

Subject: A'level Psychology

Year 12 (Modules, Topics)

Term 1	Term 2	Term 3
<p>Psychological approaches This module gives students a grounding in the psychological approaches of biological, behavioural, social learning theorists, cognitive, psychodynamic and humanist. Students explore the studies and theorists who developed these approaches, the modern applications of them and learn to evaluate their usefulness in explaining human behaviour.</p> <p>Issues and debates Students develop their skills of evaluation and explore the issues and debates which run throughout the world of Psychology. They consider reductionism, idiographic v's nomothetic research, gender bias and questions such as Nature or Nurture?</p> <p>Research methods Students learn about the research methods and statistical tests that psychologists' use to reach conclusions. This unit runs throughout the year and accounts for a 1/3 of the marks across the exam papers. Students need to develop their</p>	<p>Attachment Students study the developmental area of psychology and focus on how attachments form, what the different attachment types are, the impact of early attachment on later life and the impact of institutionalisation and maternal deprivation. We explore the work of key psychologists in this field such as Ainsworth and Bowlby and evaluate their theories. Students apply the psychological approaches to this topic.</p> <p>Memory Students study this area of cognitive psychology through a study of how the human memory works. They consider the different memory models and the limitations of this. Students consider the reliability of eye-witness testimony and the theory of forgetting.</p> <p>Research methods Students learn about the research methods and statistical tests that psychologists' use to reach conclusions. This unit runs throughout the year and accounts for a 1/3 of the marks across the</p>	<p>Psychopathology This topic explores three areas of psychopathology from the different psychological approaches. Students identify and learn about the symptoms and diagnosis of OCD and look at biological explanations of this. They study depression from the cognitive perspective, looking at the work of Ellis and Beck and they investigate phobias from the behavioural approach. Students also challenge and evaluate the way in which we define abnormality and the anti-psychiatry movement.</p> <p>Social influence This module allows students the opportunity to investigate why people conform and obey, how social change is brought about and what happens when there is resistance to social change. Students explore minority influence and the role of personality types in bringing about change. The key study of Milgram is used in this module.</p> <p>Research methods Students learn about the research methods and</p>

<p>mathematical skills as well as being able to discuss the conventions of scientific reporting.</p> <p>Assessment: Weekly exam questions, per teacher. Mock exam paper from paper 2</p>	<p>exam papers. Students need to develop their mathematical skills as well as being able to discuss the conventions of scientific reporting.</p> <p>Assessment: Weekly exam questions, per teacher.</p>	<p>statistical tests that psychologists' use to reach conclusions. This unit runs throughout the year and accounts for a 1/3 of the marks across the exam papers. Students need to develop their mathematical skills as well as being able to discuss the conventions of scientific reporting.</p> <p>Assessment: Weekly exam questions, per teacher. End of year exams – paper 1 and paper 2</p>
---	--	--

**Year 13
(Modules, Topics)**

Term 1	Term 2	Term 3
<p>Relationships Students explore the formation, maintenance and breakdown of relationships from different perspectives.</p> <p>Approaches – Year 2 Students explore the additional approaches of Humanism and the psychodynamic approach and evaluate the usefulness of these in modern psychology.</p> <p>Biopsychology –Year 2 Students study the biological elements of explaining human behaviour. Topics include</p>	<p>Schizophrenia Students study this psychopathology by addressing three broad questions: How do we diagnose and define schizophrenia? How do we explain schizophrenia (from different perspectives) and How do we treat schizophrenia?</p> <p>Forensic psychology This module considers the field of forensic psychology and looks at how we define crime, how we explain offender behaviour (from a biological and psychological perspective) and how we deal with offender behaviour.</p>	<p>Revision and consolidation</p>

<p>lateralisation of brain function, plasticity of the brain, fight-flight response, the role and function of endogenous and exogenous pacemakers, synaptic transmission and the ways of studying the brain.</p> <p>Assessment: Weekly essays per teacher Homework modules run to consolidate year 1 topics (memory, social influence, research methods)</p>	<p>Assessment: Weekly essays per teacher Homework modules run to consolidate year 1 topics (psychopathology, attachment, approaches)</p>	
---	---	--