

AP Psychology - Summer Assignment

Future AP Psychology Students,

Welcome to AP Psychology. I am excited that you have chosen to challenge yourself with the fascinating study of behavior and mental processes. I am certain that you will find this course worthwhile and personally relevant. Although it is the summer, there is work to be done. Please note, **AP Psychology is an elective, college-level course with higher student expectations than most courses taken by high school students.**

With that being said, it is imperative that we get a jump start on the AP Psychology curriculum. You will receive two homework grades for completing each of the following assignments before school starts. Each assignment will serve a specific purpose that will assist you throughout the school year and aid in your preparations for the AP exam in May.

Assignment #1- Allow Me to Introduce Myself (20 pts)

This assignment is designed for me to get to know you prior to the school year. In addition, this personal response will help you to start thinking about your self-concept and ideal self which will be discussed in class. Please write a thoughtful response using correct grammar and complete sentences. This is a professional communication similar to what you would use with a college professor or employer. Complete the assignment below and email it to me before August 1st at lgamard@stmichaelchs.org or share it on google classroom using code **pixqaww**.

- Introduce yourself.
- Tell me about your family.
- Tell me about you as a person? What are some adjectives that describe you? What do you see as your strengths? What about areas where there is room for improvement?
- How would you describe yourself as a student? What are your academic strengths and areas in need of improvement?
- How do you feel about being a student at St. Michael? What do you like/dislike about high school?
- How has the coronavirus pandemic affected you and/or your family?
- How did you handle distance learning in the spring - what did you like/dislike? And what suggestions would you give to me as your teacher in case we have to go remote again?
- What are your hobbies? What do you like to do for fun?
- What extracurricular activities are you involved in or planning to be involved in?
- Is there any cause or activity that you feel particularly passionate about?
- Do you have a job? What is it? Do you like it?

- What are your goals or plans for post-high school? Where might you like to attend college and what are some majors and careers that interest you?
- Why are you taking AP Psychology? What are you looking forward to in this class?
- What areas of psychology interest you?
- Are you enrolled in other AP courses? Have you taken other AP courses throughout your high school career?
- How will you manage your time throughout this upcoming school year?
- Is there anything else that I should know about you so that I have insight into you as a person before the next school year begins?

Assignment #2 – “TED, Talk To Me.” (30 pts.)

Word of caution: Do your own work, not that you wouldn't. I am “cheater-weary” at this point after distance learning. I have all of last year's submissions in my google drive, and I will compare all submissions to what I have stored there. If you copy or re-submit someone else's work, I am going to know about it. That would be an awful, disappointing way to start our new relationship. VERITAS!!

TED is a nonprofit organization devoted to spreading ideas in short, powerful talks of 18 minutes or less. TED is an acronym for Technology, Entertainment, and Design. Choose **three** talks to watch, and after watching each lecture, write a **two** paragraph summary. One of these paragraphs will be your summary of the talk and the other will be your personal reaction to the talk. The assignment is posted on google classroom and you may turn in your responses (3 total) electronically or print them out. You may find the talks on YouTube. Summaries are due the first day of class, August 12th.

- Elizabeth Loftus: How Reliable is Your Memory
- Keith Barry: Brain Magic
- Angela Lee Duckworth: The Key to Success – Grit
- Dan Gilbert: Surprise Science of Happiness
- Ben Ambridge: Ten Myths About Psychology Debunked
- Susan Cain: Power of Introverts
- Amy Cuddy: Body Language Shapes Who You Are
- Pamela Meyer: How to Spot a Liar
- Philip Zimbardo: The Psychology of Evil
- John McWhorter: Texting is Killing Language, JK