

A Level Psychology – Year 12 Curriculum Map

Term	Unit	Big/Small Questions	Unit	Assessment
Autumn 1	Approaches (1) <i>The origins of psychology</i> <i>Behaviourism</i> <i>Learning Theory</i> <i>Cognitive Approach</i> <i>Biological Approach</i>	<p>How did psychology emerge as a science? What is Wundt’s method of introspection? To what extent can psychology be considered scientific?</p> <p>What are the assumptions of the Behaviourist approach? What processes are involved in classical conditioning? What processes are involves in operant conditioning? How are these processes investigated by Pavlov and Skinner?</p> <p>What are the assumptions of Social Learning Theory? What processes are involved in vicarious reinforcement? How to mediational processes influence behaviour?</p> <p>What are the assumptions of the Cognitive approach? What role do schemas play in behaviour? How does cognitive neuroscience investigate behaviour?</p> <p>What are the assumptions of the Biological approach? What role does evolution play in behaviour? How do genetics and neural factors influence behaviour?</p>	Research Methods <i>Types of data</i> <i>Measures of central tendency and measures of dispersion</i> <i>Graphs</i> <i>Ethical issues</i>	<p>Approaches 25-mark - end of unit assessment consisting of short answer questions (1-6 marks per question).</p> <p>Research Methods 20-mark assessment on types of data, interpreting data and graphs.</p>
Autumn 2	Social Influence <i>Conformity</i> <i>Obedience;</i> <i>situational and dispositional explanations</i> <i>Resistance</i> <i>Minority Influence</i> <i>Social Change</i>	<p>How does conformity influence behaviour? How do Asch’s variables influence conformity? What are the types and explanations of conformity? Which new type of conformity did Zimbardo find?</p> <p>How does obedience influence behaviour? What are the procedures and findings of Milgram’s study? How to Milgram’s variables influence obedience? What situational factors play a role in obedience? What dispositional factors play a role in obedience?</p> <p>How can social influence be resisted? What role does social support play in resistance?</p>	Research Methods <i>Experimental methods</i> <i>Experimental designs</i> <i>Experimental issues</i> <i>Sampling</i> <i>Pilot studies</i>	<p>Social Influence ‘Application’ essay on obedience (16 marks)</p> <p>Research Methods 25-mark assessment on experimental methods.</p>

		<p>What role does locus of control play in resistance?</p> <p>What processes are involved in minority influence? What is the role of consistency, commitment and flexibility? Which processes lead to social change?</p>		
Spring 1	<p>Attachment</p> <p><i>Caregiver-infant interactions</i> <i>Stages of attachment</i> <i>Role of the father</i> <i>Animal studies</i> <i>Explanations of attachment</i> <i>Types of attachment</i> <i>Cultural variations</i> <i>Maternal deprivation</i> <i>Institutionalisation</i> <i>Effects on later relationships</i></p>	<p>What does research tell us about care-giver infant interactions? How do babies display reciprocity and interactional synchrony? What are Schaffer's stages of attachment? What role do fathers play in attachment?</p> <p>What do animal studies tell us about attachment? What did Lorenz and Harlow find in their classic studies? How useful are animal studies in explaining human attachment?</p> <p>What are the two explanations of attachment? How does learning theory explain attachment? How does Bowlby's Monotropic theory explain attachment?</p> <p>What are the different types of attachment? Which types were found in Ainsworth's Strange Situation? How do attachment types vary across cultures?</p> <p>What is Bowlby's Maternal Deprivation theory? What effects does maternal deprivation have on attachment? What do Romanian Orphanages tell us about maternal deprivation?</p> <p>How does attachment influence later relationships? What impact does attachment have on friendships? What impact does attachment have on adult relationships?</p>	<p>Research Methods</p> <p><i>Observational techniques</i> <i>Observational designs</i> <i>Self-report techniques</i> <i>Self-report designs</i> <i>Correlations</i></p>	<p>Memory</p> <p>'Outline and evaluate' essay on explanations of forgetting (16 marks).</p> <p>Research Methods</p> <p>30-mark assessment on non-experimental methods.</p>
Spring 2	<p>Memory</p> <p><i>Coding, capacity, duration</i> <i>Multi-store model</i> <i>Long-term memory</i></p>	<p>What does research tell us about processes in memory? What is the coding of STM and LTM? What is the capacity of STM and LTM? What is the duration of STM and LTM?</p> <p>How is memory outlined in different models? How does the Multi-Store Model explain memory?</p>	<p>Research Methods</p> <p><i>Case studies</i> <i>Content analysis</i> <i>Peer review</i> <i>Psychological research and the economy</i></p>	<p>Attachment</p> <p>'Discussion' essay on institutionalisation (16 marks).</p>

