



# Psychology Syllabus

Mr. Locke



**Welcome!** I am pleased to have you as a part of this class. I strive to create a welcoming environment in which all students feel safe and respected. If you have any concerns, require any accommodations, have any particular needs, go by a different name or pronoun, etc. it is your responsibility to communicate that with me in advance so we can best accommodate you.

**Course Description:** This class explores what makes us who we are, why people do what we do, and how our perception can be deceived. Some of the topics covered include sleep and dreams, persuasion, learning and memory, states of consciousness, relationships, optical illusions, hallucinations and psychoactive drugs, and psychological disorders. This class largely entails discussions, class experiments, and personal exploration through projects. The last unit pertains to sensitive content such as depression, anxiety, and other mental health issues. If there is any subject you would like to be excused from, let me know in advance and another class setting will be provided.

**Textbook:** *Psychology: An Introduction* 2002 ed. Prentice-Hall

**Attendance:** Students are considered late if they are not in their seats and prepared to work by the time the late bell rings. Lates/Tardies are disruptive to learning. Once the bell rings the door will be locked and everyone who is late must wait to be let in to sign the late sheet. Being late/tardy to class more than 5 times will result in a call home. More than 8 lates will result in a referral to the admin office. Cutting class will result in a referral to the admin office.

*Detention: Students and parents will be given at least 24-hour notice to serve an after-school detention at the teacher's discretion. Detentions consist of cleaning the classroom or making up missing class assignments. Failure to attend detention may result in an in-house suspension for defiance.*

## Grading Policy

Grades are based on the following scale:

A = 90-100%

B = 80-89%

C = 70-79%

D = 60-69%

F = 0-59

All grades must be earned. I do not “bump” final semester scores if you are one or two percent away from achieving a higher grade as that percent equates to several missing assignments. However, I offer all students the opportunity to make an appointment with me to receive extra tutoring as needed. Furthermore, all students have the opportunity to retake a low scoring test (D or lower) within the first week the exam was taken as long as you complete a review with me. Although I do what I can to provide frequent reminders, **students and their legal guardians are responsible for periodically checking grades in PowerSchool for missing assignments or low test scores.**

## Late Work

Late work will be accepted with the following penalty scale:

1<sup>st</sup> week late (1-5 days) = 10% reduction

2<sup>nd</sup> week late (6-10 days) = 25% reduction

More than 2 school weeks = 0% and no credit for the assignment

*Note: Late work will only be accepted if it is submitted during the unit it was assigned in. I will not accept work from previous units.*

Those with EXCUSED absences may make up missed work without penalty within 3 days after returning. *Work submitted more than 3 days after returning are subject to the above late work policy.* YOU are responsible for connecting with me when you return about missed assignments.

## Classroom Policies

**Preparation:** Please arrive on time to class prepared to learn with a fully charged school issued laptop.

**Arriving Late:** If you arrive to class late, sign-in and connect with me to make sure you are counted for attendance. Four or five lates will result in a call home. More than five lates will result in a Saturday School.

**Sign-In, Sign-Out:** If you need to leave class for any reason, you must 1) Get teacher approval and a pass, and 2) Sign out and back in once you return.

**Restroom:** Please use the restroom before class begins. If you need to use the restroom during class, wait for teacher approval. Restroom breaks should take less than 10 min. Abuse of bathroom breaks may result in loss of privilege or you may be required to lock up your phone before exiting the room if trust is lost. *I do not let students out during B-lunch or the last 10 min of class.*

**Food:** Eating will be allowed as long as it's not a full meal and easy to clean. If it gets all over the place, it doesn't belong in this space. Littering will result in a detention in which you clean the classroom. *Mr. Locke reserves the right to suspend such food privileges if the room is frequently left a mess.*

**Electronics:** You are personally responsible for all electronics and personal items you bring to class. Please only use school provided laptops. Bring valuable items AT YOUR OWN RISK. Please silence and safely stow away all electronics. *Cell phones should not be seen unless permission is provided by the teacher.* Repeated defiance of this rule may result in

teacher confiscation, call home, and/or referral to the office. The school and myself are not responsible for any lost, stolen, or damaged items.

**Contact Info:** The best way to reach me is through email me at [jlocke@fcusd.org](mailto:jlocke@fcusd.org). I look forward to working with you all and getting to know you better!