

Year 12 Curriculum Overview: Psychology



Topics/ content outline:

Powerful Knowledge (key concepts, skills)

What will you be assessed on?

How can you help at home?

Autumn Term

Origins of Psychology
Approaches in Psychology
Research Methods
Memory

Wundt and Introspection
Behaviourism: classical and Operant conditioning
Social learning Theory
Cognitive approach: Schema, Inference, Cognitive neuroscience, Soft determinism.
Biological approach: Genes, Neurochemistry, Brain structure, Evolution
Biopsychology: Nervous system and endocrine system
Experimental method
Non Experimental methods: Self report, questionnaires, observations
Memory - Multistore model, working memory

At the end of each topic cycle (roughly every 2 weeks) you will be assessed on this content through one of these methods:
1. Short answer key knowledge check
2. Short answer exam questions
3. Extended answer exam questions

Students have key knowledge checklists for all of the content they need to know which are uploaded to Showbie. You can help at home by asking them these questions to check their knowledge and understanding.

Spring Term

Memory
Social Influence
Attachment
Psychopathology

Memory: Explanations for forgetting, Eye Witness testimony
Attachment: Caregiver-infant interactions, role of the father, Lorenz, Harlow, Learning Theory, Bowlby's Monotropic theory.
Attachment: the strange situation, cultural variations
Social Influence: Conformity, Obedience, Resistance to social influence, social change
Psychopathology: Defining Abnormality, Behavioural approach to explaining and treating phobias

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Summer Term

Attachment
Psychopathology
Mock/AS preparation
Independent research investigation

Attachment: Bowlby's Maternal Deprivation Theory, Romanian Orphans, Early attachment and later development
Psychopathology: Cognitive approach to explaining and treating depression, Biological approach to explaining and treating OCD
Conventions for reporting on psychological investigations

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Year 13 Curriculum Overview: **Psychology**



Autumn Term

Topics/ content outline:

Research Methods
Approaches
Comparison of Approaches
Biopsychology
Forensic Psychology

Powerful Knowledge (key concepts, skills)

Research methods: Correlations, observations, Self-report, statistical tests, case studies and content analysis, validity and reliability, Features of Science.
Approaches: Humanistic approach, Psychodynamic approach, comparison of approaches
Biopsychology: localisation of brain function, plasticity and recovery from trauma, hemispheric specialisation, ways of studying the brain.
Forensic Psychology: profiling, Biological explanations, psychological explanations

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Spring Term

Forensic Psychology
Cognition and Development
Schizophrenia

Forensic Psychology: custodial sentencing, behaviour modification, restorative justice
Cognition and development: Piaget, Baillargeon, Vygotsky, levels of perspective taking, theory of mind, the mirror neuron system
Schizophrenia: Diagnosis and classification, biological explanations, drug treatments, Psychological explanations

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Summer Term

Schizophrenia
Issues and Debates
A level Preparation

Schizophrenia: CBT and Family Therapy, the interactionist approach
Issues and debates: gender and culture bias, nature/nurture, free will s. determinism, Holism vs. reductionism, idiographic/nomothetic approaches, ethical implications

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