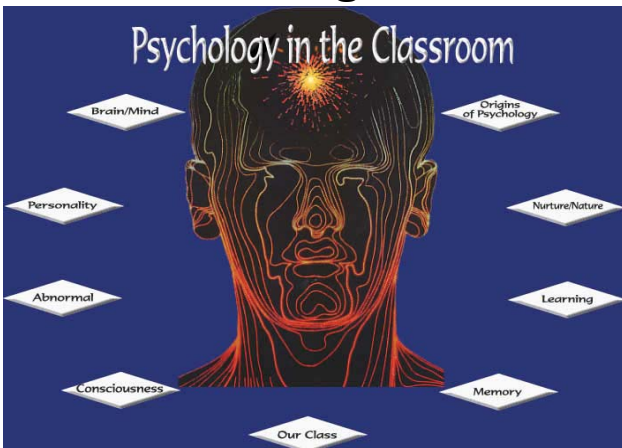


GENERAL PSYCHOLOGY

This elective course is an introduction to psychology for high school students. Students will gain an understanding of human behavior through the study of basic psychological theories and principles. The areas of study include biological psychology, sensation and perception, motivation and emotion, personality, learning development, social psychology, states and altered states of consciousness, methods in psychology, behavior disorders, and treatment and therapy. In addition to the study of theory and principles, students will also learn about current research and contemporary issues in psychology.



Psychology is the study of behavior and mental processes. Students taking psychology will understand biological, behavioral, and cognitive influences on behavior.

The purpose of psychology is to give us insight into the things we know best.

Robinson Secondary School
5035 Sideburn Road
Fairfax VA 22032
703 424-2100

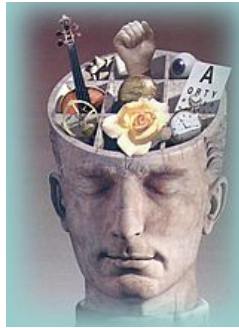


Why do people feel, think, and act the way they do? For over a century psychologists have been searching for an answer to this question. Although the field is growing ever larger, most agree that psychologists are united by their interest in understanding people.

At the turn of the 20th century most psychologists studied mental processes, but in the 1900s the field matured to include other topics, including emotions, behaviors, stress, development, and physiological processes. Many people assume that all psychologists are therapists, or that at minimum all are interested in adjustment and mental processes. The field, in reality, crosses between basic and applied science as well as applications.



IB Psychology (SL, HL)



Biological: includes study of the nervous and endocrine systems, genetic explanations of behavior, emotion, body rhythms, imprinting, etc.

Cognitive: includes study of attention, perception and memory.

Learning: includes study of conditioning, modeling, biological and cognitive theories of learning.

Humanistic (HL only): The humanist perspective stresses the person's capacity for personal growth, freedom to choose one's own destiny, and positive qualities.

Alongside each perspective students will study the psychology of dysfunctional behavior and mental health: models of abnormality, diagnosis and classification, treatments and therapies.

IB Psychology fulfills the IB Diploma requirement for Group 3.

Assessments and Examinations

There are two IB examinations with a mixture of short answer and essay questions, which will be taken in May. There is also an internally assessed experimental investigation, which will be completed during the second quarter, and which counts for 20% of the overall IB assessment.

***The major difference between IB psychology and psychology is the amount of reading, writing, and analysis required. Regular psychology provides for a broader range of study, IB psychology requires more in depth study on specific topics.**



Can't decide on which one to take? See your counselor or stop by and visit one of the psychology teachers!