

Psychology A Level

Exam Board: AQA

Subject Specific Criteria:

- **Grade 5 in GCSE English Language**
- **Grade 5 in GCSE Sciences**
- **Grade 5 in GCSE Mathematics** (in order to be able to develop their skills, knowledge and understanding in Psychology, students need to have competency in Mathematics. Overall, at least 10% of the marks in assessments for Psychology will require the use of mathematical skills. These skills will be applied in the context of A-level Psychology and will be at least the standard of higher tier GCSE mathematics.)

Subject content - Compulsory content

1. Social influence
2. Memory
3. Attachment
4. Psychopathology
5. Approaches in Psychology
6. Biopsychology
7. Research methods
8. Issues and debates in Psychology

Option 1 - Relationships

Option 2 - Schizophrenia

Option 3 - Forensic Psychology

Assessment:

Paper 1: Introductory Topics in Psychology. What's assessed:

- Compulsory content 1–4
- Written exam: 2 hours
- 96 marks in total
- 33.3% of A-level

Paper 2: Psychology in Context. What's assessed:

- Compulsory content 5-7
- Written exam: 2 hours
- 96 marks in total
- 33.3% of A-level

Paper 3: Issues and Options in Psychology. What's assessed:

- Compulsory content 8
- Option 1-3 content
- Written exam: 2 hours
- 96 marks in total
- 33.3% of A-level

Course Information:

Psychology is the scientific study of the human mind and behaviour. If you are interested in learning about different types of behaviour and the explanations for these behaviours, Psychology might be for you. It helps us to understand why people behave the way they do and how the brain works. A Level Psychology is designed to give students a basic introduction into the science of Psychology and focuses on using scientific knowledge to help explain the world around us. Within the course, students will get the opportunity to look at the five main areas of modern psychology and carry out their own practical investigations based around these areas.

Future Opportunities:

Psychology is useful for any job that requires lots of interaction or an understanding of human behaviour and development. As a science, Psychology is a thriving academic discipline dedicated to the study of human behaviour and the connected thoughts, feelings, and motivations behind it.

People with skills in Psychology are sought after in business, management, sport, teaching, research, social work and careers in counselling and healthcare. Jobs directly related to your degree could include: Psychologist (various specialisms), Teacher, Mental Health and Wellbeing Practitioner. Jobs where your degree would be useful include: Advice Worker, Human Resources Officer, Market Researcher and Play Therapist.