	<p><i>Working memory model</i></p> <p><i>Explanations for forgetting</i></p> <p><i>Eyewitness testimony</i></p> <p><i>Cognitive interview</i></p>	<p>What are the different types of LTM?</p> <p>How does the Working-Memory Model explain memory?</p> <p>How are memories forgotten?</p> <p>What is interference theory as an explanation forgetting, including retroactive and proactive interference?</p> <p>What is retrieval failure as an explanation of forgetting, including context-dependent and state-dependent forgetting?</p> <p>Which factors affect the accuracy of eyewitness-testimony?</p> <p>How does misleading information influence recall?</p> <p>How does anxiety influence recall?</p> <p>How can eyewitness testimony be improved?</p> <p>What steps are involved in the cognitive interview?</p> <p>What steps are involved in the enhanced cognitive interview?</p>		<p>Research Methods</p> <p>30-mark assessment on non-experimental methods.</p>
<p>Summer 1</p>	<p>Psychopathology</p> <p><i>Definitions of abnormality</i></p> <p><i>Characteristics of phobias</i></p> <p><i>Behaviourist: explaining and treating phobias</i></p> <p><i>Characteristics of depression</i></p> <p><i>Cognitive: explaining and treating depression</i></p> <p><i>Characteristics of OCD</i></p> <p><i>Biological: explaining and treating OCD</i></p>	<p>How is abnormality defined?</p> <p>What is the Statistical Infrequency definition?</p> <p>What is the Deviation from Social Norms definition?</p> <p>What is the Failure to Function Adequately definition?</p> <p>What is the Deviation from Ideal Mental Health definition?</p> <p>What does psychology research tell us about phobias?</p> <p>What are the characteristics of phobias?</p> <p>How does the behaviourist approach explain phobias?</p> <p>How does the behaviourist approach treat phobias?</p> <p>What does psychology research tell us about depression?</p> <p>What are the characteristics of depression?</p> <p>How does the cognitive approach explain depression?</p> <p>How does the cognitive approach treat depression?</p> <p>What does psychology research tell us about OCD?</p> <p>What are the characteristics of OCD?</p> <p>How does the biological approach explain OCD?</p> <p>How does the biological approach treat OCD?</p>	<p>Research Methods</p> <p><i>Sign test</i></p> <p><i>Statistical tests</i></p> <p><i>Probability and significance</i></p>	<p>Psychopathology</p> <p>'Discussion' essay on OCD (16 marks)</p> <p>Research Methods</p> <p>30-mark assessment on statistical testing</p>

<p>Summer 2</p>	<p>Approaches (2)</p> <p><i>Psychodynamic</i></p> <p><i>Humanistic</i></p> <p><i>Comparison of Approaches</i></p>	<p>What are the assumptions of the Psychodynamic approach? What is the role of the unconscious and structure of personality? How do the psychosexual stages influence behaviour?</p> <p>What are the assumptions of the Humanistic approach? What role does free will play in behaviour? What is Maslow's Hierarchy of needs? How does client-centred therapy work?</p> <p>How can we compare the psychological approaches? How do the approaches compare in terms of key debates? How do the approaches compare in terms of methodology? How do the approaches compare in terms of practical applications?</p>	<p>Research Methods</p> <p><i>Improving reliability and validity</i></p> <p><i>Psychological reports</i></p> <p><i>Referencing</i></p> <p><i>Designing a study</i></p>	<p>Approaches</p> <p>Comparison essay (16 marks)</p> <p>Research Methods</p> <p>30-mark assessment including a 12-mark design a study question</p> <p>Y12 Mock Exam</p> <p>Paper 1</p>
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