**Introduction to Psychology**

**Psychology**

**Mrs. Jones**

**Email:  waltoyu@richmond.k12.ga.us**

**Room: 233**

**Course Description:**

This half-year course addresses the basic principles of psychology, which is the study of mental processes and behavior. The scope of psychology is broad; therefore this course serves as an introduction to the theories, methodology, biological bases, research and leading pioneers and research in the field of psychology. Areas of focus for the introductory course include psychological perspectives, learning, memory, motivation, sensation and perception, and parts of the brain.

**Course Objectives:**

      To learn about psychology and critical thinking

      To become familiar with basic psychological terminology

      To encourage thinking about learning and the different components of the learning process (attention, memory, language, social cognition, etc…)

      To identify personal strengths and weaknesses and discover ways to maximize strengths and compensate for weaknesses

      To develop an understanding of the scientific methods used in psychological research while designing and conducting a research experiment

      To research, create, and present a student led discussion on either an occupation related to psychology or a specific area of interest in psychology

      To recognize, tolerate, respect, and celebrate individual differences in learning and behavior

      To participate in worthwhile activities and discussions along the way

**Units:**

* Introduction to Psychology: Research Methods and Evaluations
* The Life Span
* The Workings of the Mind and Body
* Learning and Cognitive Processes: Memory and Thought; Thinking and Language; Motivation and Emotion
* Personality and Individuality
* Adjustment and Breakdown: Stress and Health; Psychological Disorders and Therapy and Change
* Social Psychology: Individual Interaction, Group Interaction; Attitudes and Social Influence; Psychology: Present and Future

**Grading Policy:**

 50 % Tests /Projects

 30 % Quizzes/ Notebooks

 15 % Classwork/ Daily Work/ Homework

 05 % Participation – includes participation in discussions and activities and active working

**Required Materials:**

* **Pens (blue or black)**
* **Markers or colored pencils**
* **Separate Notebook for Psychology/Sociology only**
* **Optional- USB jump drive** (projects, etc)

**Heading – All Psychology** work must have a heading written on the **UPPER RIGHT HAND SIDE of ALL** assignments**. The heading must include: Name, Date, Period, Chapter and Page Number of assignment.**

**ALL WORK MUST BE NEAT AND LEGIBLE. A GRADE OF ZERO WILL BE ASSIGNED FOR WORK THAT IS ILLEGIBLE.**

**Classwork/Daily Work** – You are expected to **take notes as a part of any reading assignment** you are given. The teacher will occasionally ask for your notes from your reading as a Daily Work grade. You are expected to do your class work assignments in class. Class work will consist of reciting various works from memory, reading assignments, writing assignments, computer work, etc. All class work assignments must be turned in before the class period ends. Incomplete work will be graded accordingly. **No Late work accepted!!!**

 **Tests/Quizzes:** You will be given a test or quiz at the end of every Chapter and/or Unit. Assessment material will cover information presented from readings, lecture notes, handouts, and any other pertinent information. In addition, some **tests** will be **given in essay format only**. Each test will be announced and you are encouraged to invest your time in order to perform well on tests. **Pop-quizzes** will be given and it is your responsibility to be prepared for them at any given moment. If you **fail** an assessment, you may retake the exam if you have **attended at least one day of tutorial**. The **second** score will be **combined** with the **first**, resulting in an **averaged grade**.

**Participation/Projects** – You **will have several projects** to complete this year. Due dates will be announced well in advance. Be sure to back up any files on whatever computer system you use. Late projects will not be accepted w/o a doctor’s excuse or funeral program. You may turn your project in early but you may not turn it in after the due date. **If you have an appt. on the day your project is due, and you plan to leave before my class is scheduled, be sure to turn your project in before you leave. Again, late projects will not be accepted and a grade of ZERO will be assigned.**  Participation points will be earned by raising your hand and making substantive contributions to class discussions or giving correct answers to the instructor’s questions.

**Homework** – You are expected to do your **homework *before*** coming to class. Student may **not work on homework in class, especially not for other subjects**. **No Late work accepted!!!** Most homework assignments are the chapter reading as indicated above on your syllabus and vocabulary.

**Absences/Make-up work:** The structure of this class requires students to attend class daily. In order to receive make-up work, students must provide the teacherwith an **excused** admission slip from the attendance office. It is your responsibility to notify the teacher for work missed. Students are expected to make a network of at least three classmates to obtain any work missed. **ASK THREE, THEN ASK ME**. If you missed work, do not ask the instructor before you have asked the members of your network. Rely on your network.

