

2021 AP PSYCHOLOGY OPEN HOUSE

1. The AP Psychology course

- Scope and sequence of course (9 units of study)
- Work load (article reviews; weekly textbook reading/notes; Online Psych simulations; journals and projects)

2. The AP Psychology 2021 testing date: TBA (During the first two full weeks of May)

- **Section I:** Multiple Choice | 100 Questions | 70 Minutes | 66.6% of Exam Score

- Define and explain content from a range of course topics
- Apply skills of comparison and interpretation to course concepts, theories, and scientific methods

-**Section II:** Free Response | 2 Questions | 50 Minutes | 33.3% of Exam Score

- Analyze a unique scenario using concepts from different theoretical frameworks or sub domains in the field (Free-Response Question type 1)
- Design, analyze, or critique a study (Free-Response Question type 2)

3. Textbook: **Myers' Psychology for AP** (David G. Myers)

4. Summer reading assignment: **INCOGNITO: The Secret Lives of the Brain** (by David Eagleman)

- Answer the guided reading questions in complete sentences. **ALL ANSWERS MUST BE HANDWRITTEN!!** Be sure to include the question within the answer.
- Pass in your questions. **ANSWERS WILL BE COLLECTED DAY 1.** NO LATE questions/answers will be allowed!
- Take the open notes test week 1 or 2 in the Fall. I will pass back your notes (NOT THE QUESTIONS SHEET) for you to use on the test. **YOU WILL NOT BE ALLOWED TO USE TYPED NOTES.**

5. Summer project: Illustrated "Brain Book". Understanding the structures and functions of the brain you address in this book are essential to the study of psychology and success on the AP Exam. **(See the attached project rubric!)**

6. Words of advice from those before you . . . purchase one or more of the following BEFORE the course starts so you can use them throughout the year to better prepare for taking both Mr. Ferbert's unit tests and the AP exam in May!!!

- McGraw Hill's "5 Steps to a 5" (highly recommended!)
- Barron's AP Psychology (you may want to purchase this instead of "5 Steps to a 5")
- Barron's AP Psychology Flashcards, 2nd Edition (highly recommended!)

Unit 1: Scientific Foundations of Psychology

You'll learn about the basis of psychological theory as the study of human and animal behavior and mental processes and learn how psychologists design and conduct research.

Unit 2: Biological Bases of Behavior

You'll study behaviors and mental processes from a biological perspective and explore the effects of the interaction between human biology and our environment.

Unit 3: Sensation and Perception

You'll examine how humans perceive and process the world around them via their senses and convert those observations into perceptions that influence how we think and behave.

Unit 4: Learning

You'll learn about the field of psychology that studies how humans and other animals learn as well as how learning changes over a lifetime.

Unit 5: Cognitive Psychology

You'll examine the complex nature of how memory, intelligence, and other mental processes impact human behavior.

Unit 6: Developmental Psychology

You'll study how physical and social changes over humans' lifespans can influence behavior and mental processes from a variety of perspectives.

Unit 7: Motivation, Emotion, and Personality

You'll study personality through the lens of behavior and mental processes and how they interact to produce an individual's personality.

Unit 8: Clinical Psychology

You'll learn how psychologists evaluate, study, and treat a range of psychological disorders.

Unit 9: Social Psychology

You'll examine how humans interact in groups and social situations, as well as how others can affect an individual's behavior and mental processes.

AP Psychology
“The Brain Book”

NO LATE PROJECTS WILL BE ACCEPTED . . . NO EXCEPTIONS!!

OBJECTIVE: To design and produce a colorful and interesting booklet explaining the key structures and functions of the brain.

MATERIALS: Paper, Colored Pencils/Markers/Crayons, Textbook/Handouts, Hand drawings of various brain structures, something to bind booklet

PROCEDURE:

1. Using computer paper or construction paper, make your own illustrations of key brain structures. The drawings are to accurately portray the brain's structure as closely as possible.
2. The drawings will need to include labels of each key brain structure (or color coded). See “The Brain Book” rubric for a detailed list of the key brain structures to be included
3. Provide a detailed description (in complete sentences) of TWO key functions for EACH brain structure you illustrate.

4. The production of a unique cover page is required to complete the brain book. The cover should include an appropriate title, the student's name and class period.

5. Create a table of contents: (Page 1 — Frontal Lobe, Page 2—Parietal Lobe, etc.). You need to number each page in the bottom right hand corner.

6. Once all the pages have been illustrated and explained, the booklet can be assembled. Punch holes. Make sure that the holes are properly aligned. Bind the pages with some material of your choice. Please do not use staples or paper clips to bind your booklet. Be creative and come up with an original idea. **(NO NOTEBOOKS ALLOWED!!!)**

7. Accuracy, correctness, neatness, and creativity are encouraged as you produce this booklet. This is a MAJOR grade. Using your time wisely while in class is also a consideration in the final grade.

