

# CVA AP Psychology Syllabus



**COBB VIRTUAL ACADEMY**  
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## Class Description

The AP Psychology course introduces students to the systematic and scientific study of human behavior and mental processes. While considering the psychologists and studies that have shaped the field, students explore and apply psychological theories, key concepts, and phenomena associated with such topics as the biological bases of behavior, sensation and perception, learning and cognition, motivation, developmental psychology, testing and individual differences, treatments of psychological disorders, and social psychology. Throughout the course, students employ psychological research methods, including ethical considerations, as they use the scientific method, evaluate claims and evidence, and effectively communicate ideas.

This course has three sections: CVA AP Psychology A is the first half of the class and includes Units 1-3. CVA AP Psychology B is the second half of the class and includes Units 4-5. AP Psychology Y is the entire class and includes Units 1-5.

Click [HERE](#) for the AP Psychology Class Schedule which outlines the Units, Lessons, and Assessments for this course.

Click [HERE](#) for the AP Psychology Course and Exam Description.

## Class Outline

### **Unit 1: Biological Bases of Behavior**

In this unit, students will explore the foundational connections between the brain, nervous system, and behavior. Students examine how neurons transmit signals, the role of different brain structures, and the impact of neurotransmitters on mood and cognition. This unit provides essential insights into how biological processes underpin psychological functions and behaviors.

### **Unit 2: Cognition**

In this unit, students will explore how we think, remember, and solve problems. Students learn about how our brains process information, how memories are formed and recalled, and the mental strategies we use to make decisions. This unit helps us understand the different ways our thinking affects our everyday lives.

### **Unit 3: Development and Learning**

In this unit, students will learn about different stages of development, how we learn new things through experiences like conditioning and observing others, and how these processes shape who we become. This unit helps explain why we think and act the way we do at different points in our lives.

## Unit 4: Social Psychology and Personality

In this unit, students will learn how our behavior is influenced by social interactions and the people around us. Topics include how group dynamics and social perceptions shape our actions and what factors contribute to our personalities' development. This unit helps students understand how both social environments and individual traits affect how we think and behave.

## Unit 5: Mental and Physical Health

IN this unit, students will explore how psychological factors influence physical health and well-being. The unit covers topics such as stress, coping mechanisms, and the impact of mental health disorders on overall health.

## CVA Work Policy

- All classwork must be completed and submitted using the links in CTLS by the DUE DATE listed on the Class Schedule.
- Work should be completed in the order it is assigned on the Class Schedule.
- All work submitted on time will be graded within 48 hours.
- Assignments not submitted by the due date will be marked missing. Missing assignments are calculated as zeros in the coursework average. When students submit missing work, the assignment will be graded and calculated into the coursework average.

The CVA term ends prior to the end of the traditional school semester. The final date work will be accepted each term is posted on the [CVA website](http://cobbvirtualacademy.org) (cobbvirtualacademy.org) and the Class Schedule.

## Grading

Grades for this course are calculated based on category percentages as follows:

| Category    | Weight |
|-------------|--------|
| Assignments | 20%    |
| Quizzes     | 25%    |
| Discussions | 15%    |
| Tests       | 30%    |
| Final Exam  | 10%    |

## Academic Integrity

Academic integrity is the cornerstone of learning at CVA and we take the integrity and authenticity of student work very seriously. When academic integrity is maintained, students will make decisions based on values that will prepare them to be productive, meaningful, and ethical citizens.

Students are required to abide by the CVA Academic Integrity Policy. Academic dishonesty in any form will not be tolerated. The CVA Academic Integrity Policy outlines the consequences if students fail to maintain academic integrity in their course. For additional information, the CVA Academic Integrity Policy is posted on the [CVA website](http://cobbvirtualacademy.org).





## Academic Integrity Process

| Consequences  | 1st | 2nd | 3rd | 4th |
|---|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| Parent contact by teacher                                 | ✓   | ✓   | ✓   | ✓   |
| Resubmit work for full credit                             | ✓   |     |     |     |
| Resubmit work for half credit                             |     | ✓   |     |     |
| Automatic zero  |     |     | ✓   | ✓   |
| Parent contact by CVA administration                      |     |     | ✓   | ✓   |
| Notification by CVA administration to local school        |     |     | ✓   | ✓   |
| Mandated proctored exam or coursework                     |     |     |     | ✓   |
| Other as designated by CVA or local school administration | ✓   | ✓   | ✓   | ✓   |

### General Information

- The Cobb Teaching and Learning System (CTLS) is the platform used to deliver Cobb Virtual Academy classes.
- Students must earn 100% on the Student Orientation Quiz located inside each CVA Digital Classroom before they begin their Student Coursework.
- All coursework must be submitted through CTLS.
- All CCSD students have access to Microsoft 365 applications and must submit assignments in the requested format.
- Students in all sections of this course will take an online final exam during the window of time published on the CVA website and the Class Schedule.

### Course Specific Information

This exam allows students to earn college credit and demonstrate their understanding of psychological concepts and principles. The AP Psychology exam evaluates students' knowledge through multiple-choice questions and free-response questions, which include an experiment-based question and a critical analysis essay. Excelling on this exam can provide a substantial academic advantage and showcase students' preparedness for college-level coursework in psychology. For additional information about testing and preparation, students should reach out to their local school.



## Technology Requirements

CTLS is geo-restricted to the United States.

- A modern PC or Mac Computer
  - Lightweight or mobile devices such as Chromebooks, iPads, Android tablets, or smartphones **may not** be compatible with many of our courses.
  - Windows or Mac based computer
- Access to Microsoft 365
- Internet access

## CVA Expectations

Student

- Maintain consistent access to a computer and internet
- Login to the course daily and review the announcements
- Adhere to the deadlines listed on the Class Schedule
- Read and promptly respond to teacher communication
- Contact the teacher with questions
- Manage your time wisely

Teacher

- Welcome Phone Call in the first two weeks
- 24-hour turnaround on all communication
- 24 – 48-hour turnaround on grading for items submitted by the due date
- Provide relevant feedback on assignments
- Be accessible via email and phone or text during published hours
- Provide two or more live sessions per term

## CTLS Parent Account

Cobb Virtual Academy teachers use CTLS Parent to communicate with students and parents. Students will automatically receive communication sent from CTLS Parent via their CCSD student email address and will be asked to provide a cell phone number to receive text communications. Directions for students to set up CTLS Parent are located in the CVA Orientation. Parents will receive communications according to their existing notification settings.

## Student Support

A student's first source for support is their CVA teacher. However, additional support is available. The **CVA Learning Center** is staffed with facilitators and is available both **in person** and **virtually**.

Facilitators can assist students with getting started, class navigation, assignment instructions, submitting work, technical issues, and strategies for online success.



The in-person Learning Center is on the Cobb Horizon High School campus at 1765 The Exchange Atlanta, GA.

All CVA students are enrolled in the Student Support digital classroom which provides access to the Virtual Learning Center (VLC). Students use the CTLS chat feature to send a message to the Student Support Team during the hours it is open.

## Live Sessions

Your teacher will post live session information to the Class Board.

