



Psychology

AS

Unit 1

- *Social psychology*
Students will learn that social psychology is about aspects of human behaviour that involve the individual's relationship to other persons, groups and society, including cultural influences on behaviour
- *Cognitive psychology*
Students will learn that cognitive psychology is about the role of cognition/cognitive processes in human behaviour. Processes include perception, memory, selective attention, language and problem solving. The cognitive topic area draws on how information is processed in the brain

Assessment: Examination

Unit 2

- *Biological psychology*
Students will learn that biological psychology is about the mechanisms within our body and how they affect our behaviour, focusing on aggression and body rhythms
- *Learning theories and development*
Students will learn that learning theories are about learning from the environment and the effects of conditioning, reinforcement, punishment, the role of reward and social learning. The different learning theories as theories of development and psychodynamic ideas and concepts as different explanations for development will be developed as well

Assessment: Examination



Psychology

A2

Unit 3

- *Developmental psychology*

Students will learn that developmental psychology is about the development of the individual from before birth to adolescence and beyond, in that what we experience as children affects us including our later development.

The student will choose one of the two following topics

- *Criminological psychology*

Students will acquire the concept that criminological psychology is about the definition and causes of crime and anti-social behaviour, issues around identification of offenders, and treatment of offenders.

Or

- *Health psychology*

Students will learn that health psychology is about understanding health from a biological, cognitive and social basis, focusing on stress, and that health psychology is about promoting good health.

Assessment: Examination

Unit 4

- *Clinical psychology*

Students will learn that clinical psychology is about mental health issues, including issues in diagnosing such issues, features and symptoms, explanations, and treatments and therapies.

- *Psychological skills*

This is a synoptic section in which students will be asked to draw on other areas of the qualification in order to understand conceptual and methodological issues. Students will develop an understanding of how to use theories, methodology and evidence from many areas of psychology and apply them to issues.

Assessment: Examination