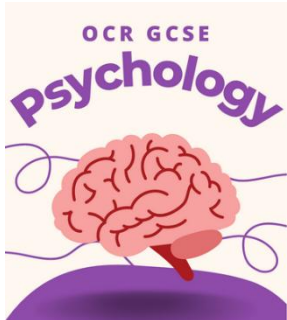


YEAR 11 OCR GCSE PSYCHOLOGY (J203) OVERVIEW 2026-27 (1 YEAR INTENSIVE COURSE)



Term	Autumn 1 (8 weeks)	Autumn 2 (7 weeks)	Spring 1 (6 weeks)	Spring 2 (5 weeks)	Summer 1 (7 weeks)	EXAM DATES
COMPONENT / PAPER	PAPER 1	PAPER 1	PAPER 2	PAPER 2	Revision & Exam Skills	
TOPIC / LESSON  COVERAGE	CRIMINAL PSYCHOLOGY • Introduction to Criminal Psychology and types of crime • How crime is measured: official statistics and self-report • Social Learning Theory (SLT) • Cooper & Mackie (1986) – study, findings, conclusions and evaluation • Eysenck's criminal personality theory: extraversion, neuroticism and psychoticism • Brain, nervous system, dopamine, arousal and conditioning • Heaven (1996) • Evaluation, individual differences, punishment and rehabilitation	DEVELOPMENT • Piaget – assimilation, accommodation and stages of cognitive development • Piaget's conservation study and evaluation • Dweck: fixed/growth mindset and praise; Blackwell et al. (2007) • Willingham: learning through meaning and the myth of learning styles • Education applications and evaluation	SOCIAL INFLUENCE • Conformity and majority influence • Crowd behaviour, collective behaviour and deindividuation • Culture and pro-/anti-social behaviour • Obedience and situational factors • Bickman (1974) • Dispositional explanations: self-esteem, locus of control, morality and authoritarian personality • Brain influences and NatCen/Morrell et al. (2011) • Evaluation, freewill/determinism and generalisation	MEMORY • Reconstructive memory, schemas and leading questions • Wilson, Kopelman & Kapur (2008) • Braun, Ellis & Loftus (2002)	• Paper 1 retrieval, consolidation and targeted reteaching • Paper 1 research methods: designing investigations • Extended-response and 13-mark synoptic practice • Paper 2 retrieval and consolidation • Paper 2 research methods using novel sources • Extended-response and 13-mark practice	Paper 1 examination – Monday 10 May 2027 (pm) Paper 2 examination – Monday 17 May 2027 (pm)



	DEVELOPMENT	PSYCHOLOGICAL PROBLEMS	MEMORY	SLEEP & DREAMING		
	• Introduction to Development – stages of development; brain and nervous system; neurons and synapses; IQ	• Mental health continuum, prevalence, attitudes, stigma and discrimination • Schizophrenia: ICD characteristics, statistics, dopamine hypothesis, brain structures and social drift • Daniel et al. (1991) • Clinical depression: characteristics/statistics, social rank theory and ABC Model • Tandoc et al. (2015) • Evaluation, treatments and neuropsychology	• Introduction to Memory: multi-store model, short-term and long-term memory	• Sleep & Dreaming: functions/features of sleep, sleep cycle and dreaming • Insomnia; endogenous pacemakers and exogenous zeitgebers • Freud (1918) • Williams et al. (1992)		
Key Resource Links	GCSE - Psychology (9-1) - J203					

Research Methods

Research methods will be embedded throughout the course rather than taught as a separate unit. Component 01 focuses particularly on designing an investigation, while Component 02 assesses research methods through a novel source. Students will revisit hypotheses, variables, experimental designs, populations and sampling, ethics, experiments, interviews, questionnaires, observations, case studies, correlations, types of data, descriptive statistics, graphs and charts, reliability, validity and sources of bias.

Core Studies

Criminal Psychology: Cooper & Mackie; Heaven

Development: Piaget; Blackwell et al.

Psychological Problems: Daniel et al.; Tandoc et al.

Social Influence: Bickman; NatCen/Morrell et al.

Memory: Wilson, Kopelman & Kapur; Braun, Ellis & Loftus

Sleep & Dreaming: Freud; Williams et al.