

Psychology **SIXTH** (with Forensics) **FORM**

*Don't be anonymous...
...be remarkable*

Psychology is the study of mind and behaviour. Studying for A level Psychology will give you a fascinating insight into the human mind and its impact on behaviour.

You will try to answer such questions as:

‘Why did the soldiers in Nazi Germany follow such terrible orders?’

‘How do we create memories?’

‘To what extent can we shape behaviour using rewards and punishments?’

You will also be given the opportunity to go to Shepton Mallet Prison and to the Psychology labs at The University of the West of England.

A Level

56 UCAS points available



Student Profile

A successful student will need:

Grade 5 in GCSE Mathematics and/ or Science (10% of course content involves mathematical skills).

Grade 5 in GCSE English Lit, English Lang, humanities or a social science to show strong extended writing skills.

The ability to draw meaning from text independently.

Willingness to reflect and improve work independently and with peers.

Course Content (AQA)

Year 1:

Approaches in Psychology: Understanding different perspectives of human behaviour.

Research Methods: Understanding how psychological research is conducted.

Social Influence: Why do we obey and conform to society?

Memory: How does our memory work? Why do we forget? Are eyewitnesses reliable?

Attachment: How important are attachments on our development?

Clinical Psychology & Mental Health: Why do people have phobias, OCD and depression and how can we treat them?

Biopsychology: How does the brain, hormones and nervous system influence our behaviour?

Year 2:

Forensic Psychology: Why do we offend and how do we deal with criminals?

Schizophrenia: How do classify, explain and treat schizophrenia?

Relationships: What are the ingredients for a relationship? What causes relationships to breakdown?

Issues and Debates: Such as the nature/nurture debate and gender bias.

Skills Gained

Critical thinking skills: You will learn how to evaluate a piece of research based on its generalisability, reliability, application and validity.

Writing skills: You will learn how to present a balanced review of a theory using evidence where appropriate.

Analytical skills: 10% of the course content is mathematical skills. You will learn how to analyse data from research to establish whether the findings are statistically significant.

Trips / Cultural Experiences

Shepton Mallet Prison (the world's oldest prison)

Psychology Laboratories, University of the West of England (UWE)

The Future - What Next?

A level Psychology offers a wide range of both subject specific knowledge and transferable skills, which can lead students into many different fields. With further study and training, students could follow a career in any Psychological discipline: Clinical, Educational, Sport, Criminal or Research. However, Psychology can also be applied in any job that involves dealing with people at any level.



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