

Metropolitan School District of Lawrence Township
Lawrence North High School
7802 N. Hague Road
Indianapolis, Indiana 46256

COURSE INFORMATION GUIDE

IB Psychology HL

INSTRUCTOR

D. Mark Frankum
dfrankum@msdlt.k12.in.us

COURSE DESCRIPTION

IB Psychology examines the interaction of biological, cognitive and sociocultural influences on human behaviour. Understanding how psychological knowledge is generated, developed and applied enables students to achieve a greater understanding of themselves and appreciate the diversity of human behaviour. The ethical concerns raised by the methodology and application of psychological research are key considerations as well.

All students are encouraged to take the IB external assessments (in May) to earn additional college credits to the AP or ACP credits you may have earned in first-year Psychology.

GENERAL COURSE GOALS

- Distinguish between qualitative and quantitative research methodologies
- Study two in-depth HL options (Abnormal Psychology and Social Psychology)
- Undertake an original experimental study (IA)
- Review for the three IB external assessments in May

UNITS

- Research Design, Methodology and Statistics
- Designing Experiments
- Dysfunctional Behaviour
- Social Psychology
- IB Test Preparation

TEXTS

Understanding Research Methods in Psychology , Jamison
Abnormal Psychology in a Changing World 7th Ed., Nevid, Rathus and Greene
Social Psychology 6th Ed., Aronson, Wilson, and Akert

GRADING SCALE*

A	90 – 100%
B	80 – 89
C	70 – 79
D	60 – 69
F	<60%

* This is a *weighted course*

EVALUATIONS USED TO DETERMINE GRADES

9-WEEKS GRADES

10%	Cooperative Learning Assignments
15%	Individual Learning Assignments
75%	Tests

SEMESTER GRADES

These will be determined by the (weighted) **percentile average** of your two 9-week grades and *Final Exam* grade. There is no formal final exam- your grade on the Internal Assessment Proposal will serve as your final exam grade in the fall and your grade on the Experimental Report will serve as your final exam grade in the spring.

CLASSROOM BEHAVIOURAL EXPECTATIONS

Independent and Cooperative Learning: One of the cornerstones to the IB programme is independent inquiry and cooperative learning. You will select group members to complete the Internal Assessment. If you do not select a group to be a member of, then one will be assigned. It is very important that you select compatible members. In the past, students who have selected groups based on friendships (romantic or otherwise) sometimes have difficulties

Discussion Format: Class discussion is one of the major ways to understand the information in this class. Students are expected to have all reading assignments completed, be attentive and be prepared to discuss the assignment each day. **If that is something you cannot or will not do then this class is not for you.** Please ask questions about anything you do not understand, particularly those items from the text we do not discuss in class.

Class Rules: These rules are simple; just have good manners and respect one's self and one another. These rules allow for the free flow of ideas and a sophisticated level of discussion that is an important part of this class. Behaviors that indicate that one has regressed to an earlier stage of development or one's maturational level is lacking in some areas, or that one just has high attention needs, will not be tolerated. Students who would rather sleep in class, do other work etc., need not attend class and should probably withdraw or will be withdrawn if this behaviour is a problem

Electronic Devices: Any use of cell phones (including texting) is not permitted during class time. This certainly falls under the rationale explained above. The behaviour is rude and detrimental to requirements of the class.

Tardy and Attendance Policies: See the student handbook

Lab Rules: In order to protect the lab and computer equipment, no food or drink will be permitted in the lab. **Students who choose to go to unapproved websites, which is any site not part of the class assignment, are in violation of the Lawrence Township Technology policy, and will lose lab privileges and a referral will be written. This will be strictly enforced.**

Videos: Unless otherwise stated, students will be expected to take notes over all videos shown in class. Questions pertaining to the information in the videos will be on the exams. Sleeping, doing work for other classes or other inappropriate behavior will not be tolerated.

MAKE-UP WORK

An excused absence is the only reason late work will be accepted. It is the responsibility of each student to look at his/her syllabus about any work, information or video missed. A student who misses an exam must make up the test during the next study hall or class (whichever comes first). Students who miss the day before the exam will take the exam on the original scheduled date.

WEBSITE INFORMATION

Access syllabi, assignments, power point presentations and handouts from:

www.frankumstein.com

Access additional readings (for inquisitive minds), labs, research sites and links from:

http://www.ltelearning.org/jimcuellar/lawrencenorthpsychology/cms_page/view

Access review materials from textbooks' companion web sites:

www.prenhall.com/nevid (Abnormal Psychology in a Changing World, 7/E)

www.prenhall.com/aronson (Social Psychology, 6e)

IB Psychology at the International School of Prague has a myriad of resources for you:

<http://cranepsych.edublogs.org/>

The primary sites we will use for research are:

Indiana University Library

<http://www.libraries.iub.edu/index.php?pageId=1000179>

Association for Psychological Science (APS)

<http://www.psychologicalscience.org/index.cfm>