

The Psychology Department

St Francis of Assisi



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A Level course content

Topics

Paper 1

Introductory Topics in Psychology

Social Influence, Memory, Clinical Psychology & Mental Health, Attachment

Paper 2

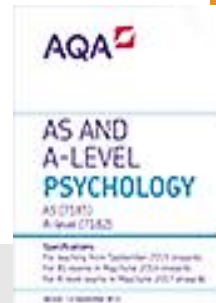
Psychology in Context

Approaches, Research Methods, Biopsychology

Paper 3

Issues & Options in Psychology

Issues & Debates, Relationships, Schizophrenia, Forensic Psychology



Paper 1

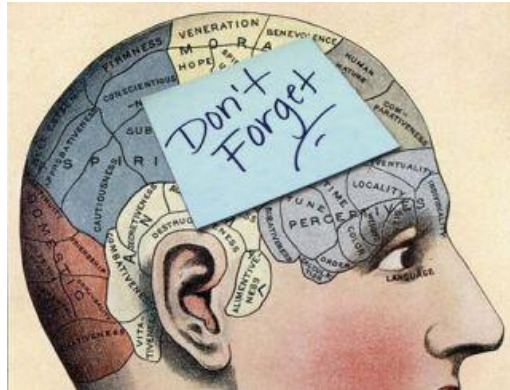
Introductory Topics in Psychology

All studied in year 12



Social Influence

Conformity
Obedience
Minority influence



Memory

Cognitive models
Eyewitness testimony
Cognitive interviews



Clinical Psychology & Mental Health

Explanations and treatments of;
Phobias
OCD
Depression



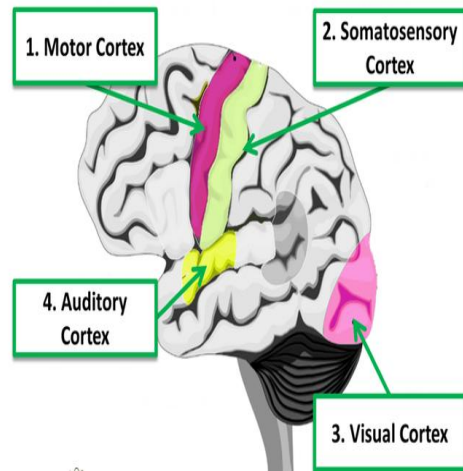
Attachment

Types of Attachment
influences of attachment
Animal studies

Paper 2

Psychology in Context

Split between year 12 and year 13



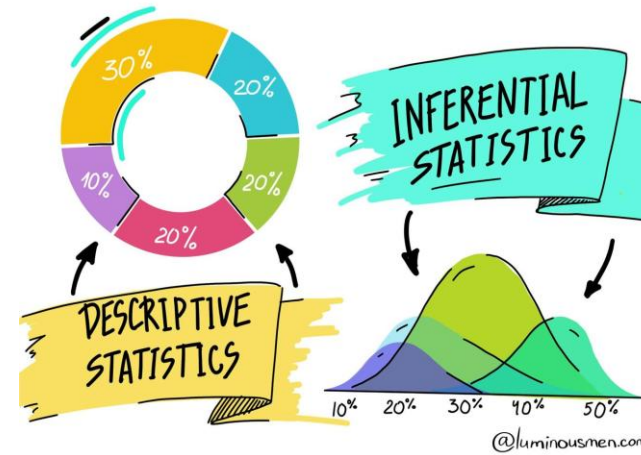
Biopsychology

*Neurons, Nervous System
Brain localization
Studying the brain
Biological rhythms*



Approaches

*Behaviourism
Cognitive
Biological
Psychodynamic
Humanistic*



Research Methods

*Experimental methods and designs
Statistical analysis
Research reports
Ethical issues
Graphs and measures*



