

A.P. Psychology

Summer Assignment

2020-2021

All students of A.P. Psychology will be required to complete a two-part summer assignment, which is to be completed over the course of the summer, and will be due on the first day of class, (W) 9/9/20. The purpose of this assignment is to engage students in material relevant to the course of study, expand students' understanding of psychology and its application to issues confronting society, and to prepare students for the opening units of A.P. Psychology.

A. Choose **one** of the following books listed below that relate to the study of Psychology. Books are categorized by course units. If there is another psychology related book you would like to read, please contact Ms. Sharma/Miss Luzzi for approval. A full detailed reading list with more information can be found [here](#)

- Unit 2: Research Methods
 - *World as Laboratory: Experiments with Mice, Mazes, and Men*; Rebecca Lemov
 - *Opening Skinner's Box: Great Psychological Experiments of the Twentieth Century*; Lauren Slater
 - *Classic Case Studies in Psychology*; Geoff Rolls
- Unit 3: Biological Bases of Behavior
 - *Mind Wide Open: Your Brain and the Neuroscience of Everyday Life*; Steven Johnson
 - *Phantoms in the Brain: Probing the Mysteries of the Human Mind*; V.S. Ramachandran and Sandra Blakeslee
 - *Head Cases: Stories of Brain Injury and Its Aftermath*; Michael Paul Mason
- Unit 4: Sensation and Perception
 - *The Gift: Extraordinary Experiences of Ordinary People*; Sally Rhine Feather
 - *The Sense of Being Stared At: And Other Unexplained Powers of the Human Mind*; Rupert Sheldrake
- Unit 7: Cognition
 - *The Stuff of Thought: Language as a Window into Human Nature*; Steven Pinker
 - *What is Intelligence?: Beyond the Flynn Effect*; James R. Flynn
- Unit 9: Developmental Psychology
 - *Genie: a Scientific Tragedy*; Russ Rymer
 - *The Primal Teen: What the New Discoveries about the Teenage Brain Tell Us about Our Kids*; Barbara Strauch
 - *Grand Theft Childhood: The Surprising Truth About Violent Video Games and What Parents can Do*; Lawrence Kutner
 - *The Sexual Spectrum: Why We're All Different*; Olive Skene Johnson
- Unit 12: Abnormal Psychology
 - *Wasted: A Memoir of Anorexia and Bulimia*; Marya Hornbacher
 - *The Broken Mirror: Understanding and Treating Body Dysmorphic Disorder*; Katharine A. Phillips
 - *Divided Minds: Twin Sisters and Their Journey Through Schizophrenia*; Pamela Spiro Wagner
 - *Compulsive Acts: A Psychiatrist's Tales of Ritual and Obsession*; Elias Aboujaoude
 - *Shyness: How Normal Behavior Became a Sickness*; Christopher Lane
- Unit 14: Social Psychology
 - *Odd Girl Out: The Hidden Culture of Aggression in Girls*; Rachel Simmons
 - *A World of Gangs: Armed Young Men and Gangsta Culture*; John M. Hagedom
 - *The Lucifer Effect: Understanding How Good People Turn Evil*; Philip Zimbardo
 - *Fame: The Psychology of Stardom*; Andre Ewans

B. **Write a 4-6 pg. response paper**, in which you summarize and react to your chosen book, discussing its relevance in psychological science. As you respond to your book, respond to the following questions to **guide** your writing:

1. Summarize your chosen book:
 1. Who wrote it? What is the author's experience with psychology?
 2. What was it about?
 3. What psychological topics did the author explore in this work?
2. What did you learn about human thought and behavior that you **did not** previously know?
3. Why were you interested in reading this particular book?
4. What is significant about the ideas presented in the book? What implications would/could the ideas have on human behavior/society?
5. What ideas do you agree with of the authors? Why? Justify with other observations/knowledge and personal experiences.
6. What ideas do you disagree with of the authors? What could be a critique of the authors point of view? Why? Justify with other observations/knowledge and personal experiences.
7. What is your overall opinion or recommendation of the book? If you were writing a book review, how highly would you recommend it to others? How important do you feel the ideas in the book are for people to be aware of?
8. After reading this book, what else would you like to learn more about?

**You are not limited to the questions listed above. These are suggestions of ideas that you may explore in your response paper.*

- Format:
 - Typed: APA Format
 - Font Style: Arial/Times New Roman
 - Font Size: 12-point
 - Spacing: 1.5 lines
- These books may be found at our school library, local public libraries, as well as major bookstores (e.g. Barnes & Noble, etc.)

Rubric for the reflective paper can be found here: <https://tinyurl.com/PSYCHpaperrubric>

Grading:

- All summer assignments will be graded based on accuracy of responses, clarity, organization, grammar, and format.
- Summer assignment will constitute the first official grade of the course.

Due: Wednesday September 9th, 2020

No late assignments will be accepted.