



QUALIFICATION: A-LEVEL

Awarding Body:

AQA

Length of Course:

2 Years

Psychology is a brilliant general purpose subject which complements lots of others, and wherever people are involved there will be a place for Psychology. Psychology is the scientific study of mind and behaviour. Essentially, psychology is all about people. We are all amateur psychologists, every time we try and work out why someone acted the way they did or try to predict how someone might behave or react. Psychology tries to find answers to some of these questions by investigating them in a more scientific manner. If you would like to understand both yourself and others better, psychology is the subject for you.

Psychology is the scientific study of mind and behaviour and whilst it can combine well with other subjects from across the spectrum, it is firmly located in the science national curriculum. It therefore complements science and mathematical subjects well, as well as other social science subjects. Psychology has much to offer candidates who wish to widen their horizons as well as acquire knowledge which will enhance their study of other subjects.

**Paper 1:
Introductory Topics in
Psychology**

Content

- Social Influence
- Memory
- Attachment
- Psychopathology

Assessed

- 1 hour 30 minutes written exam (AS)
- 2 hours written exam (A2)

Questions

Four compulsory sections all requiring written answers.

**Paper 2:
Psychology in Context**

Content

- Approaches in Psychology
- Biopsychology
- Research Methods

Assessed

- 1 hour 30 minutes written exam (AS)
- 2 hours written exam (A2)

Questions

Three compulsory sections all requiring written answers.

**Paper 3:
Issues and Options in
Psychology
Content**

- Issues and Debates in Psychology
- One from: Relationships; Gender; Cognition and Development
- One from: Schizophrenia, Eating Behaviour; Stress
- One from: Aggression; Forensic Psychology; Addiction

Assessed

- 2 hour written exam
- 96 marks
- 33.3% of A-level
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Questions

One compulsory section. Three sections each offering a choice of three topics. Students answer one question from each section.

Relevance to Further Studies and Careers

The Advanced Level in Psychology is accepted on all university degree courses and it is accepted as a science A-Level on many science courses. We have many students who take A-Level Psychology and then go onto to study medicine, dentistry, pharmacy, speech therapy, teaching, nursing, marketing, social work, health professionals in general, police, probation and many more.

The applied psychology professions are: Sports psychology, Forensic psychology, Educational Psychology, Clinical psychology, Counselling Psychology, Health Psychology and Organisational/industrial Psychology.

If you wish to study a degree in Psychology studying a related A-Level would help your application e.g. such as Biology or Mathematics.

A student particularly well suited to this subject will:

- Have an interest in people and how they live their lives.
- Be able to analyse and synthesise information.
- Be prepared to work hard and think independently

To this end being able to learn to write essays, have some mathematical ability and being able to think scientifically will help.

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

Students must have achieved a Grade 6 at GCSE level in English Language, a Grade 6 in GCSE Mathematics and a Grade 5 in a GCSE Science

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SIXTH FORM VISIT

GIRLS' SCHOOL VISIT

BOYS' SCHOOL VISIT