

Course Level

A Level

Awarding Body

AQA

Entry Requirements

Grade 6 in GCSE English Language or Literature. Grade 6 in GCSE Double Science or Triple Science.

Assessment

All units are assessed by formal written examinations. Although there is no compulsory coursework, carrying out psychological research is an integral part of the course.

To obtain the A Level qualification, you will need to sit Paper, 1, 2 and 3 at the end of Year 13.

Course Description

Psychology is an engaging subject in which students will explore different approaches to explaining human behaviour and the research methods that underlie all psychological research. During the two years students will look at the main approaches in psychology (including learning approaches; the social approach; the cognitive approach; biopsychology; and the psychodynamic and humanistic approaches). Students will have the opportunity to explore topics such as social influence, memory, psychopathology, relationships, abnormal behaviour and forensic psychology.

Course Requirements

Students are required to have at least a grade B in English Language or Literature, a B in Science (Biology preferred).

Unit	Topics	Assessment
Paper 1: Introductory Topics in Psychology	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Social influence • Memory • Attachment • Psychopathology 	A Level: 2 hour written exam (33.3% of A Level)
Paper 2: Psychology in Context	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Approaches in Psychology • Biopsychology • Research Methods 	A Level: 2 hour written exam (33.3% of A Level)
Paper 3: Issues and Options in Psychology	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Issues and debates in psychology • One from: relationships; gender; cognition and development (TBC) • One from: schizophrenia; eating behaviour; stress (TBC) • One from: aggression; forensic psychology; addiction (TBC) 	A Level: 2 hour written exam (33.3% of A Level)

Career and Progression Opportunities

A Level Psychology provides students with a broad range of skills which are valued by Higher Education and employers, including critical analysis, independent thinking and research.

Research skills are an essential part of the Psychology A Level and students will develop skills such as understanding how to design and carry out research using a variety of different research methods, the strengths and weaknesses of various research methods and techniques of data handling and analysis. Students also gain transferable skills, such as teamwork, problem solving, IT skills, and communication skills (presentation, writing, debating).

Link to Syllabus

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