

## **P | PSYCHOLOGY**

**Course Description:** Students will study the development of scientific attitudes and skills, including critical thinking, problem solving, and scientific methodology. Students will also examine the structure and function of the nervous system in humans, the processes of sensation and perception, life span development, and memory, including encoding, storage, and the retrieval of memory. Students will look at perspectives of abnormal behavior and categories of psychological disorders, including treatment thereof. Students will elaborate on the importance of drawing evidence-based conclusions about psychological phenomena and gain knowledge on a wide array of issues on both individual and global levels. Students will examine social and cultural diversity as well as diversity among individuals. Throughout the course, students will examine connections between content areas within psychology and relate psychological knowledge to everyday life while exploring the variety of careers available to those who study psychology.

C—Culture, E—Economics, G—Geography, H—History, P—Politics/Government, T—Tennessee  
TCA—Tennessee Code Annotated: These standards are legally required to be taught.

## Grades 9-12

### Social Studies Practices

**Overview:** Students will apply these skills to create and address questions that will guide inquiry and critical thinking. These practices should be regularly applied throughout the year. Students will progress through the inquiry cycle (SSP.01-SSP.04) by analyzing primary and secondary sources to construct and communicate their conceptual understanding of the content standards and to develop historical and geographic awareness (SSP.05- SSP.06).

SSP.01	<p>Collect data and information from a variety of primary and secondary sources, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Printed materials (e.g., literary texts, newspapers, autobiographies, speeches, interviews, letters, personal journals)</li> <li>● Graphic representations (e.g., maps, timelines, charts, political cartoons, photographs, artwork)</li> <li>● Field observations/landscape analysis</li> <li>● Artifacts</li> <li>● Media and technology sources</li> </ul>
SSP.02	<p>Critically examine a primary or secondary source in order to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Extract and paraphrase significant ideas</li> <li>● Discern differences between evidence and assertion</li> <li>● Draw inferences and conclusions</li> <li>● Recognize author’s purpose, point of view, and potential bias</li> <li>● Assess the strengths and limitations of arguments</li> </ul>
SSP.03	<p>Synthesize data from a variety of sources in order to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Establish accuracy and validity by comparing sources to each other</li> <li>● Recognize disparities among multiple accounts</li> <li>● Frame appropriate questions for further investigation</li> </ul>

C—Culture, E—Economics, G—Geography, H—History, P—Politics/Government, T—Tennessee  
 TCA—Tennessee Code Annotated: These standards are legally required to be taught.

SSP.04	<p>Construct and communicate arguments citing supporting evidence to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Demonstrate and defend an understanding of ideas</li> <li>● Compare and contrast viewpoints</li> <li>● Illustrate cause and effect</li> <li>● Predict likely outcomes</li> <li>● Devise new outcomes or solutions</li> </ul>
SSP.05	<p>Develop historical awareness by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Recognizing how and why historical accounts change over time</li> <li>● Perceiving and presenting past events and issues as they might have been experienced by the people of the time, with historical empathy rather than present-mindedness</li> <li>● Evaluating how unique circumstances of time and place create context and contribute to action and reaction</li> <li>● Identifying patterns of continuity and change over time, making connections to the present</li> </ul>
SSP.06	<p>Develop geographic awareness by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Using the geographic perspective to analyze relationships, patterns, and diffusion across space at multiple scales (e.g., local, national, global)</li> <li>● Analyzing and determining the use of diverse types of maps based on the origin, authority, structure, context, and validity</li> <li>● Analyzing locations, conditions, and connections of places and using maps to investigate spatial associations among phenomena</li> <li>● Examining how geographers use regions and how perceptions of regions are fluid across time and space</li> <li>● Analyzing interaction between humans and the physical environment</li> </ul>

C—Culture, E—Economics, G—Geography, H—History, P—Politics/Government, T—Tennessee  
TCA—Tennessee Code Annotated: These standards are legally required to be taught.

## Scientific Inquiry Domain

### Research Methods, Measurement, and Statistics

**Overview:** Students will describe research methods and measurements used to study behavior and mental processes. Students will identify ethical issues in research with human and animal subjects. Students will also explain basic concepts of data analysis.

P.01	Describe the scientific method and its role in psychology.
P.02	Describe and compare a variety of quantitative and qualitative research methods, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Correlations</li><li>• Experiments</li><li>• Focus groups</li><li>• Interviews</li><li>• Narratives</li><li>• Surveys</li></ul>
P.03	Explain systematic procedures used to improve the validity of research findings, including external validity.
P.04	Describe how and why psychologists use animal subjects in research, and identify ethical guidelines to follow in performing this type of research.
P.05	Identify ethical standards psychologists must follow regarding research with human participants.
P.06	Explain descriptive statistics and qualitative data and how they are used by psychological scientists.
P.07	Define correlation coefficients, and explain their appropriate interpretation.
P.08	Interpret graphical representations of data, as used in both quantitative and qualitative methods, and explain other statistical concepts, such as statistical significance and effect size.
P.09	Explain how validity and reliability of observation and measurements relate to data analysis.

C—Culture, E—Economics, G—Geography, H—History, P—Politics/Government, T—Tennessee  
TCA—Tennessee Code Annotated: These standards are legally required to be taught.

## **Biopsychology Domain**

### **Biological Bases of Behavior**

**Overview:** Students will explore the structure and function of the nervous system in humans, the interaction between biological factors and experience, and methods and issues related to biological advances.

P.10	Identify and describe the major structures of the brain.
P.11	Identify and describe the methodology, including the tools, used to study the brain.
P.12	Identify and discuss the functions of the central nervous system.
P.13	Discuss issues related to scientific advances in neuroscience and genetics.
P.14	Identify and describe the structure and function of the endocrine system and its impact on human behavior, including hormonal effects on the immune system.
P.15	Describe the interactive effects of heredity and environment.
P.16	Describe and discuss the role of genetics in human behavior.

