



AP Psychology Course Outline

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The main goal of the AP course in Psychology is to introduce the systematic and scientific study of the behavior and mental processes of human beings as well as other animals and a consideration of the psychological facts, principles, and phenomena associated with each of the major subfields within psychology. Students will also come to know about ethics as well as the methods used by psychologists for science and practice.

In psychology, an introductory college course is generally of one semester, however some variations among colleges can be there. An AP course in psychology does not have any particular college curriculum, But the ultimate aim is to give the learning experience to students equal to the college introductory psychology courses.

The topics that are quoted below will be covered in the course:

History and Approaches (2%-4%)

- Logic, Philosophy, and History of Science
- Approaches

Research Methods (8%-10%)

- Experimental, Correlational, and Clinical Research:
- Statistics
- Ethics in Research

Biological Bases of Behavior (8%-10%)

- Physiological Techniques (e. g. imaging, surgical)
- Neuroanatomy
- Functional Organization of Nervous System
- Neural Transmission
- Endocrine System
- Genetics

Sensation and Perception (6%-8%)

- Thresholds
- Sensory Mechanisms
- Sensory Adaptation
- Attention
- Perceptual Processes

States of Consciousness (2%-4%)

- Sleep and Dreaming
- Hypnosis
- Psychoactive Drug Effects

Learning (7%-9%)

- Classical Conditioning
- Operant Conditioning
- Cognitive Processes in Learning
- Biological Factors
- Social Learning

Cognition (8%-10%)

- Memory
- Language
- Thinking
- Problem Solving and Creativity

Motivation and Emotion (6%-8%)

- Biological Bases
- Theories of Motivation
- Hunger, Thirst, Sex, and Pain
- Social Motives
- Theories of Emotion
- Stress

Developmental Psychology (7%-9%)

- Life-Span Approach
- Research Methods (e. g. longitudinal, cross-sectional)
- Heredity-Environment Issues
- Developmental Theories
- Dimensions of Development
- Sex Roles, Sex Differences

Personality (5%-7%)

- Personality Theories and Approaches
- Assessment Techniques
- Self-concept, Self-esteem
- Growth and Adjustment

Testing and Individual Differences (5%-7%)

- Standardization and Norms
- Reliability and Validity
- Types of Tests
- Ethics and Standards in Testing
- Intelligence
- Heredity/Environment and Intelligence
- Human Diversity

Abnormal Psychology (7%-9%)

- Definitions of Abnormality
- Theories of Psychopathology
- Diagnosis of Psychopathology
- Anxiety Disorders
- Somatoform Disorders
- Mood Disorders

- Schizophrenic Disorders
- Organic Disorders
- Personality Disorders
- Dissociative Disorders

Treatment of Psychological Disorders (5%-7%)

- Treatment Approaches
- Modes of Therapy (e. g. individual, group)
- Community and Preventive Approaches

Social Psychology (8%-10%)

- Group Dynamics
- Attribution Processes
- Interpersonal Perception
- Conformity, Compliance, Obedience
- Attitudes and Attitude Change
- Organizational Behavior
- Aggression/Antisocial Behavior

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