**Content Outline 2014-15**

These are the major content areas covered by the AP Psychology Exam, as well as the

approximate percentages of the multiple-choice section that are devoted to each area .

For a more thorough description of the exam’s content, please see the preceding

pages .

Percentage Goals for Exam

Content Area (multiple-choice section)

I . History and Approaches . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . 2–4%

A . History of Psychology

B . Approaches

1 . Biological

2 . Behavioral

3 . Cognitive *PsychSim5 –Psychology’s Timeline*

4 . Humanistic

5 . Psychodynamic

6 . Sociocultural

7 . Evolutionary

8 . Biopsychosocial

C . Subfields in Psychology

II . Research Methods . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . 8–10%

A . Experimental, Correlational, and Clinical Research

B . Statistics

1 . Descriptive *PsychSim5 - Correlation*

2 . Inferential *Descriptive Statistics*

C . Ethics in Research *What’s Wrong with this Study?*

III . Biological Bases of Behavior . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . 8–10%

A . Physiological Techniques (e .g ., imaging, surgical)

B . Neuroanatomy

C . Functional Organization of Nervous System

D . Neural Transmission

E . Neuroplasticity *PsychSim5 – Neural Messages*

F . Endocrine System *Brain&Behavior*

G . Genetics *Dueling Brains*

H . Evolutionary Psychology *Hemispheric Specialization*

IV . Sensation and Perception . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . 6–8%

A . Thresholds and Signal Detection Theory

B . Sensory Mechanisms *Lab*

C . Attention *ePsych – expts – Signal Detection*

D . Perceptual Processes *(Read Contents first)*

V . States of Consciousness . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . 2–4%

A . Sleep and Dreaming

B . Hypnosis *PsychSim5 – EEG & Sleep Stages*

C . Psychoactive Drug Effects

VI . Learning . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . 7–9%

A . Classical Conditioning

B . Operant Conditioning *PsychSim5 – Classical Conditioning*

C . Cognitive Processes *Operant Conditioning*

D . Biological Factors

E . Social Learning

VII . Cognition . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . 8–10%

A . Memory

B . Language *PsychSim5 - Forgetting*

C . Thinking

D . Problem Solving and Creativity

VIII . Motivation and Emotion . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . 6–8%

A . Biological Bases

B . Theories of Motivation

C . Hunger, Thirst, Sex, and Pain *PsychSim5 – Hunger & the Fat Rat*

D . Social Motives *Expressing Emotion*

E . Theories of Emotion

F . Stress

IX . Developmental Psychology . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . 7–9%

A . Life-Span Approach

B . Research Methods (e .g ., longitudinal, cross-sectional)

C . Heredity–Environment Issues

D . Developmental Theories *PsychSim5 – Conception to Birth*

E . Dimensions of Development *Cognitive Development*

1 . Physical *Signs of Aging*

2 . Cognitive

3 . Social

4 . Moral

F . Sex and Gender Development

X . Personality . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . 5–7%

A . Personality Theories and Approaches

B . Assessment Techniques *ePsych – expts – IPIP Personality Assessment*

C . Growth and Adjustment *Myers-Briggs Personality Assessment*

XI . Testing and Individual Differences . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . 5–7%

A . Standardization and Norms

B . Reliability and Validity *Multiple Intelligence*

C . Types of Tests *EQ*

D . Ethics and Standards in Testing

E . Intelligence

XII . Abnormal Behavior . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . 7–9%

A . Definitions of Abnormality

B . Theories of Psychopathology

C . Diagnosis of Psychopathology

D . Types of Disorders

1 . Anxiety

2 . Somatoform

3 . Mood

4 . Schizophrenic

5 . Organic

6 . Personality

7 . Dissociative

XIII . Treatment of Abnormal Behavior . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . 5–7%

A . Treatment Approaches

1 . Psychodynamic

2 . Humanistic *PsychSim5 – Mystery Client*

3 . Behavioral *Mystery Therapist*

4 . Cognitive *Computer Therapist*

5 . Biological

B . Modes of Therapy (i .e ., individual, group)

C . Community and Preventive Approaches

XIV . Social Psychology . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . 8–10%

A . Group Dynamics

B . Attribution Processes

C . Interpersonal Perception

D . Conformity, Compliance, Obedience *PsychSim5 – Everybody’s Doing It*

E . Attitudes and Attitude Change *www.prisonexp.org*

F . Organizational Behavior

G . Aggression/Antisocial Behavior

H . Cultural Influences

*\*CollegeBoard.com*

*\*http://bcs.worthpublishers.com/myersAP1e/default.asp#t\_612492*

*\*ePsych*

*\*Association for psychological Sciences…http://psych.hanover.edu/aps/teaching.html#statistics*