Paper 3

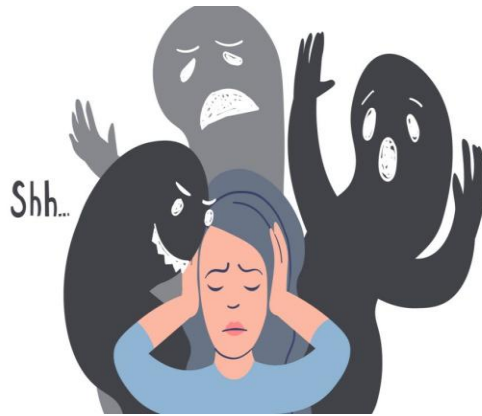
Issues & Options in Psychology

Studied in year 13



Issues & Debates

Nature vs nurture
Determinism vs free will
Methodology and ethics



Schizophrenia

Psychodynamic and biological explanations
Treatments and therapies



Relationships

Theories of romantic relationships
Virtual and parasocial
Relationship Breakdown

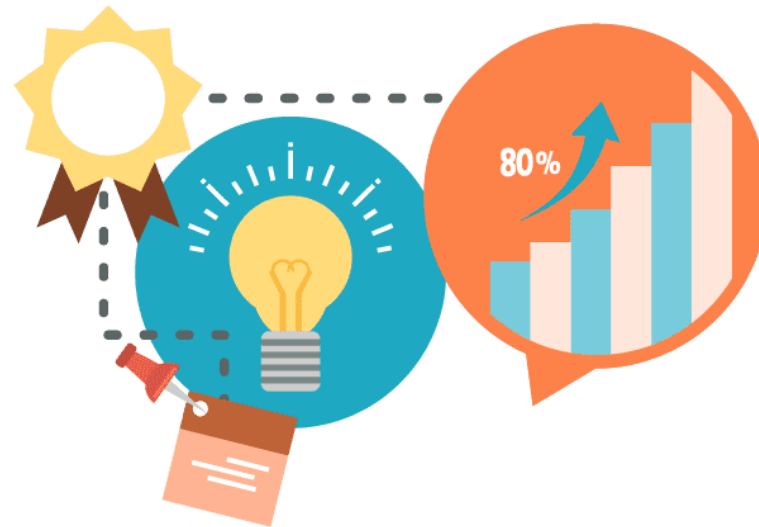


Forensic Psychology

Criminal profiling
Explanations of offending
Dealing with offenders

Skills

- ▶ Transferrable skills - evaluation, critical thinking, analysis
- ▶ Literacy skills - essay writing
- ▶ Numeracy - handling data
- ▶ Research - experimental and investigative activities
- ▶ Application of Psychological knowledge



A Level exams for 2028 entry

	Topics	Exams
Paper 1 33%	<u>Introductory Topics in Psychology</u> Social Influence, Memory, Clinical Psychology & Mental Health, Attachment	June 2028
Paper 2 33%	<u>Psychology in Context</u> Biopsychology, Approaches, Research Methods	June 2028
Paper 3 33%	<u>Issues & Options in Psychology</u> Issues & Debates, Relationships, Schizophrenia, Forensic Psychology	June 2028



Exam results

2026	2025	2024	2023
A*-B 55.6%	A*-B 53.6%	A*-B 79.2%	A*-B 35.0%
A*-C 77.8%	A*-C 71.5%	A*-C 91.7%	A*-C 69.0%
A*-E 100%	A*-E 100%	A-D 100%	A*-E 97%



Prospects



- Teaching
- Research
- Advertising
- Marketing
- Business
- Recruitment
- Sales
- Police
- Social Work
- Midwifery
- Nursing

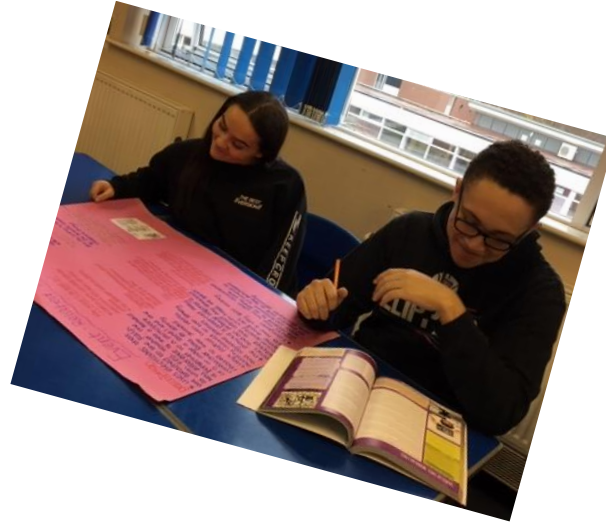


Psychology ambassador comments

Studying Psychology is an **enriching, fascinating experience** and I would thoroughly recommend choosing it as one of your A-level options, as it brings **life-long learning** and opportunities!

Psychology has opened my eyes to the ways and reasons why people behave. I especially love that psychology is **applicable to all of life**.

A-level Psychology has been both an extremely **fascinating and challenging** experience it has provided me with **crucial analytical and descriptive skills** that I will be able to take forward with me to any future experiences both at university and future career paths.



Questions...

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