## University of Birmingham School Curriculum Outline: PSYCHOLOGY



Term 1a	Term 1b PPE 1 (in class)	Term 2a	Term 2b	Term 3a PPE 2 (Main Hall)	Term 3b		
Year 12 – two teacher model (6:4 lessons over 2 weeks) – JWI (4) deliver blue, KKA (6) deliver green and yellow.							
Year 12 – two teacher model (8:2 lessons over 2 weeks) – JWI (2) deliver yellow, KKA deliver both blue and green (8).							
Social Influence (4.1.1)	Social Influence (4.1.1)	Attachment (4.1.3)	Attachment (4.1.3)	Biopsychology (4.2.2.)	Biopsychology (4.2.2.)		
				Localisation of function.	Plasticity and functional		
Conformity & obedience	Resistance to social	Required concept: 4.2.1	Required concept: 4.2.1	Hemispheric lateralisation.	recovery; methods of		
	influence; minority	Animal studies and	The effects of maternal		studying the brain.		
	influence.	explanations of attachment.	deprivation. English and				
		attachment.	Romanian Adoptees project Impacts of				
			attachment on later life.				
			attaoriment on later life.				
Research Methods (4.2.3) will be delivered weekly throughout Year 1							
Experimental method:	Experimental method:	Non-experimental methods	Non-experimental	Further non-experimental	Research Methods		
hypothesis testing,	Sampling, ethics, pilots,	Descriptive statistics, self	methods	methods	Peer review, reporting		
variables, experiments,	types of data.	report techniques	Observations, Content	case studies	investigations, reliability,		
designs			analysis,	Correlations	validity, features of a		
				Correlations	science		
				'Plan a study'			
Memory (4.1.2)	Memory (4.1.2)	Approaches (4.2.1)	Approaches (4.2.1)	Biopsychology (4.2.2.)	Biopsychology (4.2.2.)		
Coding, capacity and	Factors affecting the	Overview of the Learning,	Overview of the	The nervous system,	Endocrine system		
duration of memory.	accuracy of eyewitness	Cognitive and Biological	Humanistic and	synaptic transmission,	including Fight or Flight		
Models of memory.	testimony.	Approaches.	Psychodynamic		response		
Explanations of forgetting.			Approaches in				
			Psychology.				
			Comparison.				

Term 1a PPE 1 (in class)	Term 1b	Term 2a PPE 2 (Main Hall)	Term 2b	Term 3a	Term 3b			
		Two teacher m	odel 5:5 split					
Year 13 – JW I								
Research Methods Peer review, reporting investigations, reliability, validity, features of a science Inferential statistical testing.  Schizophrenia Required concepts 3.2.1.1 and 4.2.1  Classifications of Schizophrenia, symptoms, reliability/validity of diagnosis.	Schizophrenia Required concepts 3.2.1.1 and 4.2.1  Psychological explanations of schizophrenia and psychological treatments. Token Economy Programmes as management of Schizophrenia. Interactionist approach.  Biological explanations and drug therapy (antipsychotics).	Required concepts 3.2.1.1 and 4.2.1  Offender profiling (top down and bottom up); Biological explanations of offending (Atavistic form and genetics); Psychological explanation (Eysenck)	Required concepts 3.2.1.1 and 4.2.1  Psychological explanations of offending behaviour (Cognitive; Differential association theory; Psychodynamic); Dealing with offending behaviour (custodial sentences; token economy; anger management; restorative justice).	Revision				
	Year 13 5:5 – KKA							
Clinical Psychology and Mental Health (4.1.4) Psychopathology  Required concepts 3.2.1.1 and 4.2.1 Definitions in the field of mental health - Definitions of 'abnormality'; Phobias, Depression; Obsessive Compulsive disorder.  Issues and Debates	Recap of 4.2.1 plus all previously learned core content)  Key issues and debates within Psychology; freewill and determinism; Nature vs. Nurture; Holism and Reductionism; Idiographic and nomothetic; Ethical implications of research. Revision of Approaches.	Relationships Required concept: 4.2.1  Evolutionary explanations, factors affecting attraction, Theories of romantic relationships.	Relationships Required concept: 4.2.1  Duck's model of relationship breakdown, virtual relationships in social media, parasocial relationships	Revision				

Term 1a PPE 1 (in class) (Recap of 4.2.1 plus all previously learned core	Term 1b	Term 2a PPE 2 (Main Hall)	Term 2b	Term 3a	Term 3b
content)  Key issues and debates within Psychology: Cultural bias; gender bias.					

## Core Substantive Content Threshold Concepts

Concepts that are necessary to have been covered to access this topic

See <a href="https://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/psychology/as-and-a-level/psychology-7181-7182/subject-content-a-level/introductory-topics-in-psychology">https://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/psychology/as-and-a-level/psychology-7181-7182/subject-content-a-level/introductory-topics-in-psychology</a> for specification references.

Students will be expected to:

- demonstrate knowledge and understanding of psychological concepts, theories, research studies, research methods and ethical issues in relation to the specified content
- apply psychological knowledge and understanding of the specified content in a range of contexts
- analyse, interpret and evaluate psychological concepts, theories, research studies and research methods in relation to the specified content
- evaluate therapies and treatments including in terms of their appropriateness and effectiveness.

Knowledge and understanding of research methods, practical research skills and mathematical skills will be assessed throughout all topic areas. These skills should be developed through study of the specification content and through ethical practical research activities, involving:

- designing research
- conducting research
- analysing and interpreting data.

Note on Research Methods: this threshold concept will be necessary to understand and evaluate all research evidence across all topics. Understanding is built upon throughout the course, and Research Methods concepts revisited in every lesson.