**Introduction to Psychology II Syllabus 2014**

Notre Dame de Sion High School/ ACCP Rockhurst University, PY 1000

Instructor: Mrs. Linda Blasdel, MS

Email: lblasdel@ndsion.edu *(Please use email as primary contact)*
School phone: 816-942-3282
Available: After school in room 104 and by appointment

Required Text: Psychology, Tenth Edition in Modules, 2013, David G. Myers, Worth Publishers, New York, New York; Website www.worthpublishers.com/myers

**Description:** This course is an introduction to the scientific study of behavior and mental processes. Topics covered in Psych. I (Fall semester) include the history of psychology, the biological basis of behavior, states of consciousness, and memory. Topics covered in Psych. II offered as ACCP co-credit through Rockhurst University (Spring semester) include learning, methods of research, human diversity, motivations, development, and social behavior.

Students may take Psych.II for ACCP credit from Rockhurst University. Students must have a B average or better to enroll in the Spring ACCP psychology program. The completion of both semesters constitutes a completed college level introduction to psychology, PY 1000.

**General goals:** Students acquire knowledge of the scientific field of psychology and gain awareness of mental processes and behaviors through the lens of the biopsychosocial levels of analysis. Students understand that every psychological event is simultaneously a biological event. In separating uninformed opinions from examined conclusions, students experience how the scientific attitude encourages critical thinking. Students learn tools for maintaining and improving mental and physical health as they understand the mind/body connection.

**Objectives:**  Upon successful completion of this course, the student will be able to:

1. Explain the bio-psycho-social model explanation of human diversity in terms of personality, culture and gender differences and similarities.

2. Describe methods of learning through classical and operant conditioning. Develop and implement a behavior modification project to change, start, or reduce a behavior.

3. Demonstrate an understanding of the rights and responsibilities of the individual in development or her unique gifts and social responsibilities.

4. Describe social science research methods used by developmental psychologists.

5. Define developmental growth stages in terms of cognitive, physical, psychosocial and moral development.

6. Compare 3 parenting styles and possible effects on children.

7. Demonstrate cognitive and psychosocial goals of life stages including childhood, adolescence, adulthood and old age.

8. Identify the research methods of case study, naturalistic observation, survey, and studies of correlation and differentiate these from experiments.

9. Utilize knowledge of social influences such as conformity and obedience and group influence to effectively manage social relations.

10. Relate social thinking regarding the effects of attribution theory, self-serving bias, diversity, deindividuation, and social loafing as they concern the goals of the Sion mission statement.

**Requirements:**
• Students are expected to have assigned chapters read by due dates in order to fully appreciate and participate in classroom discussions and projects.
• Outside reading includes psychological articles and research reports.
• Notes should be taken in class as material discussed in lecture, but not in the book, may appear on tests.
• Assignments, web links, and scanned articles are posted on my website weekly and should be checked by students during absences.

**Attendance, late work policies and plagiarism policy:**
The Sion attendance and testing policy will be adhered to. If a student is absent the day of a test, she must take the test the day of her return. If the student is absent the day an outside project is due, she must turn in the assignment the day she returns. If a student is in school for any part of the day, but misses psychology class, work due that day must be turned in to the instructor that day. **All work turned in after the due date will be considered late and will be discounted 10% per day.**

Plagiarism: "Plagiarism refers to a form of cheating that has been defined as 'the false assumption of authorship; the wrongful act of taking the product of another person's mind, and presenting it as one's own.' To use another person's ideas or expressions in your writing without acknowledging the sources is to plagiarize. Plagiarism, then, constitutes intellectual theft." (MLA Handbook for Writers of Research Papers, Fifth Edition, pg. 30).
 If a student has any question regarding the explanation of plagiarism, she is expected to ask the instructor for further clarification. Any act of plagiarism in this course will result in an automatic zero on the assignment in question, as well as further potential academic action as determined by the instructor and the curriculum coordinator.

**Evaluation:**
Evaluation of students will be based on objective and subjective tests following each chapter, announced and pop quizzes, study questions, article reviews, class presentations and special projects. The following is an approximate point distribution for grades:

Chapter Tests and Quizzes approximately 70-75%

Other: projects, writing, and presentations approximately 25-30%