



EAGLE MOUNTAIN SAGINAW ISD

Fostering a Culture of Excellence

Dear Parent or Guardian,

The Psychology AP course is intended to introduce students to the organized and scientific study of the behavior and mental processes of human beings and other animals. Students are exposed to the psychological facts, principles, and phenomena associated with each of the major subfields within psychology. Students also learn about the ethics and methods psychologists use in their science and practice. Social Studies Research Methods must be taken the fall semester prior to Psychology AP. **Extra time is required on the part of AP students for class preparation, outside reading, and completion of assignments. AP courses provide students with a learning experience equivalent to that obtained in most college introductory courses. Students who take Psychology AP are expected to take the Advanced Placement Exam in the spring. All exam registration and fees are expected to be met and paid for according to deadlines established by the school's counseling department and the College Board.**

In order to accommodate your student, the following resources will be provided to your student:

Textbook: Myers, David G. (2014). *Psychology for AP, 2nd ed.* Worth Publishers, New York.

Other supplemental readings will be provided and will include, but are not limited to, empirical articles, primary sources, software, and topic specific resources.

The following topics will be covered throughout the 1st Six Weeks:

Unit 9: Social Psychology

This part of the course focuses on how individuals relate to one another in social situations. Social psychologists study social attitudes, social influence, and other social phenomena

Unit 1: Scientific Foundations

Students will look study how psychology has evolved since its inception as a discipline in 1879. They will note the changes in theories used to explain behavior and mental processes as well as the methodology of psychological research to include a diversity of approaches to data gathering.

Students will also understand that psychology is an empirical discipline. Psychologists develop knowledge by doing research which provides guidance for the development of theories to explain behavior. Psychologists apply those theories to solve problems in behavior.

Celebrate Freedom will take place during the 1st 6 weeks and the curriculum will address the intent, meaning and importance of the Declaration of Independence and the Constitution, including the Bill of Rights, in their historical contexts.

Students will be assessed throughout the year through multiple choice questions, essays, projects, pop quizzes, and class assignments.

Please feel free to contact us if you have any questions or concerns regarding your student. We look forward to working with you and your child to ensure academic success.

Respectfully,

AP Psychology Teachers