

WJEC Advanced Level Psychology



Entry Requirements

Students should have achieved a minimum of 5 GCSEs (Please note that subjects can only be counted once); national data shows that this course is not suitable for students with an average GCSE points score of less than 41.8. Experience has shown that C grades are advisable in Maths, English and Science.

Course Description

Psychology is the scientific study of human behaviour.

AS LEVEL

Students will examine four major approaches to the study of human behaviour, to be examined in January. This is followed by a close look at ten classic studies in psychology, coupled with some 'methods' teaching, to be examined in May. Examples of topics include:

- Human aggression
- Apes and language
- Obedience to authority figures

A2 LEVEL

Students have a January examination that focuses on methods and issues arising from studies. The second examination in June involves study of three main topic areas: memory, forensic psychology (crime) and states of consciousness, plus issues and controversies forms the main examined part of the year. Examples of topics include:

- Criminal profiling
- Sleep
- Ethics of experiments on humans

Assessment

AS Level: Two 1½ hour examinations (January and May).

A2 Level: A 1½ hour exam on methods in January and a 2½ hour topics exam in June.

Benefits of studying this subject

Students develop thinking skills, scientific knowledge of human behaviour, general investigative skills, and have an opportunity to consider the causes, effects and moral dimensions of human behaviour.

Career Opportunities and Pathways

Most careers benefit from the skills and knowledge acquired, especially public services, advertising, uniformed services, and retailing.

Subject staff contacts for further information

Mr P.J. Griffin at Kingsmead
Mrs K. Branch at Kingsmead