8. The project is worth up to 100 points. Extra credit can be earned for creativity.

“The Brain Book” (Rubric)

_____ out of 5 points

A unique AND colorful cover page is provided

_____ out of 5 points

A table of contents is provided

_____ out of 38 points

A ***DETAILED (neat) ILLUSTRATION for each brain part on separate pages*** (EXCEPT for the brainstem and limbic system) is provided ***AND*** the specific part of the brain is ***ACCURATELY LABELED and HIGHLIGHTED*** (color coded) ***2 points each***

_____ Frontal Lobe
_____ Parietal Lobe
_____ Occipital Lobe
_____ Temporal Lobe
_____ Visual Cortex
_____ Auditory Cortex
_____ Motor Cortex
_____ Sensory Cortex
_____ Cerebellum
_____ Cerebrum (TOP VIEW of left & right hemispheres)
_____ Corpus Callosum

_____ Thalamus
_____ Brainstem (one-page illustration – highlight EACH part!)
- Medulla (2 points)
- Pons (2 points)
- Reticular formation (2 points)
_____ Limbic System (one-page illustration – highlight EACH part!)
- Hippocampus (2 points)
- Amygdala (2 points)
- Hypothalamus (2 points)
- Pituitary Gland (2 points)

_____ out of 40 points

A ***DESCRIPTION IN COMPLETE SENTENCES OF AT LEAST TWO*** important/specific functions of EACH brain part was provided ***2 points each***

_____ Frontal Lobe
_____ Parietal Lobe
_____ Occipital Lobe
_____ Temporal Lobe
_____ Visual Cortex
_____ Auditory Cortex
_____ Motor Cortex
_____ Sensory Cortex
_____ Cerebellum
_____ Cerebrum 4 points (*specific functions of both the left & right hemispheres provided*)

_____ Thalamus
_____ Brainstem: (*Explain TWO FUNCTIONS OF EACH part*)
- Medulla (2 points)
- Pons (2 points)
- Reticular formation (2 points)
_____ Limbic System (*Explain TWO FUNCTIONS OF EACH part*)
- Hippocampus (2 points)
- Amygdala (2 points)
- Hypothalamus (2 points)
- Pituitary Gland (2 points)

_____ Corpus Callosum

_____ out of 12 points

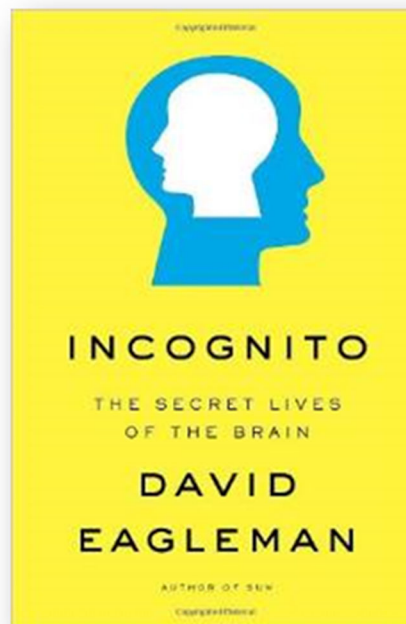
Your book was accurate, correct, neat, and creative – there were less than FIVE spelling/grammatical errors

FINAL GRADE: _____

Summer Reading:

Incognito: The Secret Lives of the Brain

by [David Eagleman](#)



If the conscious mind—the part you consider to be you—is just the tip of the iceberg, what is the rest doing?

In this sparkling and provocative new book, the renowned neuroscientist David Eagleman navigates the depths of the subconscious brain to illuminate surprising mysteries: Why can your foot move halfway to the brake pedal before you become consciously aware of danger ahead? Why do you hear your name being mentioned in a conversation that you didn't think you were listening to? What do Ulysses and the credit crunch have in common? Why did Thomas Edison electrocute an elephant in 1916? Why are people whose names begin with J more likely to marry other people whose names begin with J? Why is it so difficult to keep a secret? And how is it possible to get angry at yourself—who, exactly, is mad at whom?

Taking in brain damage, plane spotting, dating, drugs, beauty, infidelity, synesthesia, criminal law, artificial intelligence, and visual illusions, *Incognito* is a thrilling subsurface exploration of the mind and all its contradictions.

ALL ANSWERS MUST BE HANDWRITTEN

(you WILL NOT be allowed to use typed notes on the test)

Chapter 1. There's Someone In My Head, But It's Not Me

- Describe the complexity of the brain – its composition and how its cells are inter-connected and communicate.
- How are our “thoughts underpinned by physical stuff”?
- According to Eagleman, “most of what we do and think, and feel is not under our conscious control”. Describe one example he uses on p. 5 to demonstrate this fact.
- Who was Sigmund Freud? Describe his “new view” of the mind and how/why it was like an Iceberg.
- How does Freud’s view of the mind support Eagleman’s assertion that the “brain runs its show incognito”?

