

AP Psychology

Content Area: **Generic Content Area**
Course(s): **Generic Course, Psychology**
Time Period: **Generic Time Period**
Length: **# of weeks**
Status: **Published**

Standards

National Standards for High School Psychology Curricula

August 2011

Scientific Inquiry Domain

Standard Area: Perspectives in Psychological Science

Content Standards

After concluding this unit, students understand:

1. Development of psychology as an empirical science
2. Major subfields within psychology

Content Standards With Performance Standards

Content Standard 1: Development of psychology as an empirical science

Students are able to (performance standards):

- 1.1 Define psychology as a discipline and identify its goals as a science.
- 1.2 Describe the emergence of psychology as a scientific discipline.
- 1.3 Describe perspectives employed to understand behavior and mental processes.
- 1.4 Explain how psychology evolved as a scientific discipline.

Content Standard 2: Major subfields within psychology

Students are able to (performance standards):

- 2.1 Discuss the value of both basic and applied psychological research with human and non-human animals.
- 2.2 Describe the major subfields of psychology.
- 2.3 Identify the important role psychology plays in benefiting society and improving people's lives.

Standard Area: Research Methods, Measurement, and Statistics

Content Standards

After concluding this unit, students understand:

1. Research methods and measurements used to study behavior and mental processes
2. Ethical issues in research with human and non-human animals
3. Basic concepts of data analysis

Content Standards With Performance Standards

Content Standard 1: Research methods and measurements used to study behavior and mental processes
Students are able to (performance standards):

- 1.1 Describe the scientific method and its role in psychology.
- 1.2 Describe and compare a variety of quantitative (e.g., surveys, correlations, experiments) and qualitative (e.g., interviews, narratives, focus groups) research methods.
- 1.3 Define systematic procedures used to improve the validity of research findings, such as external validity.
- 1.4 Discuss how and why psychologists use non-human animals in research.

Content Standard 2: Ethical issues in research with human and non-human animals
Students are able to (performance standards):

- 2.1 Identify ethical standards psychologists must address regarding research with human participants.
- 2.2 Identify ethical guidelines psychologists must address regarding research with non-human animals.

Content Standard 3: Basic concepts of data analysis
Students are able to (performance standards):

- 3.1 Define descriptive statistics and explain how they are used by psychological scientists.
- 3.2 Define forms of qualitative data and explain how they are used by psychological scientists.
- 3.3 Define correlation coefficients and explain their appropriate interpretation.
- 3.4 Interpret graphical representations of data as used in both quantitative and qualitative methods.
- 3.5 Explain other statistical concepts, such as statistical significance and effect size.
- 3.6 Explain how validity and reliability of observations and measurements relate to data analysis.

Sometimes, differences between organisms of the same kind provide advantages for surviving and reproducing in different environments. These selective differences may lead to dramatic changes in characteristics of organisms in a population over extremely long periods of time.

Essential Questions

Goals/Objectives

Content

Psychology Accelerated textbook: UNDERSTANDING PSYCHOLOGY, Glencoe, 2008

Skills

Assessment of Learning

- Analyze research
- Dyad Review
- Essay
- Game review
- Informal verbal Assessment
- Informal written assessment
- Quiz
- Team review
- Test
- Worksheet

Instructional Strategies

- Brainstorming
- Cooperative learning
- Demonstrations
- Direct instruction/Lecture
- Discussion
- Drill and Practice
- Games
- Graphic Organizers
- Guided reading
- Higher Order Thinking Skills
- Interactive instruction
- Journal writings
- Labs
- Manipulatives
- Problem-based instruction
- Structured overview

Differentiation

- Alternative assessments
- Choice of activities
- Choice of books
- Flexible grouping
- Guided reading
- Homework options
- Independent research and projects
- Leveled rubrics
- Modified materials
- Multiple texts
- Multi-sensory
- Personal agendas
- Pre-teach
- Re-teach

- Stations/Centers
- Supplemental materials
- Supplemental teaching

Technology

- Calculators
- Computer Lab/Laptops
- DVDs/CDs/Videos/TV
- Graphing Calculator
- Handhelds
- Internet Resources
- iPads
- Overhead Transparencies
- PowerPoint
- SMART Board

21st Century Themes

- Business, Financial, Economic and Entrepreneurial Literacy
- Civic Literacy
- Global Perspectives
- Health Literacy

21st Century Skills

- Communication and Collaboration
- Creativity and Innovation
- Critical Thinking and Problem Solving
- Information Literacy
- Life and Career Skills
- Media Literacy

Interdisciplinary Connections

- Art
- Business
- Health & PE
- Industrial Arts
- Math
- Music
- Science
- Social Studies
- World Languages