



Psychology

So, what exactly is Psychology?

Psychology is the scientific study of mind and behaviour. It tries to identify what behaviour is occurring, work out why it is occurring, predict what future behaviour will be and, if necessary, work out ways of changing that future behaviour.



What will I learn on this course?

The advanced GCE is made up of 3 mandatory units with the third unit being composed of a selection from a number of optional topics. All units are externally assessed. The AS level comprises of 2 mandatory units which are also externally assessed.

The aims of the specification are to:

- develop essential knowledge and understanding of different areas of psychology and how they relate to each other
- develop and demonstrate a deep appreciation of the skills, knowledge and understanding of scientific methods
- develop competence and confidence in a variety of practical, mathematical and problem-solving skills
- develop their interest in and enthusiasm for Psychology, including developing an interest in further study and careers associated with the discipline
- understand how society makes decisions about scientific issues and how the sciences contribute to the success of the economy and society.

What can you with your qualification?

A level psychology provides a sound base for students wishing to progress to higher education, whether this is to pursue psychology or many other subjects. Psychology is widely applicable in many aspects of modern life and can be applied in a variety of personal and professional situations.

Examination Board: AQA
Qualification: AS or A Level

AS COURSE CONTENT & ASSESSMENT

Unit 1: Introductory Topics in Psychology

- Social influence
- Memory
- Attachment

Written paper 1 hour 30 minutes, 50% AS

Unit 2: Psychology in Context

- Approaches in psychology
- Psychopathology
- Research Methods

Written paper 1 hour 30 minutes, 50% AS

A2 COURSE CONTENT & ASSESSMENT

Unit 1: introductory Topics in Psychology

- Social Influence
- Memory
- Attachment
- Psychopathology

Written paper 2 hours, 33.3% A level

Unit 2: Psychology in Context

- Approaches in Psychology
- Biopsychology
- Research methods

Written paper 2 hours, 33.3% A level

Unit 3: Issues and Options in Psychology

- Issues and debates in psychology
- *Option 1:* Relationships, **or** gender, **or** cognition and development.
- *Option 2:* schizophrenia, **or** eating behaviour, **or** stress.
- *Option 3:* aggression, **or** forensic psychology, **or** addiction.

Written paper 2 hours, 33.3% A level

For further information or advice please contact Mrs Fitton

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or view the psychology page on the WHS VLE:

<http://vle.williamhoward.cumbria.sch.uk/psychology/so-what-is-psychology>