




2025–2026 ACADEMIC YEAR
GRADE 11 BIOLOGY PROJECT

NAME OF THE PROJECT: BIOLOGICAL FOUNDATIONS OF PSYCHIATRIC DISORDERS

STUDENT'S NAME AND SURNAME:

CLASS :

| Grade | Content | Acquisition | Duration | Assessment |
|-------|---|---|-----------------|---|
| 11 |  <p>The student reads the book "<i>The Other Side of the Couch</i>" by Dr. Gary Small and prepares a detailed project based on the themes, psychiatric cases, and biological insights about the nervous system and psychiatric disorders presented in the book.</p> | <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Understands the anatomy and functions of the nervous system.2. Recognizes the biological foundations of psychiatric disorders.3. Analyzes the relationship between brain dysfunctions and behavior.4. Gains insights into neurochemical pathways and hormonal effects involved in psychiatric conditions.5. Develops critical thinking by examining real psychiatric case studies.6. Improves ability to organize and present scientific information effectively. | 1 Academic year | The criteria in the rubric will be used for both the report and the presentation. |



Dear Students,

Through this project, you will read "*The Other Side of the Couch*" by Dr. Gary Small to learn about the nervous system's structure and function, psychiatric disorders, and the biological factors affecting human behavior and mental health.

Project Steps

A. Research

- Read the book "*The Other Side of the Couch*" carefully.
- Take detailed notes on key points about brain anatomy, psychiatric disorders, neurochemical mechanisms, and real-life case studies.
- Gather additional reliable scientific information about the nervous system and mental health disorders.

B. Research Report

Write a clear and organized report including:

- Introduction: Purpose of the report, author's background, and overview of the book.
- Book Summary: Main topics and important psychiatric cases presented in the book.
- Biological Foundations:
 - Explanation of nervous system anatomy and function.
 - Detailed analysis of selected psychiatric disorders from the book (symptoms, affected brain regions, neurotransmitters, hormonal impacts).
- Case Studies: Choose at least two cases from the book and analyze the biological and behavioral aspects.
- Discussion: Reflect on the challenges in psychiatric diagnosis and treatment and the ethical considerations discussed by the author.
- Conclusion and Personal Reflection: Summarize what you learned and your personal thoughts about the book and the project.

Important Note:

Your report will be checked via a program. Make sure you do not copy and paste information directly from sources. This position will directly affect your mark. So, summarize the ideas in your own words to show your understanding. If you include a direct quote, make sure to cite the source properly.

Projects taken directly from AI will not be accepted.

Research Report Content (For Book Analysis)

- Cover Page: Project title, student's name, class, submission date, and teacher's name.
- Table of Contents: List of report sections and page numbers.
- Introduction: General information about the book (author, topic, genre) and the purpose of the report.
- Book Summary: A brief overview of the main topic, key themes, and important parts of the book.
- Analysis of Main Topics:
 - Important concepts covered in the book (e.g., brain structure, surgical procedures)
 - Explanation of selected cases or examples from the book



- Discussion of challenges encountered and ethical issues emphasized in the book
- Visuals: Pictures, diagrams, or charts supporting the book's content.
- Glossary: Definitions of important terms used in the book.
- Conclusion: Overall evaluation of the book and your reflections.
- References: List of the book and any other sources used in the report. (If it is necessary)
- Footnotes and Quotations: Properly indicate any direct quotes or additional notes from the book.

Book Analysis Project Report Guidelines

- Your report should be at least **12 pages** and no more than **18 pages** long.
- Visuals used in your report (book covers, important excerpts, author photos, charts, etc.) should not exceed 5 pages in total.
- Each section or topic must have a clear and meaningful title.
- Be sure to include your comments and analyses related to the book's content.
- Expert opinions are not mandatory, but you may include them to add depth to your project if you wish.
- Both digital (Word or PDF) and printed copies of the report must be submitted.
- Use Times New Roman, font size 12, and double-spacing throughout the text.
- The report should be organized, clean, and easy to follow.
- Handwritten text is not accepted; all work must be prepared using a computer.
- Properly cite any direct quotes from the book using footnotes or quotation marks.
- On the last page of the report, include a paragraph of about **150-200 words** containing your overall evaluation and personal reflections about the book and the project. In this paragraph, we expect you to briefly and sincerely share your general opinion about the book, what you learned from the project, the importance of the book, and your personal thoughts.

FIRST CHECK: (Planning Phase)

- ✓ Read the first 200 pages of the book.
- ✓ Take notes on brain anatomy, psychiatric disorders, and case studies.
- ✓ Write a summary and prepare answers to guiding questions.

SECOND CHECK: (Production Phase)

Prepare your book analysis report:

- ✓ Complete reading the entire book.
- ✓ Write a short biography of Dr. Gary Small.
- ✓ Summarize the book's themes and psychiatric cases.
- ✓ Explain the biological basis of psychiatric disorders presented.
- ✓ Discuss ethical and emotional challenges faced by psychiatrists.
- ✓ Connect the book's content to biology class topics (nervous system anatomy, neurotransmitters, brain functions).
- ✓ Add visuals such as brain diagrams or case illustration

Prepare a Presentation:

- ✓ Include key quotes and scientific explanations.
- ✓ Use visuals (diagrams, case visuals, brain maps).
- ✓ Create informational boxes (e.g., "Which Brain Region?", "Disorder and Effects").
- ✓ Design a balanced layout showing scientific facts and human stories.



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PROJECT SUBMISSION

Submit your written book analysis report. Your work should reflect both a scientific and human perspective, as well as your personal understanding. Be ready to present your project briefly and answer questions.

REPORT ASSESSMENT RUBRIC (Total 50 Points)

| Evaluation Criteria | Description | Points |
|---|---|------------|
| Introduction of the Book | Provides information about the author and summarizes the book's topic. | 5 |
| Case and Disease Analysis | Surgical examples and diseases are explained accurately, clearly, and in detail. | 15 |
| Connection to Biology | The contents of the book are related to topics covered in biology class. | 10 |
| Ethical and Emotional Reflection | The ethical dilemmas and emotional situations experienced by the surgeon are analyzed. | 10 |
| Writing Style and Organization | Correct grammar, clear and fluent expression, and well-organized structure. | 5 |
| Use of Visual Material | The poster/brochure/magazine is used effectively during the presentation and supports the spoken content. | 5 |
| TOTAL | | /50 |

PRESENTATION ASSESSMENT RUBRIC (Total: 50 Points)

| Evaluation Criteria | Description | Points |
|--|---|------------|
| Content & Clarity of Presentation | The topic is clearly explained in the student's own words. Key messages from the book are presented accurately and effectively. | 15 |
| Subject Mastery | The student demonstrates a strong understanding of the book's content, medical cases, and related biology topics. Explanation goes beyond memorization. | 10 |
| Q&A Performance | The student answers questions thoughtfully, accurately, and with sufficient explanation. | 25 |
| TOTAL | | /50 |

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