



Psychology



Overview

Psychology can be an interesting subject to study, and helps to develop the skills of critical thinking and scientific enquiry as well as a more general understanding of human motivation and behaviour, but it is a science and is not necessarily an “easy option”.

The most important requirements are **interest** and **enthusiasm**. A **commitment** to complete **homework** and **background study** (e.g. textbook, internet) on time; and a **willingness** to participate in classwork, discussion, lectures etc. to the full extent of one’s ability.

Exam Board



Specification

A level: 7182

<http://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/psychology/as-and-a-level/psychology-7181-7182>

Assessment

Subject Specific Entry Requirements

Mathematical expertise is not necessary; however, experience suggests that students who have **less than** a grade 6 in GCSE English, Maths and Science are likely to struggle with the content of this course.

A Level – two year course	
Paper 1: Introductory Topics in Psychology Social Influence, Memory, Attachment, Psychopathology	3 x 2 hour written exams each 96 marks multiple choice, short answer and extended writing questions Each paper is 33.3% of A level
Paper 2: Psychology in Context Approaches in Psychology, Biopsychology, Research methods	
Paper 3: Issues & Options in Psychology Issues & Debates in Psychology (gender & culture bias, free will & determinism, holism & reductionism, nature-nurture, idiographic & nomothetic approaches, ethical implications) One topic from each of the following three options: Option 1: Relationships, Gender, Cognition & Development Option 2: Schizophrenia, Eating Behaviour, Stress Option 3: Aggression, Forensic, Addiction	

“Psychology was a new subject to me and though I had little prior knowledge, it is intriguing to me both inside and outside of the classroom. Being able to apply what you have learned to real life is fascinating.”

Maddie

Progression and Career Opportunities

Many students who study A Level Psychology go on to study it further at university, but the A level is a worthwhile qualification in its own right (e.g. for those considering a career in nursing, childcare, police/prison service, sports coaching, business management/sales, social work, or even teaching). Students may also do Psychology A level simply out of interest or other personal reasons. It is a subject that provides students with both numeracy and literacy skills and many other transferrable skills e.g. revision strategies, critical analysis.