 **Students who are absent must make up their work within the following time frame:**

* **Tests/Quizzes**: You are expected to take these assessments with the class. If you are absent the day before a major test or quiz, you must take the test or quiz the day you return.
* **Other Assignments**: If the absence is excused, you will be normally have one day for each day you are absent to make up an assignment (no more than 5 days), or you will be given a zero for each assignment missed.

**\*All** assignments are considered **late** if turned in **after** the teacher has picked up the assignment. As a result, **zeros** will be allotted for **any assignment** received **after the given due time and date.**

**Extra Credit:** **NO EXTRA CREDIT** will be given for any assignments! However, there will be **opportunities for students to earn participation points** throughout the year via **school sponsored activities**.

**Writing/Reading** – You will have writing and/or reading assignments. Assignments include notes, book critiques, creative writing activities, etc.

**Final Exam** –It will cover material from the **ENTIRE** semester and **count 20% of your grade**.

**Computers:** All students **must gain access** to a computer at home, school, or public library to achieve success in this course. Assignments and a variety of resources **will be referenced** to the **Internet throughout the entire year**. Some assignments **will have to be typed** and other software programs such as **Power Point** or **Prezi** will be **utilized** as well.

\*Be sure to **back up any files** on whatever computer system you use. **Computer OR Printer** errors **CANNOT** be used as an **excuse** for late work!

**Classroom Expectations:** This class follows all **RCBOE** policies relative to appropriate school and classroom conduct as outlined in the *RCBOE CODE OD CONDUCT BOOK*. RCTCM standard expectations as explained in the RCTCM *Student Handbook* also apply to this class. This includes policies related to make-up work, late work, extra credit, and extra help. Students are expected to be alert and attentive during class, punctual, and prepared for learning each day, and respectful of the teacher and other students, as well as their property and rights. **Cheating is a violation of school and county policies**. Therefore, as a student at RCTCM, students will not participate in any form of cheating on any type of assignment—**either by copying another student’s answer(s), by having a cheat sheet, or by allowing others to copy my work.** The **first offense will result in a zero on that assignment; if there is a second offense, parents will be notified and a referral to Ms. Moore, the Instructional Principal, will be made. This grade can not be made up**. Additional policies are listed below and will be discussed in class.

**Student Contract:** As a student of RCTCM, I hereby agree to follow all of the rules and regulations indicated by the RCTCM and RCBOE student handbooks.

I hereby also agree to:

* come to **class on time** with proper materials EVERYDAY (textbook, paper, pen, notebook).
* sit up, pay attention, and ACTIVELY participate in independent, cooperative group or whole class activities.
* listen to and follow directions promptly.
* make up missed assignments from when I have an EXCUSED absence in a timely manner.
* keep desk, work area, and classroom NEAT.
* refrain from bringing items other than SCHOOL SUPPLIES to class (i.e. food, drinks, cell phones, etc.).
* handle textbook, supplies, and other classroom materials with CARE.
* respond to others with a POSITIVE attitude and respect in word and gesture.
* use PROPER language – **no profanity**
* do whatever is necessary to SUCCESSFULLY pass this class this semester.

**\*No hall passes will be issued! Take care of your business before you come to class!**

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**Parent Contract:** As a parent/guardian of a student in Mrs. Jones’ class, I will do whatever is necessary to help my child successfully pass this semester including but not limited to, signing required forms, keeping abreast with progress reports, and attending parent conferences.

**Discipline Policy:**

1st Offense verbal warning

2nd Offense 15 minute detention w/ parent contact (phone call)

3rd Offense 30 minute detention w/ parent contact (phone call)

4th Offense referral to discipline office w/ parent contact (phone call)

 \*\* E-mails may be sent out in lieu of phone calls



***Return only this form* to class by August 17, 2016. This is your 1st Homework Grade.**

**MRS. JONES’ RESERVES THE RIGHT TO CHANGE OR ADJUST ANY SECTION OF THIS SYLLABUS AT ANY TIME TO MORE ADEQUATELY MEET THE NEEDS AND INTERESTS OF THE STUDENTS IN THIS CLASS.**

**I HAVE READ THE ENTIRE SYLLABUS AND BY SIGNING BELOW I AGREE TO ABIDE BY ITS CONTENTS.**

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**Student**: I have read this class resume and discipline plan. I will honor it as a student while attending Mrs. Jones’ class.

**Print Student Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Student Signature: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Parents:** My child has discussed the class resume and discipline plan with me. I understand it and will support it.

**Print Parent Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Parent/Guardian Signature: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Parent Contact Information: Please provide updated information**

**Home Phone\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Work Phone\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Cell Phone\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Email Address\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**