**Introduction to Sociology & Psychology - Course Syllabus**

**Mrs. Schwarz**

Contact Information:

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Why study Sociology & Psychology?

Sociology studies the human social behavior in a group.  In this class we will look at patterns in social relationships from a sociological perspective, that is, one that focuses on groups rather than individuals. We will be examining topics such as sociological perspectives, culture and social structures, social inequality, social institutions and social change. This is a class that is truly about you and the society around you.  In this class I hope you learn to observe your society, interact successfully within it, and maybe even change it for the better!

Psychology will be a class that studies the individual human behavior.  In this course you may learn more about yourself and those around you. During this course, we will explore major psychological theories.  We will study research methods, biological bases of behavior, motivation and emotion, and memory and learning. We will also study stress and abnormal behavior, life span development and personality traits and disorders.

Expectations:

Students will participate in class discussions, research, group projects, presentations, note taking, literacy development and various class activities. With the new Common Core State Standards, the emphasis on reading and writing will be emphasized in their assignments. Students will check out a textbook during the first week of school and will return that textbook before the end of the school year.

Grades:

Grades will be based on the points earned in class. All assignments, projects, quizzes, and tests will be assigned a point value. Grades are calculated by points earned/points possible. The basic 100 percent scale will be used: 100-90 (A), 89-80 (B), 79-70 (C), 69-60 (D), 59-0 (F)

Tests:

There will be assessments given throughout the year; including quizzes, projects, and tests.

Classroom Rules:

1. Be respectful to your teacher and your classmates
2. Be in your assigned seat when the bell rings
3. Follow directions and use class time effectively
4. Always come prepared to class
5. Always be in CUSD dress code (NO hats, hoods, sagging pants, tank tops, etc.)
6. NO gum, no food, no drinks
7. NO electronic devices, including cell phones, etc. on during class time
8. Read and follow the CUSD School Handbook
9. Respect school property, including textbooks and classroom supplies at all times

**\*\*\*\*\*If any of these rules are broken, consequences will be assigned and the student may be sent to the Student Services Office.\*\*\*\*\***

Written Work Policy:

Periodically we may have assignments that must be typed. Students will have class time to work on the assignment but may have to finish the assignment on their own if not completed in class. The library or personal computers must then be used on their own time in order to complete the assignment.

Homework Policy:

Students are required to complete all assignments by their assigned due date. ***The late work policy of the Social Science Department allows for students to turn in late assignments for half credit up to 2 weeks after the assigned due date. Late work turned in after the 2 week time frame will not be accepted and no credit will be given for that assignment.*** If a student is absent, they have the excused number of days missed from school to complete the assignments and turn them in. Please check the online classroom website, talk with fellow classmates, or ask the teacher for missing assignments. Students who fail to complete the homework or class assignments may be assigned to a lunch lab.

Recommended Supplies for class:

1. Pens
2. Pencils
3. Lined paper
4. Notebook
5. Colored pencils / markers / crayons
6. 2 pocket folder
7. Textbook (checked out in Library)

\*\*\*If you are unable to obtain these items, please talk to me as soon as possible.

Sensitive Topics Disclosure:

This is a course of a discipline that attempts to explain and understand human behavior. Human Behavior is varied, and complexed. We discuss, in class, lots of human behavior and some of it can be controversial. Some topics that can be controversial include: racism and stereotyping, sex behavior, religious and moral values and behavior, intelligence and the use of intelligence testing, bias in research, bias in general, abnormality and mental illness, drug addiction and eating disorders, just to name a very few. When we get to a sensitive topic, all efforts are made to ensure that the level of conversation is academic, respectful, and for the purpose of enriching and contextualizing the discipline of sociology and psychology. However, I do realize it is a college preparatory class with students who are not yet in college. You are welcome to contact me anytime if you or your student has a specific area of concern regarding the content of our class discussions. Thank you.

