

Year 12 Curriculum Overview: Psychology



Autumn Term

Topics/ content outline:

Approaches in Psychology
 Research Methods
 Memory

Powerful Knowledge (key concepts, skills)

The Story of Psychology
 Behaviourism: classical and Operant conditioning
 Social learning Theory
 Cognitive approach: Schema, Inference
 Biological approach: Genes, Neurochemistry, Brain structure, Evolution, Cognitive neuroscience
 Experimental method in Psychology
 Non-experimental methods: Self report, questionnaires, observations
 Memory - Multistore model, working memory

What will you be assessed on?

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

How can you help at home?

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, Eyewitness testimony
 Attachment: Animal studies, Learning Theory, Bowlby's Monotropic theory.
 Attachment: the strange situation, cultural variations
 Social Influence: Conformity, Obedience, Resistance to social influence, minority influence
 Clinical Psychology and Mental Health: Definitions, 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
 Clinical Psychology and Mental Health: Cognitive approach to explaining and treating depression, Biological approach to explaining and treating OCD
 Biopsychology: Nervous system and endocrine system
 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: 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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