**R. Carmichael**

**AP Psychology Syllabus**

**Course Description**

Advanced Placement classes provide students with the opportunity to earn college credit while in high school. In addition to potentially earning college credit based on their AP scores, students also benefit from the GPA boost in the form of weighted AP grades (A ‘B’ in an AP class counts as an ‘A’ when calculating final GPA). As a college-level course, this class will be very intellectually challenging. As such, students will need to hone their time-management skills and complete every assignment to the best of their ability in order to succeed in this class. While there are no extra credit opportunities, hard work will pay off.

**Classroom Expectations**

* Be Kind— treat all peers and teachers with respect and compassion.
* Be Punctual—come to class on time, every time.
* Be Responsible—take responsibility for your actions and education.
* Be Reliable—turn in every assignment, every time.

**Generative Artificial Intelligence Statement**

This course will allow—in some cases, even encourage—the use of generative artificial intelligence (GAI) techniques in some assignments. Unless otherwise indicated, the default is that this kind of use is prohibited. GAI use must be recognized and referenced. Academic misconduct will be the result of breaking this policy and could result in loss of credit for the assignment(s) as referenced in the cheating policy in the Saraland City Schools’ Student Handbook. It is the student's responsibility to follow the requirements of each course or assignment.

**Grading and Assignments**

* Major Grades
	+ Tests, projects, in-class essays (Free Response), papers, etc.
	+ **Free Response Questions (FRQs)**—Over the course of each nine-week period, FRQs will be given for the purpose of addressing psychological concepts, perspectives, and research methodology. Free-response questions are an appropriate tool for evaluating a student’s mastery of scientific research principles and ability to make connections among constructs from different psychological domains (e.g., development, personality, and learning). Students may be asked to analyze a general problem in psychology (e.g., depression, adaptation) using concepts from different theoretical frameworks or subdomains in the field, or to design, analyze, or critique a research study.
	+ **Tests**—Tests will mirror the AP Exam format. The test may consist of multiple choice questions and/or free response questions (or a combination of both).
	+ Assessments *may* contain opportunities for bonus points. Extra credit assignments are **NOT** available on an individual basis.
	+ **If you are absent on the day prior to the test, but are present on exam day, you will take the test with your class**. If you are absent on the day of the test, **YOU** will need to schedule a time to make up your test; be prepared to take the test **the day you return to school**. A special **make-up exam** will be administered on the same material, but I reserve the right to give a different version and/or format in the interest of curbing recurrent test-day absences/cheating. If you don’t make up the test, you will receive a **zero**.
* Minor Grades
	+ Quizzes, minor projects, writing assignments, vocabulary, etc.
	+ Homework and classroom assignments
	+ **Vocabulary**—Students will receive a list of terms for each unit/chapter. Work MUST BE HANDWRITTEN. Typed work will not be accepted or graded.
* The grading scale is as follows:
	+ A: 90-100. B: 80-89. C: 70-79. D: 60-69. F: 0-59

**Make-up Work**- If you are absent, it is **YOUR** responsibility to gather information about missed assignments/make-up work. Activities and assignments for each day will be posted **on my Schoology**. Meet with me to discuss remedial due dates as applicable.

**Classroom Policies**

* **Schoology**: Every student must use Schoology. Assignments will be uploaded to this platform. Students may submit pictures of the assignment as an e-copy as long as the picture is clear and readable.
* **Supply Center:** Students are expected to bring the proper materials to class. If lacking these supplies, students may borrow materials from the supply center prior to the tardy bell.
* **Leaving the Classroom**: Ask permission and sign out on the **Student Sign-Out Sheet** when leaving and returning to the classroom. If tardy, sign the sheet and write “tardy” in the time slot.
* **Personal Devices:** Personal devices such as cellphone MUST be placed in the cell phone holder when entering the class. Saraland provides one to one computer, therefore there’s no need to use personal devices in class. The ONLY EXCEPTIONS will be when playing review games for test and/or exams.
* **Tardies/Absences:** Students are expected to be punctual. If late to class, sign in as “tardy” on the Student Sign-Out Sheet, move to your seat as quietly as possible, and speak with me after the lesson. Parents/Guardians will be contacted in the event of chronic tardiness or absenteeism. .
* **Tutoring**: Students wanting extra help are encouraged to come to me for suggestions on time management, organization, and study skills. Peer-tutoring is available through the National Honor Society, the Ambassadors, and the National History Honor Society on campus. Email me to let me know when you will be attending my Wednesday tutoring sessions.
* **PowerSchool:** Check PowerSchool regularly for grades and comments. If you have a question or comment regarding your grades, please email or meet with me.
* **Cheating/Plagiarism**: Cheating covers a wide spectrum of unacceptable behaviors, including but not limited to: copying another student’s work, copying answers from the Internet, exchanging information on assessments (tests/essays), and the use of digital devices or notes on in-class tests/essays without teacher permission. Cheating will result in a zero on the assignment, and disciplinary measures as deemed appropriate.

Dear Parent/Guardian:

     I am pleased to have your child enrolled in Advanced Placement Psychology. The course is designed to prepare your child to take and master the Advanced Placement exam given in May, which could earn them college credit. The course attempts to develop higher-level critical thinking skills by emphasizing analysis and evaluation, largely through writing exercises. This is not a college preparation course; it is a college equivalency course. As a parent you may need to take into account that this course is different from traditional courses in the following ways

Student’s signature (do not print) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_