



Psychology

Overview

Psychology is the scientific study of the mind and behaviour. It is a very good choice for those who are interested in people and the motivation behind different behaviours. Students with an inquisitive mind enjoy the challenge of this new and unfamiliar subject. Once you begin to study Psychology, your outlook on almost everything changes, becoming more analytical. Students will start to see Psychology in action everywhere they look and learn about theories that they can relate to their own lives, giving them valuable insight.

Students will follow the OCR Psychology A level course (code 7182)

Paper 1: 33.3% A Level – 2 hour written examination

This unit comprises of four sections: Cognitive Psychology, where we focus on how human memory works and look at how it fails; Developmental Psychology, we look at human attachment, covering the importance of attachment bonds and study a variety of attachment disorders; Social Psychology, where we focus on conformity and obedience in social situations. Finally, Psychopathology looks at the diagnosis, explanations, and treatments of a variety of Psychological disorders.

Paper 2: 33.3% A Level – 2 hour written examination

This unit comprises of three sections: Biological Psychology, where we focus on chemical responses within the body, biological rhythms, and ways of studying the brain; Psychological research methods studying how Psychologists use these to investigate behaviour; and Approaches in Psychology, which looks at the origins of Psychology and basic assumptions that underlie the whole subject.

Paper 3: 33.3% A Level – 2 hour written examination

This unit comprises of four sections: Issues and debates in Psychology (compulsory), then students will take one question from each of the 3 option blocks. The options currently taught are Gender, Schizophrenia, and Forensic Psychology.

Expectations

We expect students interested in the course to attend the induction sessions at the end of the year and complete the task set over the summer. Once the course starts in September, you will need to access the Digital Textbook as this will provide you with the basis to complete the Year 1 course. You will also be expected to undertake wider reading around the course and will be provided with a list of recommended readings.

Extra-Curricular Activities/Independent Learning Opportunities

Opportunities to stretch and challenge students are available through the course websites and independent learning tasks. There may be opportunities to attend a student revision conference before the examination.

Entry Requirement: In addition to the entry requirements mentioned in the Sixth Form Prospectus, you will need a Grade 5 in a Science.



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