

**PELHAM MEMORIAL HIGH SCHOOL
SOCIAL STUDIES DEPARTMENT
575 COLONIAL AVENUE PELHAM, NEW YORK 10803**

June 5, 2018

Dear parent and future SUPA / AP Psychology students,

Welcome to SUPA / AP Psychology. This is a Syracuse University class being taught concurrently at Pelham Memorial High School and in addition students will sit for the AP exam administered in May. This course is a college level introduction to the study of Psychology and is intended to give students a survey of the major topics in this field. The topics will range from biological psychology to disorders and treatments. Given the nature of a college level course and the inherent time constraints faced by classes such as this, it is imperative that students complete a portion of the work independently outside of class. In order to make this transition as stress free as possible I have prepared a summer assignment that will give you some indication of the level work required for this course. Your first assignments are listed below.

During the school year you will also be conducting a psychology research project of your choosing. This project is an important part of your grade and it requires significant preparation and execution. In order to effectively complete this project, you should begin thinking about topics over the summer. Your summer assignment should help you begin this process.

Please contact me over the summer if you have any questions or concerns regarding the assignments or research paper. I will be checking my email frequently so feel free to contact me at the following address jmarcotullio@pelhamschools.org. I look forward to a challenging and interesting year of learning.

Sincerely,

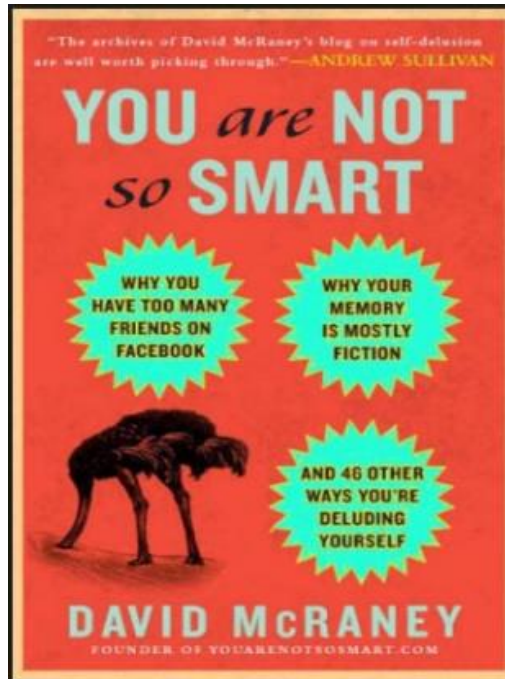
Mr. Marcotullio

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PMHS Social Studies Department

SUPA / AP Summer Assignment

PART I: Read the book *You Are Not So Smart* by David McRaney.



Based upon reading the book, complete these two assignments (due the first day of class):

1. There are many important SUPA / AP Psychology concepts presented in the book. As you read, complete twenty (20) terms from the chart. You will define each of the twenty concepts using your own words and provide a brief summary of a specific example from the book (include the page number on which the example is found). Then, describe an example from your own life; this can be a personal experience or something that you've witnessed or read (can be through the media).
2. Choose ONE of the concepts presented in the book and detailed in your chart, and do the following:
 - Find a news article, video or other related description of a current event (within the last year) in which concept is at work in how humans created the event, are explaining the event, or are perceiving the event. This will be a result of your own perspective, but through an application of the concept.
 - Provide a one-page typed summary of the concept, the event (include date & any pertinent info), and the application of the concept to the event. Format is Times New Roman, 12 font, double spaced with 1-inch margins. Make sure to include a source and date for the event.

SUPA / AP Psychology Summer Assignment - CONCEPT & APPLICATION CHART

Concept	Definition	Specific Example from book	Specific Example from your life
Priming			
Confabulation			
Confirmation Bias			
Hindsight Bias			
The Texas Sharpshooter Fallacy			
Normalcy Bias			
Introspection Illusion			
The Availability Heuristic			
The Bystander Effect			
The Dunning-Kruger Effect			

The Just World Fallacy			
Subjective Validation			
Cult Indoctrination			
Groupthink			
The Affect Heuristic			
Self-Serving Bias			
The Spotlight Effect			
Catharsis			
The Misinformation Effect			

Conformity			
Social Loafing			
The Illusion of Transparency			
Learned Helplessness			
The Anchoring Effect			
Self-Handicapping			
Self-Fulfilling Prophecies			
The Representativeness Heuristic			

Expectation			
The Illusion of Control			
The Fundamental Attribution Error			

Part II

Read and outline all four sections of chapter one in the following online textbook and be ready for a quiz on this material after the first full week of class. This material may not be taught in class.

Textbook: <http://www.psywww.com/intropsych/index.html>

Sections to be read

Part One: What is Psychology?

Part Two: The History of Psychology

Part Three: Critical Thinking

Part Four: Observational and Experimental Research

Part III

Psychological Perspectives

Use the below fictional case of Sammy to complete the chart according to the psychological perspective listed.

Sammy was a straight-A student a basketball star, a track star, and a community award winner, as well as first chair trumpet in the school band. On this particular day, Sammy lined up to compete in the State finals for the 400-meter run: this followed a night of only three hours of sleep after having to study for both the AP Psychology and AP Spanish exam. As the runners took off, Sammy got off to a slow start and quickly fell behind. Suddenly, Sammy veered off the track, jumped the 8-foot fence enclosing the track, and hopped into a car. Sammy proceeded to scream out the window, "I quit!" went home and locked himself in his room for a week.

Perspective	Brief explanation of Perspective	Looking through the lens of each of the below perspectives, how would you explain his actions and what would you do for Robert
Psychodynamic		
Behavioral		
Biological - Neuropsychology		
Biological - Genetic		
Cognitive		
Socialcultural		
Humanisist		
Evolutionary		

Please read and carefully consider

SUPA/AP Psychology is a college-level class in which you will be expected to do a great deal of independent reading and note-taking to prepare for class and understand material. You must be highly motivated and focused to do well in this class. If you are not prepared to work, consider whether or not you truly belong in this class. Your success or failure in this course is up to you; you are responsible for your own learning, or lack thereof. You can succeed and pass the AP exam if you put in the sustained effort.