



SCHOOL DISTRICT OF MONROE

Preparing for the Future, One Child at a Time

Social Psychology

Course Description:

The curriculum for this course is developed from the [National Standards for High School Psychology Curricula](#) and the [Wisconsin Department of Instruction Social Studies Standards](#). Social Psychology is an elective social studies course. Students in this class will develop and refine their ability to analyze psychological concepts and apply them to their everyday life through reading, writing, speaking and creative projects. The topics we will explore in Social Psychology include: The Social Self (self concept, self esteem, self presentation), Social Thinking (attribution, impressions, cognitive heuristics), Social Relations (stereotypes, discrimination, subgroups of society), Social Influence (persuasion, cognitive dissonance, conformity, obedience), Positive Psychology (positive emotions, strengths, & flow), Attraction and Close Relationships. The information in this course overview outlines what students should understand and be able to do by the end of the trimester.

Mastery Standards:

Students will be able to describe and explain behavior and mental processes within the context of Social Psychology

Students will be able to apply Social Psychology theories in authentic contexts

Students will foster respect for human diversity, particularly with regard to matters of gender, race, ethnicity and socio-economic status.

Unit	Description of Unit and Learning Targets
<p>Unit Title: Social Self</p> <p><u>Essential Questions:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> What factors impact our self concept, self esteem and self presentation? 	<p>Students will.....</p> <p><u>Learning Targets:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identify factors that contribute to individual identity formation (self concept). Explain factors influencing self esteem. Analyze factors that contribute to self presentation.
<p>Unit Title: Social Thinking</p> <p><u>Essential Questions:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> How is our thinking, communication and behavior shaped by heuristics? 	<p>Students will...</p> <p><u>Learning Targets:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Assess how first impressions influence our thinking and behavior. Examine how attribution theory impacts behavior. Explain how cognitive heuristics impact our communication and relationships.
<p>Unit Title: Social Relations</p> <p><u>Essential Questions:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> What influences prosocial and antisocial relations between groups of people? 	<p>Students will...</p> <p><u>Learning Targets:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Investigate the formation and effects of stereotypes, prejudice, and discrimination (related to various minority groups). Analyze how to reduce and eliminate discrimination within the self and society.
<p>Unit Title: Social Influence</p> <p><u>Essential Questions:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> What impact does conformity, 	<p>Students will...</p> <p><u>Learning Targets:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Examine attitudes and how/why they change.

<p>compliance and obedience have on our society?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Explain how individuals respond to expectations of others, including conformity and obedience to authority. ● Identify the contributions of key researchers in the areas of conformity, compliance, and obedience.
<p>Unit Title: Positive Psychology</p> <p><u>Essential Questions:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● How can we improve our well being and live a meaningful life? 	<p>Students will...</p> <p><u>Learning Targets:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Explain how positive psychology aims to help all people. ● Apply positive emotions in the past to your life (gratitude/forgiveness). ● Apply positive emotions in the present to your life (happiness, savoring, mindfulness). ● Apply positive emotions in the future to your life (optimism/hope).
<p>Unit Title: Attraction & Relationships</p> <p><u>Essential Questions:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● What causes attraction and what strategies can we use to have successful relationships? 	<p>Students will...</p> <p><u>Learning Targets:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Describe the factors that contribute to attraction. ● Determine what strategies can help you to have successful relationships.