the following information. **By signing below, you are acknowledging that you have read the course syllabus, and understand the procedures/requirements contained therein.** The course syllabus should be kept in the front of your AP Psych binder for future reference. This page of the syllabus MUST be signed and returned to Mrs. Hammond.\*\*\*

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Student Name (printed) Student Signature

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Parent/Guardian Name (printed) Parent/Guardian Signature

Parent/Guardian Contact Information:

Preferred Phone # \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Questions/Concerns Class Demonstrations**

***Only complete the below if you do NOT want your student to participate:***

I do NOT want my student \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ to participate in any demonstration in which food and/or food coloring will be used.

Parent/Guardian Signature: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_