

Psychology 12

District Name: **Mission**
District Number: 75

Developed by: David Binsfeld and Linda Miller
School Name: Heritage Park Secondary and Mission Secondary
Principal's Name: Kevin Kaardal and Randy Huth

Board/Authority Approval Date: January 18, 2005

Board/Authority Signature: _____

Course Name: Psychology
Grade Level of Course: 12 (open to grade 11 and 12 students)
Number of Course Credits: 4
Number of Hours of Instruction: 120

Prerequisite(s): Psychology 11 preferred but not required.

Special Training: Teacher should have an academic background in Psychology and/or related experience.

Facilities and Equipment: Classroom, VCR/Monitor, computers with internet access.

Course Synopsis:

This course has been developed to help students to recognize the key role that psychology is playing in the contemporary affairs of humankind. Students will communicate the basics of psychology in a concise and straightforward manner that will make the material easy to understand. At the same time, a foundation will be laid for the more advanced study of behaviour for those students wishing to continue in Advanced Psychology. The course will produce an interesting and intelligent introduction to psychology while maintaining the integrity of the underlying scientific principles. The program will encourage the students to acquire a greater awareness of the complexities of behaviour, a desire to understand behaviour more fully, and an ability to think more objectively about the many behavioural problems that confront us today.

Course Goals:

1. Learn about the breadth of psychology
2. Increase student understanding of human behaviour and experience
3. Learn to formulate and ask questions that have no easy answers
4. Develop an appreciation for a variety of topics dealing with psychology
5. That students enjoy the experience of discovery
6. Students will further develop creative thinking skills.

Rationale:

This course has been developed to help students to recognize the key role that psychology is playing in the contemporary affairs of humankind. Students will learn to critically think about human behaviour and communicate their ideas about the many complexities of that behaviour. They will explore topics including personality and individuality, adjustment and breakdown and human relationships. They will write a research paper, complete a book critique, and complete a variety of assignments.

Students will begin each unit by confronting new material in a combination of the following methods of presentation: lectures, large and small group discussions; reading of texts; supplementary materials; current newspaper and magazine articles; viewing of selected films; use of guest lecturers; and research on various web sites. After the students have analyzed the information presented, they will be asked to make inferences about the materials both orally and in writing. Each student will also be required to complete major projects during the course

- explain the application of aptitude tests, achievement tests, and interest tests
- identify and describe the use of personality tests
- describe the characteristics of good psychological tests
- list major schools of psychological theories

Unit 3: Life Span

10 hours

This unit explores human development from birth through old age. It will explain the physical, cognitive, social and emotional development of infants and children, as well the physical and sexual changes that occur during adolescence. Personal and social development will also be explored. The section of adulthood and aging will examine the psychological issues that arise and the issues involved with death and dying are addressed.

Curriculum/Learning Outcomes:

It is expected that students will be able to:

- describe the physical and perceptual development of newborns and children
- discuss the development of language
- summarize the cognitive-development theory
- discuss how children develop emotionally
- describe theories of social development and moral development
- describe the physical changes that characterize adolescence
- describe the cognitive and ideological changes; and outline the process by which adolescents find personality identity
- describe the role of family and peers during adolescence
- discuss difficulties some adolescents encounter
- characterize the physical, social, emotional changes that occur during adulthood
- identify the changes that occur in health and life situations during old age
- identify the stages of dying
- describe the services of hospices

Unit 4 Adjustment and Breakdown

36 hours

Students will investigate the sources of stress, reactions to stress, and coping strategies both short term and lifelong. Adjustment in society will focus the students' attention on love and marriage, parent-child relationships, college life and the work force. Students will explore abnormal behaviour and many of the mental disorders surrounding the issue. The students will become aware of psychotherapy and its role.

Curriculum/Learning Outcomes:

It is expected that students will be able to:

- give examples of the psychological, physical and behavioural reactions to stress
- identify various sources of stress
- explain and demonstrate different strategies of coping with stress
- describe a variety of styles and types of marriages
- define the nature of parent-child interactions and conflicts
- identify some of the issues related to adjustment to college life
- explain various issues related to working
- distinguish between the concepts of normality and abnormality
- identify the behavioural patterns of anxiety disorders and mood disorders
- describe the concept of schizophrenia
- describe somatoform and dissociative disorders
- explain how drug addiction is a psychological disorder
- explain the nature of psychotherapy and trace historical development
- describe psychoanalysis and its aims
- describe the processes and goals of behaviour therapy, cognitive therapies, and humanist/existential therapies

Unit 5 Social Psychology

12 hours

Students will explore the dynamics of interpersonal relationships, focusing on factors that hold together or drive apart couples and group members. Students will look in depth at some of the attitudes - both negative and positive - that shape society. They will also examine techniques that can change attitudes, with emphasis on the persuasion process.

Curriculum/Learning Outcomes:

It is expected that students will be able to:

- describe the basic human need for interaction with others
- discuss the ways individuals form impressions of one another
- describe the interactive patterns with groups
- trace the origin and composition of attitudes
- describe prejudice and its relationship to stereotypes and roles
- cite the sources of attitude change
- explain the different types of persuasion processes
- describe several factors that influence how we interpret others' behaviour
- describe factors involved in attitude change

Unit 6 Psychology Present & Future

12 hours

Students will view the future by taking a look at the trends in the field of psychology. The unifying thread is the overview of psychology related careers. Students will examine the tools that help psychologists form and evaluate theories. Through the use of research and statistical analysis, psychologists continue to expand the boundaries of our knowledge of human behaviour.

Curriculum/Learning Outcomes:

It is expected that students will be able to:

- identify and describe ways in which psychology is used to improve the workplace
- identify and describe new areas of research psychology
- describe the process of psychological research
- name the three different types of psychological research and some of the methodological hazards of doing research
- describe descriptive and inferential statistics
- name specific research methods used to organize data

Instructional Components:

- direct instruction
- interactive instruction
- student led instruction
- practical creativity
- group work
- guest lecturers
- demonstrations
- indirect instruction
- independent instruction
- modelling
- brainstorming
- seminar presentations
- web site research

