

Advanced Placement Psychology

UNIT/ Weeks	Timeline/Topics	Essential Questions
3	History and Approaches <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Structuralism • Functionalism • Behaviorism • Philosophical and physiological perspectives • Gestalt • Psychoanalytic/psychodynamic • Humanism • Evolutionary • Biological • Cognitive • Biopsychosocial approaches • Darwin • Dix • Freud • Pavlov • James • Piaget • Rogers • Skinner • Watson • Wundt 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What objective evidence is available and how can I find it? • How can an awareness of various points of view enhance my understanding of human behavior? • What connections can be made between society and psychological understanding? • What constitutes an ethical study?
3	Research Methods <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Types of Studies • Causation vs. Correlation • Experimental Designs • Statistics • Standard Deviation • Central Tendency • Ethics 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What connections can be made between society and psychological understanding? • What constitutes an ethical study?
3	Biological Bases of Behavior <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Basic Mental Processes • Influence of Drugs on Neurotransmitters • Endocrine System • Nervous Systems • Parts of the Brain • Neuroplasticity • Contemporary Research Strategies • Heredity • Nature vs. Nurture • Key Contributors 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Why do I do what I do? • Is my behavior influenced by nature or nurture? • What makes me similar to others? • What makes me unique? • What constitutes an ethical study?
2	Sensation and Perception <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Basic Principles of Sensation and Perception • Influences on Perception • Vision 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Do my expectations influence my perceptions? • Are my sensations accurate? • Are my perceptions relative? • What constitutes an ethical study?

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Visual Organization • Hearing • The Other Senses 	
1	<p>States of Consciousness</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consciousness and Hypnosis • Sleep Patterns • Sleep Theories • Sleep Deprivation • Sleep Disorders • Dreams • Psychoactive Drugs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Why do I do what I do? • What causes my reactions? • Do my expectations guide my perceptions? • What constitutes an ethical study?
3	<p>Learning</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Classical Conditioning • Operant Conditioning • Biology, Cognition, and Learning • Observational Learning 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Why do I do what I do? • How do humans learn? • How do we process information? • When do I learn? • What constitutes an ethical study?
3	<p>Cognition</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Studying and Building Memories • Memory Storage and Retrieval • Forgetting • Thinking, Concepts, and Creativity • Problem Solving 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How do humans encode, store, and retrieve information from memory? • How can humans enhance memory encoding, storage, and retrieval? • How do humans think? • In what ways is thinking flawed or constrained? • How can people avoid falling for these errors in thinking? • How do humans acquire language? • How do humans use language to communicate ideas? • How is language flawed or constrained? How can people avoid falling for these errors in using language?
2	<p>Motivation and Emotion</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Motivational Concepts • Hunger Motivation • Sexual Motivation • Social Motivation: Affiliation Needs • Stress 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In what ways are humans motivated to behave? • What methods of motivation are more effective than others? • How can one increase their motivation to behave in various ways? • What is the role of hunger in motivating behavior? • How do maladaptive eating patterns affect behavior? • What role do emotions play in behavior? • How do cognitions affect emotions?
3	<p>Developmental Psychology</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Infancy and Childhood • Physical and Cognitive Development • Social Development • Gender Development • Parents, Peers, and Early Experiences • Adolescence • Sexual Development 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How do people grow and develop physically throughout the lifespan?

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adulthood 	
2	<p>Personality</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Freud's Perspective • Views of the Unconscious • Humanistic Theories • Trait Theories • Social-cognitive Theories 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How do psychologists define and study personality? • What advantages and limitations exist for each theory's description of personality? • How do psychologists reliably measure personality and interpret personality's role in behavior?
2	<p>Testing and Individual Differences</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assessing Intelligence • Dynamics of Intelligence • Genetic and Environmental Influences • Bias 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How do psychologists define and study intelligence? • How did the use of intelligence tests evolve throughout the last two centuries? • How do psychologists know whether a test is reliable and/or valid? • Why are these qualities of tests important? • How do testing scores differ between group administrations and individual administrations of intelligence tests? Between genders? Races? Socioeconomic groups?
3	<p>Abnormal Behavior</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Types of Disorders • Anxiety • OCD • PTSD • Mood • Schizophrenia 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How do psychologists measure and define abnormal behavior? • How are the various psychological disorders identified and studied? • What impact do these psychological disorders have on individuals, families, communities, and society?
2	<p>Treatment of Abnormal Behavior</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Therapy, Psychodynamic and Humanistic • Behavior, Cognitive, and Group Therapies • Prevention Strategies • Biomedical Therapies 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How do psychologists measure and define abnormal behavior? • How are the various psychological disorders identified and studied? • What impact do these psychological disorders have on individuals, families, communities, and society?
3	<p>Social Psychology</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Attribution Theory • Conformity and Obedience • Group Behavior • Prejudice and Discrimination • Aggression • Attraction 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How do people explain (or attribute) the behavior of others? • What impact do these attributions have on individuals and society as a whole? • How are individuals affected by groups? • Under what conditions do people obey, conform, make friendships, find love, and help others? • How do attitudes and actions influence individual and group behavior? • How do psychologists define culture? • What influence does culture have on individuals and groups?