



Year 12 Psychology Curriculum Map

Overview	A Level Psychology provides an introductory study of the mind and behaviour, covering core areas like social psychology, cognitive psychology, biological psychology, and developmental psychology, where students learn about various theories, research methods, and key concepts related to human behaviour. Students develop critical analysis skills and understand the scientific basis of human behaviour; it often includes in-depth study of research methodology and ethical considerations within the field. Students will learn the skills and techniques required to write extended essays and learn exam techniques, specific to psychology exams. They will benefit from the experience of planning and conducting their own research, including demonstrating their understanding of how psychological research is reported.					
Year 12	Autumn 1	Autumn 2	Spring 1	Spring 2	Summer 1	Summer 2
Topic	Approaches in psychology Research methods	Social influence Research methods	Memory Research methods	Attachment Research methods	Psychopathology Research methods	Biopsychology Research methods
Knowledge	Origins of psychology. Behaviourist approach. Social learning theory The cognitive approach. The biological approach The psychodynamic approach The Humanistic approach Research methods. Experimental methods.	Types and explanations of conformity. Conformity to Social roles. Obedience. Resisting social influence. Minority influence Social change processes. Research methods. Ethical considerations.	Models of memory: Multi-store and working memory. Features of short- and long-term memory. Theories of forgetting. Accuracy of eye-witness testimony. The development of the cognitive interview. Research methods. The scientific process.	Caregiver-infant interactions in humans. Animal studies of attachment Explanations of attachment. Types of attachment. The theory of maternal deprivation. The influence of early attachments. Research methods. Observations and self-report methods.	Definitions of abnormality. Features and explanations for phobias, OCD and depression. Treatments and therapies of phobias, OCD and depression. Research methods. Data – handling and analysis.	The nervous system. Neurons and neural transmission. The endocrine system. The fight or flight response. Areas of the brain and their function. Research methods. Inferential statistical testing.
Skills	AO1 knowledge of key terms and theories. AO2 apply learning AO3 evaluate research evidence and theories	AO1 knowledge of key terms and theories. AO2 apply learning AO3 evaluate research evidence and theories	AO1 knowledge of key terms and theories. AO2 apply learning AO3 evaluate research evidence and theories	AO1 knowledge of key terms and theories. AO2 apply learning AO3 evaluate research evidence and theories	AO1 knowledge of key terms and theories. AO2 apply learning AO3 evaluate research evidence and theories	AO1 knowledge of key terms and theories. AO2 apply learning AO3 evaluate research evidence and theories
Assessment	Topic test	Topic test	Topic test	Topic test Independent research	Topic test	Topic test Timed essays Paper 1 mock.