



Psychology Curriculum Overview Year 10



| | Autumn | Spring | Summer |
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| Year 10 | <p><u>Research Methods</u></p> <p>During the autumn term students will study 'Research methods' and the role they play in psychological research. This topic feeds into all of the other areas in Psychology and underpins students understanding of the key studies and how to evaluate them. Students will learn about different types of psychological research such as experiments, case studies and observations; what the strengths and drawbacks of each technique are and when it is appropriate to use them. There are cross-curricular links with maths in this topic, as students learn ways to represent data using different graphs and interpret data using descriptive statistics.</p> <p><u>Memory</u></p> <p>Studying the topic 'Memory' helps students understand how to learn effectively, in order to improve recall and recognise what factors might affect the accuracy of their memory. Students will explore the different processes of memory and their different structures. The theory of reconstructive memory and the multi-store model are two theories of memory that the students will critically evaluate.</p> | <p><u>Development</u></p> <p>Students start studying 'Development' in the spring term. This topic covers brain development in the womb and the stages of cognitive development children move through as they mature. This topic also looks at how we learn, different mind-sets and how our understanding of children's development can aid educational professionals. The two key studies in this topic are McGarrigle and Donaldson's 'naughty teddy' study and Hughes' policeman doll study.</p> <p><u>Perception</u></p> <p>Students then move onto studying the topic 'Perception'. We explore the difference between sensation and perception and how visual illusions work. Students will revisit the nature versus nurture debate when studying their influences on perception. Gilchrist and Hesberg's need and perceptual change study, alongside Bruner and Minturn's perceptual set study form the two key studies in this topic area.</p> | <p><u>Social Influence</u></p> <p>During the summer term, students continue their studies in Psychology by exploring 'Social influence'. In particular students will consider conformity, obedience, prosocial and crowd behaviour. Social and dispositional factors are studied in each of these areas and underpin these types of human behaviour. The two key studies in this topic are Asch's conformity study and Piliavin's bystander subway study and students will learn to evaluate them.</p> <p>The final assessment of the year is conducted during this term and students will spend some of their learning time revisiting key topic areas identified as areas for improvement.</p> |



Psychology Curriculum Overview Year 11



| | Autumn | Spring | Summer |
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| Year 11 | <p><u>Language, thought and communication</u></p> <p>In the autumn term students will explore the different theories that debate which came first, language or thought. Non-verbal ways of communicating, including those in the animal kingdom, are explored as part of this topic. Students will gain a greater understanding of the role of body language, eye contact and personal space as key parts of human non-verbal communication. Von Frisch's bee study and Yuki's emoticons study are the two key studies students will analyse in detail in this topic.</p> <p><u>Brain and Neuropsychology</u></p> <p>Whilst studying 'Brain and neuropsychology', students gain the necessary understanding of the brain, synaptic transmission and brain scanning techniques that are crucial for the next topic of psychological problems. Students explore the different structures in the brain, what they do and what happens when they are damaged. Knowledge from students Biology lesson will built upon in this unit. The two key studies we look at in detail are Penfield's interpretive cortex study and Tulving's gold memory study.</p> | <p><u>Psychological Problems</u></p> <p>Whilst studying 'Psychological problems', students will firstly look at what constitutes good mental health, how recognition of mental health has lessened the social stigma over time and how negative mental health can affect society. Students then move onto studying depression and addiction in greater detail. Students will consider the key characteristics of each, the possible causes and evaluate the different treatments used. This topic reinforces some of the key learning in brain and neuropsychology and creates the starting point of revision for the GCSE examinations.</p> | <p><u>Revision and exams</u></p> <p>Students will spend time revisiting all of the topic areas and refining their exam technique, particularly for the synoptic and evaluate style questions. Students will receive practice exam questions and papers, be offered extra revision sessions and directed towards the best resources to aid their revision. The Learndojo website is a great place to start for revision.</p> <p>https://learndojo.org/gcse/aqa-psychology</p> <p>Students can also log into the digital textbook.</p> <p>https://www.illuminate.digital/agapsychgcse/</p> <p>Student Username: SGOLDINGTON6</p> <p>Student Password: MK419B6</p> |