



Thornton High School
 9351 North Washington • Thornton, CO 80229
 Office: (720) 972-4800 • Fax: (720) 972-4999
<http://www.thorntonh.adams12.org>



School Year	2017-18	Teacher Name	MARY O'NEILL
Office	Rm. 530	Website	
Phone	720.972.4860	Blog	
Email Address	mary.oneill@adams12.org		

Course Name		GENERAL PSYCHOLOGY	
Course Description		<p>Psychology is the scientific study of human and animal behavior. Psychology encompasses broad areas of research about behavior, information that should be available to all students who want to understand themselves and others better.</p> <p>This is a survey class lasting only 18 weeks, therefore you will be exposed to psychological facts, principles, and phenomena associated with each of the major subfields within psychology. The goal of this class is to create active involvement by the student, not only in learning about the science of psychology, but in life, as well.</p> <p>There will be numerous activities in this class to help you understand psychology. Some will be from the text while others will be incorporated from supplementary resources. Involvement is your first step to success in this course. This course, as well as myself, may be unlike any other you have experienced before. Get involved and enjoy psychology!</p>	
Unit of Study	Grade Level Expectations/Content Standards	Approximate Time Spent or Percent of time Spent	Targeted Date of Assessment
Field of Psychology	Defining psychology, founders and history of psychology, and analysis	One week	Aug. 24/Jan. 16
Brain, Body and Awareness	Hemispheres, cerebral cortex, lower brain, brain communication, central & peripheral nervous system, endocrine system	Three weeks	Sept. 15/Feb. 6
Sensation & Perception	Vision, hearing, cutaneous sense, smell, taste	Two weeks	Oct. 2/Feb. 20
Motivation & Emotion	Physical factors, motivational forces, theory of needs, theories of emotion	Three weeks	Oct. 23/Mar. 12
Consciousness	Unseen forces, nature of sleep and dreams, psychology of dreams, sleep disturbances, hypnosis, meditation	Two weeks	Nov. 7/Mar. 27
Information Processing & Memory	Acquiring information, schemas, organizing information, principles of forgetting, mechanisms of memory, short and long-term memory	Two weeks	Nov. 17/Apr. 10
Theories of Personality	Psychoanalytic theory, social psychoanalytic theories, behaviorism, humanistic theories, trait theories, traits	One week	Dec. 1/Apr. 17
Psychological Disorders	Nature of mental disorders, causes, DSM-IV-TR, childhood disorders, anxiety disorders, somatoform disorders, dissociative disorders, mood disorders, psychotic disorders, personality disorders	Two weeks	Dec. 12/May 4
Treatment & Therapy	Psychoanalytic treatment, humanistic, behavioral, and cognitive behavioral therapy, biomedical therapies	Two weeks	Dec. 20/May 18

Grading Scale		Grade Percentages/Weights	
A	90-100	Summative Assessments & Projects	80%
B	80-89	Formative Assessments & Projects	20%



Thornton High School
 9351 North Washington • Thornton, CO 80229
 Office: (720) 972-4800 • Fax: (720) 972-4999
<http://www.thorntonh.adams12.org>



C	70-79	
D	60-69	*Weekly progress grades are posted at https://ic.adams12.org/campus/portal/adams12.isp
F	59 or below	

General Expectations

- Grades are based upon the demonstration of proficiency on units associated with a standard given during each formative or summative assessment. Formative grades in addition to summative unit assessments will be used to holistically determine your grade.
- **Summative: 80%** Summative measures of achievement are taken when unit master is expected. (i.e., unit tests, culmination of a project, embedded assessments, etc.)
- **Formative: 20%** Formative assessments measure the scaffolding skills and/or content embedded in the unit. Formative assessments are taken frequently, after a student has practiced a skill or become familiar with content. Examples of formative assessments include but are not limited to exit tickets, paragraphs, oral check for understanding, warm-ups, stages in a large project, etc.
- Assessments will be graded based on teacher/district/state rubrics.
- On group projects, students will receive a grade for individual work and a group grade.
- Grades are based on achievement of Content Standards and Grade Level Expectations.

Class Expectations

Missing or incomplete assignments/assessments for this course: Superintendent Policies 6280 Homework and 6281 Make-Up Work, will be followed for this course.

Come to class and be on time.

NO electronic devices of any kind are allowed in class. TURN OFF cell phones BEFORE you enter class. NO cords visible.

Gum, food, and drink are okay until they become a problem, as deemed by the instructor. The only exception is watermelon gum/candy. I physically cannot handle it.

After any absence, you assume the responsibility for make-up work.

For planned absences or extended absences, students are responsible for getting work in advance and getting assignments to the teacher via a student or e-mail.

Keep ALL distributed material in a three-ring binder.

MAJOR projects (as deemed by instructor) will NOT be accepted after the due date.

Student Expectations

Your grade is determined by your performance on summative assessments and formative comprehension checks.

Show respect to all. This is my home away from home – respect that, as well.

Keep lines of communication open. See me if there is a problem of which I need to be aware.

Please DO NOT work on other class's work during my class.

I operate on an honesty policy. You will get nothing from me but honesty, and I expect the same in return from you. Integrity is difficult enough to maintain; don't damage your reputation. There is a huge price to pay, and the damage is usually irreparable.

Students should be in class on a regular basis as there are many activity-based lessons. I do not have the time to replicate the content or duplicate what was done in class. You must be here to SEE and EXPERIENCE it.

This class is voluntary. You signed up for this, so make the best use of your time.