



Gordon's
Sixth Form

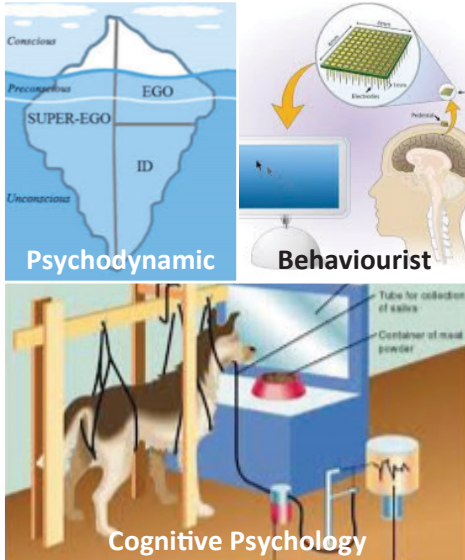
Psychology

AS Level and A Level

Understanding Human Behaviour

Would you want to know why some people are schizophrenic? Ever wondered why good people do bad things - the Lucifer effect? Why some become criminals? Why we sleep? Why some individuals feel trapped in the wrong body? Why we fall in love with some people but not others?

Psychology at a glance



What do students say about the subject?

"Psychology has made me look at life from a different perspective." Year 13 Student

"Psychology has helped me to better understand the world around me." Year 13 Student

"I have enjoyed taking part in experiments." Year 12 Student

"I find it interesting learning about WHY we behave in certain situations." Year 12 Student

"It's really well taught." Year 12 Student

The Lower Sixth (Year 12) - AS Level

This course has been carefully designed to offer you an accessible, interesting and challenging Year 12. You will gain insight into why people obey authority, why we conform to group norms, why we forget things and why we are shaped by our childhood experiences. You will learn how to treat depression, how to explain schizophrenia and how to undertake practical research and analyse data. Many of these skills are transferable and act as a foundation for you as an independent learner.

What are the topics?

Paper 1 - Introductory topics in Psychology:

Social influence
Memory
Attachment

Paper 2 - Psychology in Context:

Approaches in Psychology
Psychopathology
Research Methods

The Exam:

Each paper is 1.5 hours long and is worth 50% of the final AS level mark.

The Upper Sixth (Year 13) - A Level

This year builds on the topics in Year 12 and offers more depth, critical thinking and enhanced analysis. There is an expectation that the debate will broaden and discussions become more aware of the bigger picture. There are added topics such as Biopsychology and several topic options to choose from for the last paper.

What are the Topics?

Paper 1 - Introductory topics in Psychology:

- Social influence, memory, attachment
- Approaches in psychology
- Psychopathology

Paper 2 - Psychology in Context:

- Research methods
- Biopsychology
- Issues and debates

Paper 3 - Issues and Options in Psychology plus one option from each category:

- Relationships, gender or cognition and development.
- Schizophrenia, eating behaviour or stress.
- Aggression, forensic psychology or addiction.

The Exam

Each paper is two hours long and worth 33.3% of the A Level.

Looking To The Future

The Psychology Department at Gordon's has had great success in the past and with your help this will only be the beginning. Our results are excellent and in the top 10% of the country.

Results 2017-2018:

AS	(A)	34%
	(A-B)	66%
	(A-C)	90%

A2	(A*-A)	37%
	(A*-B)	74%
	(A*-C)	94%

Why Psychology?

As a science, Psychology adds weight and credibility to your A Level options. It opens a range of career opportunities and students often continue on to complete a degree and careers within Psychology and other areas for which Psychology provides a good foundation. There is an overlap with natural sciences for example biology and maths.

Psychology as a Subject

Studying Psychology at A Level allows students to explain and evaluate human behaviour, undertake research, apply knowledge to case study scenarios and drive their own education as independent learners.

It is recommended that students read additional source materials, attend conferences and



seminars independently in order to broaden the subject knowledge and gain experiences which will benefit them in the future.

Psychology lessons are interactive and fun, characterised by debates, discussions and applying knowledge to case study scenarios. It also relies on traditional skills as it involves mathematics in the research methods topic and essay writing to assess evidence and theories in all other topics. It draws on skills from scientists and humanists alike.

It suits the curiously minded, who would like to further develop critical thinking, and delve deeper into the reasons for, and the issues with, human behaviour!

Psychology can be useful for

Clinical psychologist, counselling psychologist, educational psychologist, forensic psychologist, further education teacher, health psychologist, high intensity therapist, occupational psychologist, psychological wellbeing practitioner, sport and exercise psychologist, advice worker, careers adviser, counsellor, detective, human resources officer, life coach, market researcher, play therapist, psychotherapist.

Celebrities who studied Psychology

Colin Firth, Natalie Portman, Tim Duncan, Mayim Bialik, Lisa Kudrow, Betty Friedan, Teller, The 14th Dalai Lama, Elizabeth Warren.



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