

# PSYCHOLOGY

## A Level Course

### Description

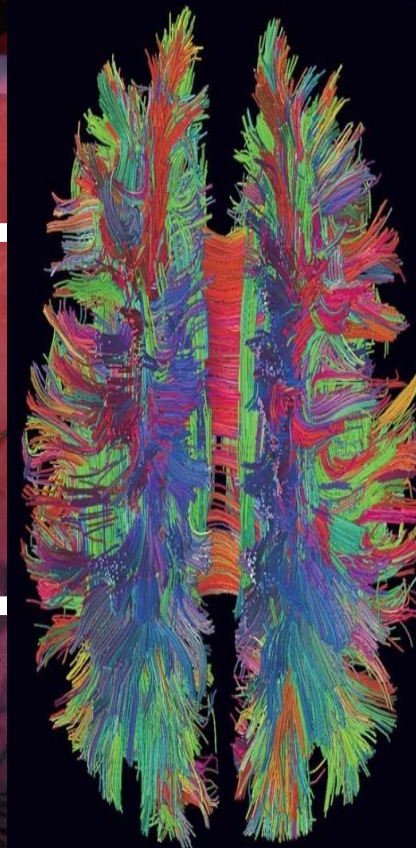
Psychology is the scientific study of the human mind and behaviour. It is therefore relevant to every walk of life, from early years development, to how our behaviours and thoughts are influenced by others. By exploring a range of Psychological theories and concepts, you will discover new insights and understanding of the human condition. The course covers explanations of human behaviour from a wide range of theoretical approaches, such as Biological, Developmental, Cognitive, Social and Psychoanalytic approaches. Students then apply their knowledge to specific fields of study, such as how Memories are formed, how our body reacts in times of stress, what are the underlying causes and treatments of Psychiatric illnesses and how concepts such as Obedience and Conformity can influence our behaviours. Students will also have to grapple some quite advanced Philosophical questions about humans, such as to what degree our behaviours are under our own control and whether human behaviour is a result of our Biology or environmental influences.

### Entry Requirements

GCSE Average: 4.8, GCSE Grade 5 in Maths,

English Language and 5 Science subjects

Interest in Psychology essential



### Progression

Psychology teaches you to think critically and encourages students to keep an open mind towards many areas of life. Psychology is focussed on interpreting and explaining human behaviour, and as such is a skill invaluable in any career. A Level Psychology would be a good choice if you are interested in understanding more about how humans 'work' and also if you like to analyse, debate and think 'outside the box'. The subject works very well in combination with many other A Levels, such as the Sciences, Maths, Humanities and other Social Sciences, due to its varied content. It could also be a good choice if you are not sure what to take, but would like a subject that is interesting, accessible and applicable to your life. The skills you will gain in Psychology will be useful for many degree types. The subject can open doors to careers in Psychology itself, such as Clinical Psychology, Criminal/Forensic Psychology and Sports Psychology. It can also lead to other careers as the skills you will learn are transferable, such as Teaching, Marketing, Human Resources and Research.



## Course Details

Content	Assessment
Unit 1: Introductory Topics in Psychology <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Social influence</li> <li>• Memory</li> <li>• Attachment</li> <li>• Psychopathology</li> </ul>	2 hour written exam, 33.3% of A-level
Unit 2: Psychology in Context <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Approaches in Psychology</li> <li>• Biopsychology</li> <li>• Research methods</li> </ul>	2 hour written exam, 33.3% of A-level
Unit 3: Issues and Options in Psychology <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Issues and debates in Psychology</li> <li>• Gender</li> <li>• Schizophrenia</li> <li>• Forensic Psychology</li> </ul>	2 hour written exam, 33.3% of A-level

***“Psychology is one of the most interesting subjects I have ever studied, it teaches us about ourselves and a subject you can actually apply to everyday life.”***



## Further Information

**Course Leader: Mr M Delf**  
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**Examination board: AQA**  
**[www.aqa.org.uk](http://www.aqa.org.uk)**