

AP Psychology Summer Assignments 2020-2021

Congratulations on your course selection of AP Psychology! Although this course is an elective, it is still an AP class, which means I have high expectations, and demand students who are willing to put in the required effort necessary to succeed. **My goal is for every student enrolled in the class to pass the AP Exam in May, and to earn college credit.** This requires dedication, enthusiasm, and hard work on both our parts. I will do my job to the best of my ability, and I expect you to do yours. Because of the short amount of time before the AP Exam and the extensive material we must cover, the work must begin now. I am looking forward to an outstanding year with you!

**** Your first assignment, due on (or before) Friday, July 17th (7/17) via e-mail, is an introduction to yourself.** Please send this email from an address you will check often over the summer. Draft an e-mail using the following rules:

a.) Use well written, complete sentences! Do not abbreviate words. Use spell check. This is a professional communication similar to what you would use with a college professor or boss (this is an AP class, after all).

b.) Address it to lschwinge@upatoday.com, and make the subject: “**AP Psychology: Introduction to <Your name here >**” Please begin your e-mail with Ms. Schwinge or Dear Ms. Schwinge.

c.) Introduce yourself by telling me your name, and tell me a little about yourself. Please choose **at least 5** of the following possible questions to answer in your letter (you may answer more if you wish, or create additional ones).

- What do you like to do (hobbies, music, sports, instruments played, other interests)
- Tell a bit about family (Mom? Dad? Guardian? Siblings? Pets?)
- What was the last book you read FOR FUN?
- What do you think you want your college major to be? Why?
- Are you taking any other AP classes?
- Are you active in extracurricular activities? What are they? How are you involved?
- Any addition information you would like to share, or things I should know about you?

MANDATORY QUESTIONS:

- Why did you choose to take this class? What things about psychology interest you or puzzle you? What is something you would like to see covered in our year together? Is there anything in particular that you are looking forward to in this class?

d.) Include a picture of you doing something that you enjoy (or just a picture that you like of yourself)

e.) End your email with a formal closing: “Cordially”, “Sincerely”, “With regards”, “Your student” etc., and add your name as you would if you signed a letter.

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**** Your second and third assignments are due the first day of school in hard copy**

**** Unit One Notes:**

You will **handwrite** notes in a notebook under the appropriate section headings, shown in green in your textbook (i.e for Unit 1 the first section is “Psychology’s Roots”). You are a senior now, which means you are responsible for knowing which style of notes works best for you. Bullet point or paragraph style are both acceptable, you just need to indicate understanding of major concepts and vocabulary (a vocabulary list is **not** an acceptable form of notes). We will continue to build on this notebook throughout the year, and I request handwritten notes to help with the memory process; I’m not doing this to create busy work.

**** Book Assignment:**

In order to complete this assignment, you must choose **ONE** of the books from the list on the next page (but feel free to read more!). I know not everyone can buy a book, so I have included an online PDF for several of the titles (I unfortunately wasn’t able to find an online option for all of them). You are responsible for **reading the book and writing a 3-4 page paper** on the book, following these requirements:

Requirements:

Your paper will be **organized** in the following manner:

- 1.) **Summarize the book, setting, characters, plot, key events, etc. 1-2 paragraphs (10%)**
- 2.) Discussion of **two (2) examples of how your own experiences** reflect or illustrate some of the subject matter and specific details of the book you’ve chosen (40%)
- 3.) Discussion of **two (2) thoughtful questions** you have about the subject of the book, based on what you’ve read (40%)
- 4.) The remaining 10% will be for following the format guidelines below.

Format

- Title page (does not count as one of the 3-4 pages)
- Typed, 12pt Times New Roman, double-spaced, 1” margins
- Please do not exceed 4 pages. Three is the minimum, but there will be no bonus given for going longer!

Obviously, all work must be your own! Plagiarism is not tolerated and will result in a grade of zero (0) for the assignment.

BOOKS ARRANGED BY TOPIC AREA

Used copies of some of most of these books are currently available at Amazon.com for discounted prices, and most are widely available wherever books are sold. Be sure to check your public libraries, or use the free PDFs I've linked in blue (no "free" downloads required).

General Psychology

- Hunt, M. (2008). *The Story of Psychology*. Anchor.
- Lilienfeld, S. O., Lynn, S. J., Ruscio, J., & Beyerstein, B. L. (2010). [50 Great Myths of Popular Psychology, Shattering Widespread Misconceptions About Human Behavior](#). (1 ed.). Singapore: Blackwell Pub.

Research and Famous Experiments

- Hock, R. R. (2009). [Forty Studies that Changed Psychology, Explorations Into the History of Psychological Research](#). Prentice Hall.
- Slater, L. (2006). [Opening Skinner's Box, Great Psychological Experiments of the Twentieth Century](#). New York: W. W. Norton & Company.

Neuroscience

- Ramachandran, V. S., Blakeslee, S., & Sacks, O. (1999). *Phantoms in the Brain: Probing the mysteries of the human mind*. Harper Perennial.
- Sacks, O. (1970). [The Man Who Mistook His Wife For A Hat](#). New York, NY: Vintage Books.
- Sacks, O. (1995). *An Anthropologist On Mars, seven paradoxical tales*. (1st ed. ed.). New York

Memory and Cognition

- Foer, J. (2012). [Moonwalking With Einstein: The Art and Science of Remembering Everything](#). Penguin Books.
- Gladwell, M. (2007). [Blink: The Power of Thinking Without Thinking](#). Back Bay Books.
- Loftus, E. F., & Ketcham, K. (1992). *Witness for the Defense, the Accused, the Eyewitness, and the Expert Who Puts Memory On Trial*. St. Martin's Griffin.

Social Psychology

- Aronson, E. (2004). [*Readings About the Social Animal*](#). New York: Worth Publishers.
- Fine, C. (2011). [*Delusions of Gender: How Our Minds, Society, and Neurosexism Create Difference*](#). W. W. Norton & Company
- Linstorm , M. (2011). [*Brandwashed Tricks Companies Use to Manipulate Our Minds and Persuade Us to Buy*](#). New York: Crown Business.
- Orenstein, P. (2011). [*Cinderella Ate My Daughter: Dispatches from the front lines of the new girlie-girl culture*](#). HarperCollins Publishers
- Zimbardo, P. G. (2009). *The Lucifer Effect, Understanding How Good People Turn Evil*. Random House Inc.

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Psychological Disorders and Treatment

- Dully, H., & Fleming, C. D. (2007). *My Lobotomy: A Memoir*. New York, NY: Three Rivers Press.
- Cheney, Terri (2009) *Manic: A Memoir*. William Morrow Paperbacks
- Smoller, J. (2013). *The Other Side of Normal: How Biology Is Providing the Clues to Unlock the Secrets of Normal and Abnormal Behavior*. William Morrow Paperbacks.
- Styron, W. (2007). *Darkness Visible, A Memoir of Madness*. NY: Modern Library
- Winchester, S. (1998). *The Professor and the Madman: A Tale of Murder, Insanity, and the Making of the Oxford English Dictionary*. New York: Harper.