Chapter 2. The Testimony of the Senses

- How is the job of a newspaper headline and our consciousness similar?
- How does our brain's visual system fool us into thinking we have great peripheral vision or we can perceive depth accurately when in fact we cannot?
- Explain the phenomenon of change blindness – how/why does it occur?
- Why did you not know the position of your tongue in your mouth or feel your left shoe on your foot until asked? What does this tell us about consciousness and our brain?
- “More than actively interpreting what is out there, the brain often goes beyond the call of duty to make things up.” How does our failure to see our “blind spot” and susceptibility to shadow illusions support this idea?
- Describe the division of labor among the circuits of cells located in your visual cortex (p.35).
- If you had motion blindness how might you see a car moving down the street?
- Why didn't Mike May see the world the same as you or I when he got his vision back? What does this tell us about the brain?
- If our brain, encased in absolute blackness, doesn't see anything then how do we see?
- What is the only difference between waking perception and unanchored perception (like dreaming)?
- What is the “McGurk effect” and what does it tell us about perception?
- How is the perception of time also a construction of our brain?

Chapter 3. Mind: The Gap

- Why is “procedural memory’ a type of “implicit memory”? What are some examples of implicit memories?
- What is “anterograde amnesia”? What do people with anterograde amnesia tell us about how “implicit memory” (learning) occurs?
- What’s an “implicit bias”? Describe one method that is used to measure it.
- What is “implicit egotism”? In what ways does it unconsciously influence our life?
- What is priming? Give me an example of how it works.
- What is the mere exposure effect? How is it used to influence your behavior?
- What is the illusion-of-truth effect? Give me an example.
- What is prosopagnosia? How might this condition affect your life?
- (p.70) Consciousness, according to Eagleman, is the CEO of the brain – as the CEO what does it do for us?

Chapter 4. The Kinds of Thoughts That Are Thinkable

- What is synesthesia? How do synesthetes experience the world differently? (examples)
- (p.82) What does synesthesia tell us about our brains and what we consider reality (“our main point”)?
- What does evolutionary psychology explore and study?
- “Babies at birth are not blank slates” – support this statement with some examples.
- What is instinct blindness and why are they inaccessible to us?
- What are several “automatic, effortless acts’ (instincts) that we are blind to? What operates these acts for us?
- How does genetics influence one's infidelity?

Chapter 5. The Brain is a Team of Rivals

- (p.109) According to Eagleman, “the brain contains two separate [dual processing] systems.” Describe these two systems.
- What does brain imagery reveal about the “trolley problem”?
- What is split-brain surgery and why is it performed?
- What did we learn about the brain – its wiring and the functions of the left and right hemispheres – from split brain patients?
- How does the same memory consolidated by the hippocampus differ from the one consolidated by the amygdala?
- What is “blindsight” and what does it teach us about vision?
- What is phrenology the study of?
- What did the chicken/shovel experiment lead Gazzaga and LeDoux to conclude about the left hemisphere?
- (p.148) According to Eagleman, what is the “main lesson of this chapter”?

Chapter 6. Why Blameworthiness Is the Wrong Question

- What is the amygdala involved in? What situations will increase activity in it?
- What does “frontotemporal dementia” tell us about the important role the frontal lobe plays in our behavior?
- What two roles does the neurotransmitter “dopamine” play in our brain?
- What does differences in brain chemistry say about our free will?
- Can one's genetics play a role in their propensity for criminal activity? Explain.
- (p.166) What do Tourette’s sufferers, those who suffer psychogenic disorder, split-brain patients, and Kenneth’s case tell us about our free will?
- Is there any part of the brain that is “independent and therefore ‘free’”?
- What part of the brain, according to Eagleman, should be targeted for rehabilitation in criminals due to their poor impulse control?
- What’s the main difference between teenage and adult brains developmentally?

Chapter 7. Life After the Monarchy

- (p.200) Complete this sentence AND provide an example that demonstrates it. “Knowing yourself [introspection] now requires the understanding that . . . “
- Who was Phineas Gage and what lesson did we learn from his, as well as the many more cases like his, about the brain?
- How do drugs like cocaine hijack the dopamine system in our brain?
- How do SSRI’s (selective serotonin reuptake inhibitors) work and effect “who you believe yourself to be”?
- What are hormones and how do they affect your cognition (thoughts)?
- (p.209) Finish the sentence, “So we see that the invisibly small . . .
- How do each of the following behaviors show that behavior is often a result of genetic and environmental (nature-nurture) interactions:
 - Depression
 - Child abuse
 - Anti-social personality disorder