



Course Outcome Summary

Course Information: **Psychology (Social Studies)**

Description: Psychology is the systematic study of individual human behavior and experience. The purpose of this course is to introduce the student to the content, terminology, methodology, and application of the discipline.

Instruction Level: 9-12

Total Credits: 1

Course Standards:

- Summarize research that helps explain how the brain's structure and function influence learning and behavior
- Explain how such factors as physical endowment and capabilities, family, gender, ethnicity, religion, socioeconomic status, attitudes, beliefs, work, and motivation contribute to individual identity and development
- Compare and describe similarities and differences in the ways various cultures define individual rights and responsibilities, including the use of rules, folkways, mores, and taboos
- Describe the ways cultural and social groups are defined and how they have changed over time
- Analyze the means by which and extent to which groups and institutions can influence people, events, and cultures in both historical and contemporary settings
- Use scientific methods to assess the influence of media on people's behavior and decisions

Unit

1. **Approaches to Psychology**
2. **The Life Span**
3. **The Workings of the Mind and Body**
4. **Personality and Individuality**

Unit Outlines

1. **Unit 1: Approaches to Psychology** **Standards:**

- Students will understand that through the study of psychology principles that have the potential to enrich the lives of humans.

Essential Question:

Students will be able to answer the following question(s):

- What is the scientific basis of psychology?

Essential Knowledge:

- Students will be able to discuss the various approaches to the study of psychology.

2. Unit 2: The Life Span**Standards:**

- Students will understand how psychologists study the changes in human behavior that occur as people age.

Essential Question:

Students will be able to answer the following question(s):

- How did we become who we are?

Essential Knowledge:

- Students will identify the stages of life (Infancy and Childhood, Adolescence and Adulthood to old age) and what each stage of development entails.

3. Unit 3: The Workings of the Mind and Body**Standards:**

- Students will understand the importance of studying the brain and the nervous system.

Essential Question:

- Explain how messages travel to and from the brain through the nervous system?

Essential Knowledge:

- Students will understand how the body and the mind work together by identifying how our behavior and psychological processes are connected to our biological processes.

4. Unit 4: Adjustment and Breakdown**Standards:**

- Students will understand the how to identify a person's perception of his or her inability to cope with certain events.

Essential Question:

- Explain why some people handle the experiences of life while others fail?

Essential Knowledge:

- Students will understand the process of adapting to and actively shaping one's environment and the challenges it presents.

