

Counseling & Guidance

Requirements:

Grade 9 HMO

Elective Courses

- Introduction to Psychology
- AP Psychology
- Ethics in School and Society

Horace Mann Orientation (HMO) – Grade 9

HMO is a required, weekly orientation program for 9th grade students in the 1st semester. Co-taught by HM faculty members and 11th & 12th grade HMO Peer Leaders, this course supports 9th grade students in their adjustment to the Upper Division. It fosters connections between 9th grade students and their 11th & 12th grade Peer Leaders, who share information about HM clubs & publications, service learning, athletics, study skills, time management, and the balance between academics, social interests and extracurricular activities. HMO teachers include grade-level deans and faculty from various departments, including the Department of Counseling & Guidance.

Introduction to Psychology (0900) (IPSY)

Grades 11-12

This year long course is a survey of the field of psychology including the theories, research, and applications central to the discipline. The goal is to engage students in exploration of the science of psychology and applications to everyday life. Psychology offers the opportunity to better understand our thoughts, feelings, and behaviors. Topics covered include: history of psychology, research methods, biological bases of behavior, human development, memory and learning, social psychology, psychopathology, and clinical treatment. The topics will be studied through a textbook, supplementary readings, media, lecture, presentations, and creative projects.

AP Psychology (0901) (APPY)

*Prerequisite: Introduction to Psychology and approval of the department
Grade 12*

Meets every day

This course builds upon Introduction to Psychology by examining more complex psychological concepts at a college-level. Students will study various psychological orientations, research methods and statistics, neuroscience, development, memory and cognition, abnormal psychology and therapeutic approaches, and social psychology. In addition, this course presents new topics not covered in the introduction class including multicultural theories, career guidance, stress and health, and psychology of intimate relationships. A strong emphasis is placed on understanding and conducting research, with an independent research study on a topic of the students' choice. Students are required to take the AP Psychology exam at the end of the course.

Ethics in School and Society (0903) (ETES)

What is a good life? What is the purpose of education? How do we understand inequality? Are people naturally selfish, or altruistic? Questions like these are just the beginning of a study of ethics. Should there be a military draft? Should abortion remain legal? Should grading be abolished? Should the legal drinking age be changed? All of these issues have major ethical components.

This major elective course will serve as a year-long journey through the theory and practice of ethics in school and society. Students will gain a basic understanding of systems of ethics in history, as well as current controversies in ethical thought and action. Along with readings and lectures, classes will include discussion, debates, field trips, video and audio presentations, guest speakers, and an emphasis on student-directed inquiry. In addition, the class will include a service-learning component. We will engage in individual and group projects, at school and in the wider community, in order to act, learn, and reflect on central ethical and moral issues.