**\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*PLEASE NOTE THAT THIS SYLLABUS\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\***

**\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*IS SUBJECT TO CHANGE.\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\***

* The Clovis Unified School District does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, disability, or national origin in admission or access to and treatment of employment in its programs and activities as required by Title VI, Title IX, and Section 504. Complaints: Contact Barry Jager, Human Resources, (559) 327-9308.
* Favor de llamar a la officina para asistencia en espanol.
* Thov tiv tauj peb lub hoob kas yog xav tau kev pab nrog lus Hmoob.

**Introduction to Sociology & Psychology - Video Productions**

**Mrs. Schwarz**

The following is a list of video productions that your student may watch as part of the class. Since some of the movies have a PG or PG -13 rating, I am asking for your permission of your student to watch them. If you do not want your student to watch one or more of these videos, please notify me in writing on the syllabus. An alternative assignment will be given to any student that does not have a signed permission slip. Not all movies will be shown and other videos may be shown, but their rating is PG / G or they are educational documentaries. Quite often only segments of the video will be shown to illustrate teaching points.

If you have any questions, please feel free to call or email me.

1. Inside Out - Riley is a happy Midwestern girl, but her world turns upside-down when she moves to San Francisco. Riley's emotions (Joy, Sadness, Anger) try to guide her through this life-changing event.
2. I Am Sam – a compelling story of a mentally-challenged father raising his daughter. When she turns seven and begins to intellectually surpass her father, their close bond is threatened.
3. Simon Birch -  Simon and Joe are boys who have a reputation for being oddballs, since Simon is an 11-year-old dwarf and Joe never knew his father.
4. Guess Who – Theresa is about to introduce her fiancé to her father. Her father is eager to meet his daughter's beau but is shocked to learn that she is engaged to a white man.
5. Guess Who’s Coming to Dinner –Takes place in 1967 when a free-thinking white woman and black doctor become engaged they travel to meet her parents and are met with suspicion.
6. A Beautiful Mind - A mathematical genius who made an astonishing discovery early in his career, but soon found himself on a painful and harrowing journey of self-discovery.
7. Mean Girls - When Cady’s family moves to the suburbs of Illinois, she finally gets to experience public school and gets a quick primer on the cruel, tacit laws of popularity that divide her fellow students.
8. The Blind Side - a powerful message of compassion and shows you the great things people can accomplish if only someone gives them a chance.
9. Good Will Hunting - encourages you to have faith in yourself and to have the necessary courage it takes to do the things you love.
10. Inception - Dom Cobb is a thief with the rare ability to enter people's dreams and steal their secrets from their subconscious.
11. Remember The Titans - an inspiring movie that accompanies a racially diverse high school football team on its great struggles during the football season in 1971.
12. The Outsiders - A teen gang in rural Oklahoma, the Greasers are perpetually at odds with the Socials.
13. The Help - In 1960s Mississippi, a Southern society girl returns from college with dreams of being a writer. She turns her small town upside down by choosing to interview the black women for a book.
14. What About Bob - A psychiatrist has the misfortune of taking on a new patient, Bob, before a family vacation. Bob is a patient who is needy and has a compendium of phobias.
15. 50 First Dates – Lucy has short-term memory loss; she can't remember anything that happened the day before. So, every morning, her boyfriend Henry has to try to win her over again and again.
16. The Secret Life of Walter Mitty - Walter is an employee at Life magazine who spends every day developing photos. To escape the tedius work he inhabits a world of exciting daydreams.
17. The Theory of Everything - a story of a man who’s diagnosed with a debilitating disease that is threatening his life.
18. Sybil - A legacy of child abuse comes to light as Dr Wilbur unlocks the secrets of Sybil's tortured past.

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Student Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Period: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

I have read the course syllabus and understand the expectations / procedures for my student in this Introduction to Sociology & Psychology class.

I have also read and agree to allow my student to watch the video productions listed and participate in the discussions of sensitive topics.

Parent / Guardian Signature: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Student Signature: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Important Contact Information:

Parent/Guardian Name(s):\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Cell Phone(s): \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Work Phone: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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