

Welcome to IB Psychology! I am really happy that you chose to challenge yourself with an interesting and personally applicable course.

I have designed this class to be personally relevant and thought provoking while at the same time, building your skills in note taking, writing, and critical thinking. The class moves at a quick, but not impossible, pace. There will be homework every night usually in the form of reading and note taking.

---

### Summary of the work load-

Each day:

- reading/notes on a section(s) in the book.
- 

Every 2-4 weeks (approx):

- Notes for the chapter due
- Test on the chapter

Every Semester:

- 1 or 2 major projects that apply some major concepts.
- Misc. papers/assignments applicable to the material covered.

Grading and breakdown:

A	90% +	Tests	50%
B	80-89%	Projects	35%
C	70-79%	Notes	15%
D	60-69%		
F	Below 60%		

### Attendance-

Show up. Be on time. Being continuously late is disrespectful. Being continuously absent is just plain stupid.

### The IB Exam:

The test is in May and there is a fee. Specific dates and cost will be given as soon as I find them out.

### Text-

We use the IB Course Companion. You will have one checked out to you. I will also use 40 studies that Changed Psychology. Do not go and buy this book. It is overpriced. I will also use Psychology for the IB Diploma by Pearson. I will hand that out as soon as I get the shipment from the publisher.

### Late Work-

I will accept late work with a possibility of a C- for a maximum grade. This will hold until the 6 weeks are over. After I complete grades for the 6 weeks- you may not turn in any late work for credit. If you are physically or mentally unable to stick to these dates, we will talk and work something out.

### My office hours:

my off hours (2,4,6,8) and by appointment.

### Email:

email me. [aronscav@jeffco.k12.co.us](mailto:aronscav@jeffco.k12.co.us)

### Phone:

You may call me on my extension at Lakewood. 303.982.2691. It will take longer for me to answer you than if you email me. I will get back to a voicemail as soon as possible. A better option is my mobile- **720.837.6283**

## Note Taking Structure

### **In blue:**

Write down the bold headings of the sections. Underline or box them so they stand out. Make sure you cover all of the blue headings. just because there isn't a bold word doesn't mean there is not important information.

### **In green:**

Put the major terms that answer the question you posed. Often they will be highlighted in bold print. Put the terms in your notebook at the far left. When you review, test your recall of the terms by covering the definitions.

### **In purple:**

Next to the terms put their definitions, copy important diagrams that summarize concepts.

### **In Red:**

Summarize the "Research in psychology" boxes. It is this empirical research that will have to learn and use for the support of your essay exams.

### **At the end of the chapter only: (learning outcomes)**

#### **in black**

write down the learning outcomes at the beginning of the chapter.  
outline/bullet point answers to them

### **Rationale for the colors:**

The brain likes contrast and novel stimuli. Color does that for the brain. If you find that having that many pens is a bother, then write your notes in the traditional black and blue, but use colored highlighters to get contrast.

*Experiment* with this system. Be creative! Make your notebook highly individual. Messy notebooks will be returned and not graded.

**Notes will be due the day of the exam on that particular chapter/section.** Assume that you will have about 30 minutes of reading per homework session.

Dear Parents:

I would like to welcome you and your student to IB Psychology! This is a wonderful college level class which your student will enjoy. You may look at the syllabus that your student has for some more information on the class.

**Films/Demonstrations-**

The following films/activities will be shown this semester. If you or your student elect not to participate, an alternate assignment will be given. Please indicate only if you do NOT want your student to participate.

I am Sam

Story about a special needs father and his daughter's need for nurturing

Small Town Ecstasy

(documentary of a man who is into the Ecstasy/Rave scene) From HBO and is a very good story on how drugs are ruining this man's life. Shows people on drugs.

Awakenings

True story of brain research on frozen patients.

A Beautiful Mind

True story of a man's struggle with schizophrenia.

One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest:

Story of a mental institution's residents and doctors. Questions diagnosis and contains many issues related to the treatment of mental health patients. Because this is rated R (one scene involving alcohol and prostitutes), it is not required viewing and an alternate assignment may be given.

Experimenter

Film about Stanley Milgram and the famous experiment about obedience to authority.

Stanford Prison Experiment

Film about Phil Zimbardo and the famous experiment carried out in the halls of Stanford University. (is rated R for intensity and brief nudity (just a person's bottom).

Hypnosis Demonstration

I may (as time allows) introduce the basics of hypnosis and will demonstrate progressive relaxation. There will be a hypnotist coming in to demonstrate in a fun stage show. Students are invited to watch and/or participate but not required.

**Sensitive Topics-**

The study of psychology may touch on sensitive subjects (abuse, sexual abuse, mental issues, etc.). If you or your students objects to this sort of material, another class may be more appropriate.

**Testing and Grading:**

In order to increase student understanding, objective tests *may* be graded in class by another student if the student is comfortable sharing their work.

**How to get a hold of me:**

Please email me at [aronscav@jeffco.k12.co.us](mailto:aronscav@jeffco.k12.co.us). Also- please write your email so that I may contact you. You may also call me at 303.982.2691. I am generally quicker in responding to emails.

.....  
I give \_\_\_\_\_ permission to watch and participate in all of the initialed activities above and clearly understand the requirements of the course including the topics and test grading.

Name of *parent* \_\_\_\_\_ Signature of *parent* \_\_\_\_\_

Name of *student* \_\_\_\_\_ Signature of *student* \_\_\_\_\_