**Introduction to Psychology**

**Course Syllabus**

My name is Sean Smith and I am a teacher in the Aitkin High School Social Studies Department. I am looking forward to an exciting and interesting school year. I would like to take this opportunity to introduce myself and some of my expectations for the upcoming school year. I would also like to provide a brief outline of some of the topics and information we will be covering during the term. Please take a few moments to read and sign this outline so that I can ensure that all students and parents/guardians are clear on what to expect from this course.

**Class Rules:**

1. Be on time and ready to work. If you are not **in your desk** when the bell rings you are **tardy**. Bring appropriate materials for class.
2. Be NICE. To each other, to me, to this classroom, to yourself. Bring your **best** every day.
3. Raise your hand to talk. I love to hear what everyone has to say, just not at the same time ☺

**Consequences:**

1. Warning
2. Conference with student
3. A third party will be brought in (Principal, Parents, Coach, etc…)

**Grading Scale:**

Grades will be calculated on a point scale averaged from four different categories; class participation, homework, projects, and tests/quizzes. The percentage breakdown:

**Class Participation: 25%, Homework: 25%, Projects: 25%, Tests/Quizzes: 25%**

**Letter Grades:**

A =95% and above C =74-76%

1. =90-94% C- =70-73%

B+ =87-89% D+ =67-69%

B =84-86% D =64-66%

1. =80-83% D- =60-63%

C+ =77-79% F =59% and below

**Notebooks:** Each student will be expected to maintain **two (2)** notebooks. One notebook will be used for regular class notes and the other notebook will be for our daily warm-ups. Students will be told what they are expected to keep in their notebooks. The notebooks will be excellent resources for the students as occasionally they will be allowed to use them on tests or quizzes. It would be in the best interest of the students to maintain up to date notebooks and keep them with them as they are **not** allowed to use another student’s notes during a test or quiz.

**Late Work:** Students are expected to turn all work in on the date assigned. Failure to do so is a serious deficiency. Work that is turned in late will be deducted by 20% for each day it is late. Even if assignments are past five (5) days late students are still expected to turn in **all assignments**. If a student has an excusedabsence it is **their** responsibility to get the make-up assignment. Students can ask a trustworthy friend or talk to me to find out what he/she missed. After any absence students should make arrangements to get any missed notes from a classmate. Students that are absent from a quiz or test need to make up that work within **one week** of their return.

**Course Topics:** Throughout the year we will be covering a wide variety of ideas, theories, anomalies of the brain, people, events and topics including but not limited to:

Learning Principles, Understanding Human Behavior, Patterns of Behavior, Emotional and Behavioral Adjustments, Small Group Interaction, Mnemonic Devices, Psychological Disorders

**Required Materials:**

Pen/Pencil, 2 Notebooks – (\*Every Day\*).

Students that need or would like extra help are encouraged to talk to me to make arrangements. Please feel free to contact me at school with any questions or concerns that you may have. My number is (218)927-2115 ext. 3108 or by email at [ssmith@aitkin.k12.mn.us](mailto:ssmith@aitkin.k12.mn.us). Email is the best way to get a hold of me. If I am unavailable when you call please leave a message and I will return your call as soon as possible. Thank you and I look forward to an amazing year.

Cut on the dotted line and return the bottom portion of this syllabus:

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Please sign and date the following:

Student (Print) Teacher Mr. Smith

Parent or Guardian Date