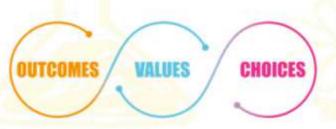


## A Level Psychology - Curriculum Overview



# AUTUMN 1 AUTUMN 2 SPRING 1 SPRING 2 SUMMER 1 SUMMER 2

## **Approaches**

Origins of psychology, introspection and the emergence of Psychology as a science

The different psychological approaches including psychodynamic, behaviourist, cognitive, social learning theory, Humanist and biological; comparison of these approaches.

### Research Methods

Research methods including experimental method, observational techniques and self-report techniques, correlations, content analysis and case studies

Scientific processes

Techniques of data handling and analysis including statistical testing

#### **Attachment**

Caregiver-infant interactions; stages of attachment; multiple attachments and the role of the father.

**Explanations of attachment** 

Ainsworth's Strange Situation; types of attachment; cultural variations in attachment

Bowlby's theory of maternal deprivation; the effects of institutionalisation The influence of early attachment on childhood and adult relationships

### **Issues & Debates**

Nature v Nurture Free will v Determinism Gender & culture bias Holism & reductionism Idiographic & nomothetic approaches; Ethical implications of research

#### Social Influence

Types of conformity; explanations for conformity Conformity to social roles Explanations for obedience Explanations of resistance to social influence Minority influences The role of social influence processes in social change

#### Memory

The multi store model of memory Types of memory The working memory model Explanations for forgetting Factors affecting eyewitness testimony Ways of improving EWT

## **Issues & Debates**

Application of issues and debates from Aut 1 to attachment, social influence, memory and approaches

## **Biopsychology**

The divisions of the nervous system Structure and function of neurons; synaptic transmission The function of the endocrine system The fight or flight response Localisation of function in the brain and hemispheric lateralisation Ways of studying the brain Biological rhythms

#### Relationships

Evolutionary explanations for partner preferences, including the relationship between sexual selection & human reproductive behaviour Factors affecting attraction in romantic relationships Theories of romantic relationships

Virtual relationships in social media

## Forensic Psychology

Offender profiling Biological and psychological explanations of offending behaviour Dealing with offending behaviour

## **Psychopathology**

Definitions of abnormality

The behavioural, emotional and cognitive characteristics of phobias, depression and OCD

The behavioural approach to explaining and treating phobias The cognitive approach to explaining and treating depression The biological approach to explaining and treating OCD

#### **Schizophrenia**

Parasocial relationships

Classification of schizophrenia. Symptoms of schizophrenia. Reliability and validity in diagnosing and classifying schizophrenia

Biological, psychological and cognitive explanations of schizophrenia and therapies

The interactionist approach in explaining and treating schizophrenia

RRRR & Exam preparation