

# Psychology 2022-2023 Spring — Fred Kral — The Marin School

Teacher: Fred Kral, Ph.D.

Email: fkral

Call school: 415-339-9336

Zoom: Fred

Get info: <https://teach.kralsite.com> and <https://classroom.google.com>

## Course Description

This elective is a survey of the field of psychology. It focuses on topics that provide a foundational understanding of human psychology, in a way that is relevant to the lives of high school students. The course touches on the following topics: the history of psychology, research methods, the biology of psychology, consciousness, genetics and evolution, developmental psychology, gender and sexuality, sensation and perception, learning, memory, thinking, language, intelligence, motivation, emotion, stress, health, personality, psychological disorders, methods of therapy, social psychology, and positive psychology. Students develop both academic and social skills, and they have opportunities to increase their awareness of themselves and others. Students conduct research, perform studies, give multimedia presentations, and apply the growing body of knowledge from the natural sciences to the understanding of psychology.

The course does not cover all topics. Some topics are predetermined (psychology as a science, the brain and the nervous system, psychological disorders, and social psychology), while other topics are selected by students through different mechanisms (voting for unit topics, coming up with presentation topics, and generating a class database of discussion questions).

## Text and supplemental materials

- Myers, David G. Psychology in Everyday Life. We will use parts of the Second edition (2012) and/or the Sixth edition (2023). Provided by the school. Required.
- Laptop computer or the equivalent. Required.
- 3 ring binder, or one section of a 3 ring binder.
- Pockets to organize paper that is not hole punched (in the binder).
- Pencils (mechanical recommended).

## Expected School-wide Learning Results (ESLRs):

1. Self-reliant learners. 2. Self-directed individuals. 3. Critical and creative thinkers. 4. Effective communicators. 5. Responsible members of society.

## Assessment

	Grades are determined by points, roughly 600 points per term. There are 8 weeks/term.	Major ESLRs (see list)
<p><b>In-Class Work:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Making it:</i> (–2 points/absence beyond the first five) (–1 points/tardy beyond the first five) Tardies apply after breaks and time outside the classroom.</li> <li>• <i>Joining in:</i> Practice safety first, always; Follow Handbook rules; Put away devices (except when required); Getting lost in off-topic device activities counts as being absent/tardy. If remote, camera on &amp; follow remote rules.</li> <li>• <i>Working with:</i> Contributing positive energy and interest level during in-class work including discussing, problem solving, spending time learning online, working on investigations and projects, using notes, reflecting, practicing, and volunteering during class. Students are expected to talk about psychology every class and to share their work with other students visually and verbally. Assessed informally. Earned by students who joined in.</li> </ul>	25 points/week	1-5
<b>Homework:</b> assignments, journal entries, and papers.	5-20 points/assignment, depending on the scope.	1-5
<b>Quizzes and Tests:</b> correctness of written responses.	20-50 points/quiz depending on the scope (tiny checks can have as few as 3–5 points). 100 points/test	3-5
<b>Projects and Presentations:</b> quality and correctness of written and graphical information and quality of delivery.	40 to 100 points depending on scope	1-5
<b>Final Assessments:</b> final project with a presentation component.	20% of course grade	1-5
<b>Commitment to learning:</b> Taking on what is challenging to you, getting help, communicating with the teacher, engaging with the material, and taking personally meaningful notes. Assessed informally.	100 points per quarter, but not more than 15% of the course grade, and given only if it raises the course grade	1-2

## Safety policy

Only use equipment when and as instructed.

## **Safe learning environment policy**

Each of us is responsible for creating a safer, more inclusive learning environment. Bias or discrimination do occur, whether intentional or unintentional. It is important that students and adults address unfairness and hostility on the basis of identity. All faculty and staff are committed to maintaining a safe and diverse campus where we can all be our authentic selves.

## **Late work policy**

If you talk to me before an assignment is due, you can get an extension, though repeated instances may result in no extension given. Because I enter grades once per week, you can usually get credit for late or partial work up to that weekly deadline.

## **Smartphone, computer, and device policy**

Devices are not allowed in class, except by explicit permission to do class work. The more our work in this class involves devices, the larger responsibility you have to stay on track. Know that it is against the class and school policy to work on tasks that are not assigned or directly related to the course. Using technology to interact with anyone who is not in the class is not allowed. The Marin School supports the responsible use of technology. See the Parent and Student Handbook.

## **Collaboration policy**

I encourage study groups. As long as all of you contribute, you may work with others—not just students—unless instructed otherwise. It is wise to put the name of each contributing student on an assignment to avoid issues with plagiarism. See the Parent and Student Handbook for a description of academic honesty, cheating, and plagiarism.

Please connect and let's have fun! – Fred