

## Course Information – Psychology

### What will I learn?

Students will learn all about research methods and how to conduct investigations to understand behaviour. In the first year of study, students will learn about how the brain develops, factors that influence growth and development, social influence, memory and psychopathology. In the second year of study, students will further develop their understanding of research methods (including data analysis), forensic psychology and the psychology of the self.

### Which skills will I develop?

Students will develop their analytical and critical thinking skills by evaluating psychological theories and research, allowing them to articulate and defend their own arguments using evidence and data. Studying psychology will allow students to develop an appreciation for the scientific method of inquiry, whilst providing them with the opportunity to develop their extended written communication through assessed essays.

### How will I learn?

The curriculum is designed to embed research methods throughout the course. Students will start by considering the brain's development from 2 weeks, before considering the development of conscious thought and morality. Eventually students will start to focus on everyday behaviour, considering the theoretical and scientific explanations of emotions, psychological problems, speech and language, and criminal behaviour.

### How will my work be assessed?

Two exams to be taken at the end of the second year of study.

Paper 01 – 55% of the overall grade (105 minutes)

Paper 02 – 45% of the overall grade (80 minutes)

Both papers will have a mixture of question styles (multiple-choice, diagram and short answers). Paper 02 will include extended answer questions and will require a calculator.

### Where might it lead?

The ideal route to studying a Level 3 course in; Biology, Psychology, Sociology, Criminology, Sport, Health and Social Care and Child Development.

