

Psychology



Why Study A Level Psychology?

Psychology involves the study of mental processes and behaviour in the context of real life experiences. This course is for those who have an enquiring mind, like to discuss and wish to gain an understanding of how humans develop and interact with each other. You will also develop a range of skills which will help you to think critically. Psychology is not just an academic subject; it's a life-skill.

Course Content

In their first year students will study

- Social influence (why we conform, obey, sometimes resist and how to bring about social change)
- Memory: (how our brain remembers, why we make bad eye-witnesses to crimes and how to improve memory)
- Attachment (why we become attached to a parent, what happens if we do not and the effect of day-care on development)
- Psychopathology (how to define mental illness, what causes mental illness and how to treat it)
- Approaches in Psychology (the schools of thought that have shaped psychological theory)
- Research Methods (the methods used by psychologists to investigate behaviour and the techniques used to analyse the results)

In their second year students will look at Biopsychology: How does the brain work? How do we study the brain? Issues and debates in Psychology: Are Psychological studies biased in any way?

Students will also study three additional units from the below list.

1. Relationships, Gender, or Cognitive Development
2. Schizophrenia, Eating Behaviour, or Stress
3. Aggression, Forensic Psychology, or Addiction



Assessment

Assessment consists of three final exams taken at the end of two years of study.

Exam Board

AQA

Progression

Psychology offers you a number of widely applicable and also provides useful training for a range of careers. These include market research, social work, teaching, nursing, advertising, sales, media and broadcasting, personnel management and even the Police and the Armed Forces.