

GET READY TO STUDY A LEVEL PSYCHOLOGY

If you are planning to study A Level Psychology with us in September, please review this document and complete the required activities. Please bring the completed activities with you at induction.

FAQ

What specification will I study?

We study the AQA specification.

Use the QR code to see the specification.



How many lessons will I have a week?

You'll have 4 lessons a week, each lesson is 1 hours and 5 minutes.

Who can I contact if I have a question about this subject?

Abigail Bird email a.bird@barnsley.ac.uk

What subjects go well with Psychology?

Criminology, Sociology, Health and Social Care, Biology

What grades should I have?

In addition to the general sixth form entry requirements, learners must have grade 5 or above in Maths and a grade 5 or above in science.

WHAT WILL I STUDY?

In Year 1, you will study the following topics:

Social Influence

Psychopathology

Memory

Attachment

Research methods

Approaches in psychology

In Year 2, you will study the following topics:

Biopsychology

Forensic psychology

Gender

Schizophrenia

Issues and debates

Research methods

WHAT WILL I NEED?

To study the course, you will need the following equipment:

- A folder with dividers
- Lined paper
- Pens and pencils
- Highlighters
- A ruler
- Whiteboard pens (non-permanent)
- A calculator

We would also ask that you purchase a textbook- details will be given in class.

FIND OUT MORE

These activities are to help broaden your understanding of the subject in preparation for studying this subject at an advanced level.

Careers	Careers Your journey into psychology (bps.org.uk)
YouTube	tutor2u psychology - YouTube
Further Reading / Useful websites	Study Guides for Psychology Students - Simply Psychology

INDUCTION TASK

A level Psychology

The following activities need to be completed and brought to your first lesson. You can either type in your answers and print them out, or write your answers on A4 paper lined paper and bring those in. Either way is fine, but you must bring a physical copy to class.

Each of the four activities is linked to a study that has been conducted in psychology. You are required to follow the QR code to read through the study and watch videos to help you to get to know the study. Answer the questions based around the study, to help you understand and retain the information.

You are also required to make revision materials for each study.

At the end of the first week, you will be given a short assessment based on the studies and the questions you will have answered.

Activity One

Bandura's BoBo Doll experiment

Follow the QR code to "Simply Psychology" where you can read the procedure for the study and watch the short video.



Questions

1. What was the aim of the study?
2. What were the three conditions?
3. The study involved modelling; how did the model behave in the aggressive condition?
4. Describe the test for delayed imitation.

5. Give three results from the study.
6. One conclusion from the study is that children can learn behaviour by observation. Bandura suggests this has important implications for media- can you think of any?

Activity two

Peterson And Peterson Experiment: Duration of Short-Term

Memory

Follow the QR code to “Simply Psychology” where you can read the procedure for the study.



Questions

1. What was the hypothesis they tested?
2. What is a trigram? Give an example.
3. After hearing a trigram, what were participants required to do?
4. What was the independent variable?
5. What was the dependent variable?
6. What percentage of the trigrams were recalled after 18 seconds?
7. What was the conclusion from the study?

Activity three

Tronick's Still face experiment.

Read about the study here,



Watch the video here,



Questions

1. What is meant by “still face”?
2. In the experiment, how long does still face last?
3. Describe how babies react to this “still face”.

Activity four

Obedience in a natural setting. Hofling (1966)

As well as learning the studies we also need to critically assess them.

Read the following study and answer the questions.

Identical boxes of capsules were placed in 22 wards in different hospitals in the USA. The capsules were placebos but were labelled "5mg of astrofen" with a warning that 10mg was the maximum daily dose.

While a nurse was on duty a "Dr Smith" telephoned instructing the nurse to give 20 mg of astrofen to a patient.

Dr Smith was a fake and part of the experiment.

To comply with the request, the nurse would need to break three basic rules:

1. the dose was above the maximum daily dose,
2. drugs should only be given with written authorisation,
3. the nurse must be certain that "Dr Smith" was a genuine doctor.

Observations showed that 21 out of 22 nurses obeyed the request.

Questions

1. When and where was the study conducted?
2. What is a placebo?
3. Give two of the rules a nurse would need to break to obey "Dr Smith".
4. What percentage of nurse obeyed the request?
5. Why do you think was there such a high rate of obedience? Explain your answer.
6. Would you get the same results today? Explain your answer.