Welcome to AP Psychology! The purpose of this course is to introduce you to the scientific study of behavior and mental processes. All AP courses are taught at a college level to qualified high school students. You will be expected to complete readings in our college-level text and supplementary materials, as well as read independently and complete learning enrichment exercises. You will also be expected to attend all classes, take extensive notes, and participate as a valuable member of our learning group. An AP course demands extra work and additional time outside the usual high school demands. For that reason, I ask you to make a realistic assessment of your ability to meet these time demands. There is no elevator to success; you have to take the stairs!

This is a MANDATORY summer assignment. Years ago, the assignment was optional but, with limited resources, I need to make sure all of enrolled students are committed to this meaningful elective. An indicator of your commitment will be whether or not you complete the summer assignment.

Your summer assignment is to make notecards of all the vocabulary. This is not difficult, but cannot be completed the night before school starts in August. Since it is just copying information, you can easily work on this while you watch your favorite TV show or sit outside. There are 14 units and 12 weeks of summer so you complete 1+ chapters each week.

**Directions for Vocabulary Notecards**

**Task:** Create a set of note cards of all the vocabulary in your textbook.

**Rationale:** Memorizing the vocabulary is key to success in the class and on the AP exam and this is a practical summer assignment that you will use all year in class, at home, to study for tests, ...

**System:**

1) Create a top card for every chapter with your name (upper right-hand corner) and the title such as: “AP Psychology Vocabulary: Unit 1” (the center). Make notecards in the order of the textbook so they are organized by unit.

2) Paper punch each card on the upper left-hand corner. Secure each chapter with a metal ring so they remain together and can be easily used all school year. Use metal rings! Do not come to the first day of school with a wad of notecards floating around in a plastic bag.

3) Each vocabulary card should be formatted as follows:

   **FRONT OF CARD (plain side)**
   Vocabulary Term (include page #)

   **BACK OF CARD (lined side)**
   Definition: This should be word-for-word from the textbook. Use the terms on the side of each page as you go through the book. They must be organized by unit.
   Unit: List the chapter you find the term. (In case they get missed up)

*T Cards can be **3X5 format** or **3x5 cut in half** if you write small or want to save money.
*Must be in **handwritten** and in **pen**.
*Feel free to color-code each chapter for consistency!!

Why hand-write them? Every study shows that students who write remember more and have a deeper understanding of the material. Sorry! Put your chromebooks away!

https://www.npr.org/2016/04/17/474525392/attention-students-put-your-laptops-away
https://www.scientificamerican.com/article/a-learning-secret-dont-take-notes-with-a-laptop/?redirect=1
Additional Assignment: Top Psychologists Notecards  OPTIONAL!!

If you want more of a challenge, I offer you a helpful OPTIONAL assignment -- make notecards of 50 famous psychologists. Although this is a little more challenging since you must research each person, most AP Psych students struggle to remember all the names of the people. If you choose this option, you will have an advantage over your other classmates before the class begins since you will know the important people. Our first unit test is on the history and approaches to psychology and includes many of these people so everyone will have to learn them within the first weeks of class.

Task: Create a set of note cards on the top psychologists listed below.

Rationale: One of the most difficult parts of AP Psych is remembering all the people.

System:
1) Create a top card with your name (upper right-hand corner) and title “Top 50 Psychologists”
2) Number each psychologist card 1-50.
3) Paper punch each card on the upper left-hand corner. Secure them with a key ring so they remain together and can be easily used all school year.
4) The cards should be formatted as follows:

**FRONT OF CARD (plain side)**
Person's full name

**BACK OF CARD (lined side)**
Birth year - death year (in upper right)
Chapters: Use the Name Index (You will find it in the back of the text) to record what chapters and/or pages you'll read about them.
Field: Indicate what area of psychology the psychologist was most interested in.
Contributions: Detail their major contributions/ideas/studies.
Source: Cite the source. Where did you found your information? (last line of card)

* Cards can be 3x5 or 4x6 format, depending on how big you write. *Avoid Wikipedia
*Must be in handwritten and in pen  *Feel free to color-code for consistency!

Top 50 Psychologists

8. Raymond Cattell 25. Lawrence Köhler 42. Robert Sternberg
15. Hans Eysenck 32. Ivan Pavlov 49. Robert Yerkes
17. Sigmund Freud 34. Carl Rogers