

Hawai'i APSI 2025 Agenda



Date: 14-17 July, 2025
Time: 8:00 am-4:00 pm
Damien Memorial School

Theme:

Embracing the spirit of aloha!
(The Aloha Spirit - Compassion and kindness to all with whom we cross paths in our everyday lives)

Course Description:

The AP® Psychology course introduces students to the systematic and scientific study of human behavior and mental processes. While considering the psychologists and studies that have shaped the field, students explore and apply psychological theories, key concepts, and phenomena associated with such topics as the biological bases of behavior, sensation and perception, learning and cognition, motivation, developmental psychology, testing and individual differences, treatments of psychological disorders, and social psychology. Throughout the course, students employ psychological research methods, including ethical considerations, as they use the scientific method, evaluate claims and evidence, and effectively communicate ideas.

****We will address the changes in the CED and the Exam, in considerable depth.****

This course is designed to help new and experienced teachers build a successful AP Psychology program with motivated, engaged students. As much as possible, the course will be individualized to meet the needs of each individual, while still covering broad topics for the benefit of all involved. The course will include basic logistical considerations like exams and homework, preparing for the AP Exam in terms of multiple choice and free response questions, understanding the curriculum framework, pacing the course, and a significant amount of content activities and instructional assistance. Topics that often challenge to students (and instructors!) will be emphasized, to improve comprehension. We will examine the NEW Course and Exam Description (CED), College Board resources, and the AP exam in detail, with considerable time devoted to helping students succeed with qualifying scores. Whether someone is new to teaching AP Psychology or a veteran with years of experience, everyone should come away with something new and useful to put into practice in their classrooms right away.

The following are some of the goals for our week of AP® Psychology collaboration:

- You will be familiar with the new CED/AP Classroom and will have practical ways to use them in your course.
- You will be able to align your curriculum to the unit structure of the new AP Course and Exam Description in a practical way for you and your students.
- You will be able to create a year-long or semester pacing guide for your course, with what to teach and how long to teach it.
- You will learn about how to interleave content and skills throughout the course to increase student learning and mastery
- You will understand the assessments for AP Psychology – Multiple Choice questions and FRQs – creating, writing, and scoring.
- You will learn about and be able to implement a variety of different demonstrations and activities that will help keep the course interesting, challenging, and engaging.
- You will develop a network of other AP Psychology instructors, for instructional support and collaboration moving forward.

What should participants bring to the workshop?

- Laptop Computers (phones and tablets will likely be insufficient for some tasks) and chargers.
- Access to Google Drive (having a personal or professional account should not matter but resources will be shared through Google Drive)
- A copy of the textbook that you are likely to use. If you have supplemental materials you know about and find useful, those would also be helpful.
- Access to AP Central and AP Classroom (if possible – contact your school's AP coordinator)
- Access to College Board materials which the institute provides.
- If applicable (more for veteran teachers), please bring a favorite lesson, activity, or demonstration that you have found engaging and useful for your students. We will share as many of these as we can.
- Finally, please bring a thirst for learning, a strong desire to improve your instruction, and a willingness to reflect on your current practices. We want to find the best practices and utilize them in all AP classrooms.

Agenda for Days 1-4

This schedule may change in accordance with the participant's needs as determined during the first day of the workshop.

Day 1

- Introductions and IceBreakers
- Goals of APSI
- Reinforcing the Need for Daily Reflections and Collaboration

Agenda for Days 1-4

Day 1

- AP Course Audit
- Resources and Materials
- Examining the NEW Course and Exam Description (CED) and Beginning Course Planning
- Designing a syllabus and a year-long (or semester) pacing calendar
- Activities and Instructional Practices for the Biological Bases of Behavior Unit
- First look at the AP Exam
- FRQ Prep - Question types (AAQs and EBQs) and samples
- Time for Questions/Planning/Etc.
- Reflections and Feedback

Day 2

- Respond to Feedback and Reflections
- More Course Design and Planning - Classwork and Homework
- Activities and Instructional Practices for the Cognition Unit
- Returning to the Pacing Calendar
- Making effective use of AP Classroom and AP Daily
- Using AP Exams as practice - more exposure is more effective
- FRQ Prep (AAQs and EBQs) - training students to write more effectively and efficiently
- Time for Questions/Planning/Etc.
- Reflections and Feedback

Day 3

- Respond to Feedback and Reflections
- Activities and Instructional Practices for the Development and Learning Unit
- Assessing and Reflecting using AP Classroom and the Instructional Planning Reports
- Revisiting the AP Exam - scoring AAQs and EBQs
- Activities and Instructional Practices for the Social and Personality Unit
- Course Design - Daily practices (building consistency while keeping students engaged)
- Time for Questions/Planning/Etc.
- Reflections and Feedback

Day 4

- Respond to Feedback and Reflections
- Promoting Diversity and Inclusion & Equity and Access in AP
- Class Testing Procedures - designing assessments for increased student mastery and performance
- Activities and Instructional Practices for the Mental and Physical Health Unit
- AP Exam Review Strategies
- One last look at the AP Exam - Filling the gaps

Agenda for Day 4

Day 4

- Finalizing the Planning Calendar
- Become an AP Reader!
- Time for Questions/Planning/Etc.
- Keeping Connected
- Evaluation and Comments

