

**Jefferson County High School  
Course Syllabus**

**A. Course - *Psychology***

**B. Department - *Social Studies***

**C. Course Description** Psychology is an introduction of human behaviors as individuals and covers ways humans act and think. It is intended to help the student better understand the multiple forms of behavior over the lifespan. The course includes the history of modern psychology. The course is a good social studies elective for the college-bound student. Students are introduced to college level journal article analysis and critical thinking is emphasized.

**D. Grade Term - *9 Weeks***

**E. Grading Scale**

<u>Range</u>		<u>Honors/ Regular</u>
93-100	A	4.0
85-92	B	3.0
75-84	C	2.0
70-74	D	1.0

**F. Term Dates**

- a. 1<sup>st</sup> 9 Weeks August 5, 2016 – October 7, 2016
- b. 2<sup>nd</sup> 9 Weeks October 8, 2016 – December 16, 2016
- c. 3<sup>rd</sup> 9 Weeks January 5, 2017 – March 15, 2017
- d. 4<sup>th</sup> 9 Weeks March 16, 2017 – May 25, 2017

**G. Textbook(s)** Minter, Katherine P. and Elmhurst, William J. Psychology. New Jersey: Pearson Education 2012

**H. Other Required Reading**

- a. Assorted excerpts from various psychology studies.

**I. Other Resources**

- a. Odysseyware

**J. Major Assignments**

- a. **Journal Article Analysis** – This is an in-depth review of a journal article that involves review, data analysis, synthesis and critique.

**K. Procedures for Parental Access to Instructional Materials**

- a. Aspen Parent Portal
- b. Instructor's Website
- c. Email Instructor – [ibraun@jcboe.net](mailto:ibraun@jcboe.net)
- d. Parent Teacher Conference
  - a. There are two designated conference dates during the school year. Parents who would like to request additional meetings may make appointments for conferences with the teachers (during their planning periods), counselors, or a principal by telephoning the school office.
  - b.

**L. Standards & Objectives**

- a. I Can Statement Scope & Sequence – attached

**Research Methods, Measurement, Statistics, Biological Basis of Behavior, Sensation and Perception, and Lifespan**

**Development:** students will study the development of scientific attitudes and skills, including critical thinking, problem solving, and scientific methodology. Students will also examine the structure and function of the nervous system in human and nonhuman animals, the process of sensation and perception, and lifespan development. Students will study social cognition, influence, and relations. Students will examine social and cultural diversity and diversity among individuals. Students will study memory, including encoding, storage, and retrieval of memory. Students will also study perspectives of abnormal behavior and categories of psychological disorders, including treatment. Students will elaborate on the importance of drawing evidence-based conclusions about psychological phenomena and gain knowledge on a wide array of issues. Throughout the course, students will examine connections between content areas within psychology and related psychological knowledge of everyday life.

<b>On-Going Standards</b>	<b>On-Going "I Can" Statements</b>
Use various analytical tools to study psychology.  Use technology effectively and appropriately to enhance learning and develop 21st-century learners.	I can use various analytical tools to study Psychology. I can investigate and discover psychological facts and make connections that impact my life.  I can think in creative and innovative ways using technology to communicate and collaborate, research and solve problems appropriate manner to learn psychology.
<b>Tennessee state standards</b>	<b>Student friendly "I can" statements</b>
PY.1 Describe the scientific method and its role in psychology.  PY.2 Describe and compare variety of quantitative and qualitative research methods including: surveys, correlations, experiments, interviews, narratives and focus groups  PY.3 Elaborate on systematic procedures used to improve the validity of research findings, including external validity.  PY.4 Discuss how and why psychologist use nonhuman animals in research and identify ethical guidelines to follow regarding this type of research.	<i>I can Explain why the scientific research provides more useful answers than common sense.</i>  <i>I can compare and contrast various research models</i>  <i>I can define reliability and validity</i>  <i>I can explain the benefits of using animals in psychological research.</i>

