

Dr. David Watts Social Studies Department Chair david.watts@saintjosephprep.org 617-254-8383 x1616

Psychology

Grade 11/12

This two-semester elective course aims to enable the student to grasp the general principles of psychology and their application. There will be extensive discussion of the traditional topical areas of psychology, including the biological foundations of behavior, sensation and perception, states of consciousness, learning, memory, cognition, human development, personality, abnormal behavior and treatment, and social psychology. We will also focus on specific topics, e.g. health psychology. To maximize student learning and involvement, as well as to address the variety of learning styles in the classroom, we will incorporate a variety of teaching strategies into the curriculum. Therefore, students can expect to experience traditional lecture format, individual, group, and co-operative learning activities, classroom demonstrations, the integration of technology into the classroom, and creative/artistic assignments. Special emphasis will be placed on the development of writing, critical thinking, and comprehension skills. Students should expect an average of 30 minutes of homework per night in this subject.