C—Culture, E—Economics, G—Geography, H—History, P—Politics/Government, T—Tennessee  
TCA—Tennessee Code Annotated: These standards are legally required to be taught.

## Sensation & Perception

**Overview:** Students will explain the processes of sensation and perception and describe the interaction between people and the environment to determine perception.

P.17	Discuss the interaction between the processes of sensation and perception.
P.18	Describe the auditory sensory and visual sensory systems.
P.19	Describe other sensory systems (including olfaction and gustation), and identify skin senses, kinesthesia, and vestibular sense.
P.20	Explain Gestalt's principles of perception.
P.21	Explain how experiences and expectations influence perception.

C—Culture, E—Economics, G—Geography, H—History, P—Politics/Government, T—Tennessee  
TCA—Tennessee Code Annotated: These standards are legally required to be taught.

## Consciousness

**Overview:** Students will examine both consciousness and unconsciousness, focusing on sleeping patterns, functions and disorders, and the impact of drugs and relaxation techniques on consciousness.

P.22	Describe the relationship between conscious and unconscious processes.
P.23	Describe the circadian rhythm and its relation to sleep.
P.24	Explain the functions of sleep and dreams.
P.25	Identify types of sleep disorders and methods of treatment.
P.26	Explain how culture and expectations influence the use of drugs, including psychoactive drugs and their effects.
P.27	Describe the use of hypnosis, meditation, and relaxation techniques, including the effects of each.

C—Culture, E—Economics, G—Geography, H—History, P—Politics/Government, T—Tennessee  
TCA—Tennessee Code Annotated: These standards are legally required to be taught.

## Lifespan Development

**Overview:** Students will examine and describe methods, issues, and theories in lifespan development, including prenatal development, infancy, childhood, adolescence, adulthood, and aging.

P.28	Explain the interaction between environmental and biological factors in lifespan development, including the role of the brain in all aspects of development.
P.29	Distinguish methods used to study lifespan development.
P.30	Identify cognitive, moral, and social development theories.
P.31	Describe physical development from conception through birth, and identify influences on prenatal development.
P.32	Describe the physical, motor, and perceptual development of infants.
P.33	Describe the physical, motor, and cognitive development of children.
P.34	Describe the physical, motor, cognitive, and moral changes that occur during adolescence.
P.35	Describe the major physical, cognitive, and social changes that accompany adulthood and aging.
P.36	Explain how nature and nurture influence human growth and development.
P.37	Examine issues related to the end of life.

C—Culture, E—Economics, G—Geography, H—History, P—Politics/Government, T—Tennessee  
TCA—Tennessee Code Annotated: These standards are legally required to be taught.



## Social Interactions

**Overview:** Students will explore social cognition, social influence, and social relations.

P.38	Describe the relationship between attitudes (implicit and explicit) and behavior, including attributes associated with different types of behavior.
P.39	Describe the situational effects and group dynamics associated with individual behavior, including how an individual can influence group norms.
P.40	Examine the nature and effects of stereotyping, prejudice, and discrimination.
P.41	Identify influences on aggression and conflict.
P.42	Examine factors that influence attraction and relationships.

## Sociocultural Diversity

**Overview:** Students will examine social and cultural diversity and diversity among individuals.

P.43	Define culture and diversity.
P.44	Examine cultural change, including variations within and across nations, and consider the following factors using psychological research: gender, race, ethnicity, socioeconomic status, and societal norms.
P.45	Explain how social power structures relate to stereotypes, prejudice, and discrimination.
P.46	Examine how perspectives influence stereotypes and the treatment of minority and majority groups in society.
P.47	Interpret psychological research to examine differences in individual, cognitive, and physical abilities.

C—Culture, E—Economics, G—Geography, H—History, P—Politics/Government, T—Tennessee  
TCA—Tennessee Code Annotated: These standards are legally required to be taught.

## Learning, Memory, and Intelligence

**Overview:** Students will explore the process of learning as well as the process, types, disorders, and retrieval of memory. Students will also describe and discuss cognitive processes and intelligence along with their roles within human development.

P.48	Explain the process of learning, including principles of operant and classical conditioning as well as methods of observation.
P.49	Describe the differences between learning, reflexes, and fixed-action patterns.
P.50	Describe the processes of memory, including encoding, storage, and retrieval.
P.51	Identify the types of memory, and describe memory disorders, including amnesias and dementias.
P.52	Describe the factors that influence how memories are retrieved and strategies for improving the retrieval of memories.
P.53	Describe the cognitive processes involved in understanding information.
P.54	Define processes involved in problem-solving and decision-making.
P.55	Discuss intelligence as a general factor in examining human growth and development.
P.56	Identify current methods of assessing human abilities, including the role of reliability and validity in determining appropriate assessments.
P.57	Discuss the influences of biological, cultural, and environmental factors on intelligence.

C—Culture, E—Economics, G—Geography, H—History, P—Politics/Government, T—Tennessee  
TCA—Tennessee Code Annotated: These standards are legally required to be taught.

## Psychological Disorders

**Overview:** Students will explore perspectives on abnormal behavior and categories of psychological disorders.

P.58	Describe and discuss psychologically abnormal behavior, and examine how the stigma impacts relationships.
P.59	Describe historical and cross-cultural views of abnormality and major models of abnormality.
P.60	Analyze the impact of psychological disorders on the individual, family, and society.
P.61	Describe the availability of treatment for psychological disorders and the impact of treatment options on society.

C—Culture, E—Economics, G—Geography, H—History, P—Politics/Government, T—Tennessee  
TCA—Tennessee Code Annotated: These standards are legally required to be taught.