

## *Norwood Public Schools*

# **Grades 11 & 12 Psychology Curriculum Overview**

### **Description (including primary objectives and outcomes):**

This half-year course, open to juniors and seniors focuses on various aspects of human behavior. Emphasis will be on student preparation for difficult decision-making that will take place during their lives. The study of the science of psychology, the aspects of research, the human brain, sensation and perception, consciousness and abnormal psychology will allow students to explore the many areas of Psychology. Research into the different schools of psychology including behaviorism, psychoanalysis and humanism will provide theories and analysis to help in understanding human behavior.

### **Learning Experiences:**

Students will appreciate the various schools of psychological thought and how they each explain human behavior

Students will understand the nature vs. nurture argument and its influence on human behavior

Students will better understand the importance of the 5 human senses and the role they play in human behavior. Students will have the opportunity to participate in activities that help them see how perception is different for everyone

Students will examine the importance of sleep in relation to our emotional and physical well-being

Students will identify the causes of stress and healthy ways of dealing with it

Students will learn to appreciate the nature of psychological conditions such as Phobias and Obsessive-Compulsive Disorder and the debilitating nature of these diseases

Students will examine the biological and social causes of eating disorders as well as treatments for these conditions

### **Content Outline:**

1. A general introduction to Psychology- the history of this discipline, the science behind it, and the different approaches to explaining behavior
2. The Brain- its parts and how they work together to influence behavior.
3. Sensation & Perception- the 5 human senses

4. Consciousness- sleep & dreams.
5. Stress- causes and ways of coping.
6. Anxiety Disorders- phobias and obsessive-compulsive disorderg.
7. Eating Disorders- anorexia & bulimia

### **Resources Used:**

Psychology 7th Edition, Lester A. Lefton

Psychology Workbook, The Center for Learning

Newspaper and magazine articles

Internet sources & websites

As of 3/15/2012