

Why study Psychology?

Psychology aims to develop in students a critical, analytical and evaluative overview of the mental processes which underlie human behaviour, at both an individual and group level. In doing so, this subject allows students to critically consider theoretical explanations used to describe, explain, predict and control the behaviour and mental processes of others. Psychology will help students to gain an understanding of human behaviour and mental processes that will enable them to better understand how individuals think, behave and feel.

With regards to Psychology content, students are expected to:

- Demonstrate knowledge and ideas of key theories.
- Apply Psychological knowledge and ideas, processes, procedures and theories in a range of contexts.
- Analyse and evaluate psychological ideas, information, processes and procedures where they are required to make judgements, draw conclusions and produce developments or refinements of psychological procedures based on their reasoning and synthesis of skills.
- Evaluate therapies and treatments in terms of their appropriateness and effectiveness.
- Show how psychological knowledge and ideas change over time and how these inform our understanding of behaviour.
- Demonstrate the contribution of psychology to an understanding of individual, social and cultural diversity.
- Develop an understanding of the interrelationships between the core areas of psychology.

With regards to Research Methods, students are expected to:

- Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of research methods used within studies.
- Understand and apply mathematical skills across all topic areas.
- Develop skills required to design, conduct, analyse and interpret data that links with any area of the specification content.
- Apply research knowledge to evaluate and to infer meaning from data collected.