

Course Overview

AQA A-Level Psychology Year 12-13

A-Level Psychology is split into three papers:
Paper 1 - Introductory Topics in Psychology: RJW/JOB
Paper 2 - Psychology in Context: KDA
Paper 3 - Issues and Options in Psychology: KDA

University:

Study BSc accredited Psychology courses can lead to careers in:

- Clinical Psychology
- NHS
- Forensic Psychology
- Psychiatry
- Police Force



Paper 1 Retrieval: Psychopathology

Paper 1 Retrieval: Social Influence

Paper 1 Retrieval: Memory

Paper 1 Retrieval: Attachment



Retrieval Lessons: Year 12 Content- RJW/JOB

Throughout Year 13, one lesson a week will be dedicated to retrieving subject content from Paper 1 delivered during Year 12. This encourages regular retrieval of specialist terminology and fosters an appreciation of retrieval practice, spaced practice and interleaving, all of which will provide the foundation for effective revision strategies in students.

Psychopathology: RJW/JOB

- In depth exploration into various common mental health disorders
- Understanding of dominant explanations and treatments for each disorder



Attachment: RJW/ JOB

- Appreciation of the various theories/research that attempt to explain healthy child development
- Understanding of the consequences that arise from a lack of secure attachment relationships



Memory: RJW/JOB

- Understanding of how psychological research has deepened knowledge surrounding the structure & function of memory
- Awareness of how difficulties in memory recall can produce real world consequences



Social Influence: RJW/JOB

- Exploration of how behaviour can be manipulated by the structure and function of society
- Appreciation into how minorities can utilise behavioural principles to resist majority influence



RJW/JOB: Begin with Social Influence as it introduces students to significant psychological research which encourages synoptic links with Research Methods terminology

Forensic Psychology: KDA

- Appreciation of the multifaceted nature of Forensic Psychology
- Utilisation of real world examples to critically evaluate competing perspectives on offending behaviour



Gender: KDA



- Critical evaluation of competing perspectives regarding our understanding of gender development
- Appreciation of the ethical implications of studying 'gender-related behaviours'

Schizophrenia: KDA

- Secure understanding of the susceptibility, acquisition and maintenance of a complex mental health disorder
- Exposure to current and competing explanations and treatments for Schizophrenia



Issues & Debates: KDA

- Exposure to the fundamental debates within psychological research
- Exploration into how subject content can be utilised to evidence psychological arguments



YEAR
13

Our curriculum contains a combination of theoretical, practical, individual and group exploration that enables a wide variety of students to succeed. As well as an enriched psychological knowledge, students will become abstract thinkers, information synthesisers and critical evaluators, whilst developing their collaborative, time-management and self-organisation skills. All of which is to ensure the holistic development of well-rounded individuals who possess the willingness to contribute to society.

Research Methods: KDA

- Awareness of the methodological processes that underpin psychological research
- Prepares students for preparation and delivery of empirical research at undergraduate level



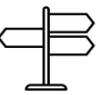
Biopsychology: KDA

- Enriched understanding of how the structure and function of the brain coordinates complex human behaviour
- Appreciation of how the brain can absorb and overcome injury/disease



Approaches: KDA

- Deepened understanding of competing psychological perspectives
- Appreciation that our understanding of human behaviour is fluid and subject to dominant theories within society



YEAR
12

KDA: Begins with Approaches as the specialist terminology delivered can be transferred to Paper 1 topics to enhance evaluative commentary being produced by students

A-level Psychology encourages students to explore the fundamentals of human behaviour. Through the development of abstract reasoning and logical thinking skills, students will become adept at critically evaluating psychological theories, perspectives and treatments in order to develop objective, evidence-based conclusions. It is our intention to deliver a curriculum that exposes students to the diverse world of Psychology. A curriculum that ignites passions and interests and provides a platform for the continuous development of academic skills that are necessary for a successful transition into university life.