**Curriculum**

**IB Psychology Y1**

**Course Overview**

This course encourages the systematic and critical study of human behaviour and develops the ability to identify and critically analyse theories. It teaches the collection of, description of, and analysis of data. Students learn about the use of methodologies of research in psychology and develop an understanding of the biological, cognitive, and sociocultural influences on human behaviour.

**Department Standards**

Expected Outcomes:

1. Knowledge of and interest in history, the social and behavioral sciences and related subjects.
2. Constructive participation in a democratic society.
3. Understanding of various societies throughout history.
4. Development of critical analysis skills.
5. Development of research skills.
6. Development of communication and presentation skills.

**Benchmarks**:

1. Encouragement of the systematic and critical study of human behaviour.

2. Development of the ability to identify and critically analyse theories.

3. Collection of, description of, and analysis of data.

4. Awareness and use of methodologies of research in psychology.

5. Development of an understanding of the biological, cognitive, and sociocultural influences on human behaviour.

**Performance Indicators**

**Introduction**

SWBAT describe major perspectives in IB Psychology curriculum

SWBAT describe the major ideas of eight major thinkers in the history of psychology

SWBAT analyze introspection and structuralism

SWBAT discuss two ideas concerning the existence of the mind and its relationship to the study of psychology

**Research/Methods**

SWBAT describe six types of non-experimental methods of research in psychology and their relationship to qualitative analysis

SWBAT describe the ten steps of a psychology experiment and its relationship to quantitative analysis

SWBAT know the strengths and weaknesses of each major method of research in psychology

SWBAT understand and work with methods of determining central tendency and dispersion

SWBAT understand four ethical issues in psychological research

**Biological Perspective – Introduction**

SWBAT understand the workings of the neuron, nervous system, and brain and give two effects of each on human behaviour

SWBAT explain human brain development through the last 2,500,000 years of human evolution

SWBAT examine various examples of animal behaviour which relate to human examples

SWBAT recite three theories and three research studies the relate to and support this ideas of this unit

**Biological Perspective – Physiology and Behaviour**

SWBAT explain the effects on human behaviour of at least four hormones and show their sources in the human body

SWBAT discuss five methods of technology used in brain research

SWBAT explain relationships between endocrine system and modern pharmacological drugs

SWBAT explain one example of the intersection of cognition and brain physiology

SWBAT explain two examples of localization of brain function

**Biological Perspective – Genetics and Behaviour**

SWBAT discuss critically two examples of the systematic study of human behaviour from the biological perspective

SWBAT discuss and critically analyze theories relating to evolutionary and genetic bases of behaviours

SWBAT discuss and identify examples of unethical research in the biological perspective

**Experiment 1**

SWBAT exhibit ability to create an experiment per IB IA guidelines in the biological perspective

**Cognitive Perspective – Introduction**

SWBAT explain the cognitive perspective and give two strengths and two weaknesses of it

SWBAT discuss the history of the cognitive perspective

SWBAT discuss three major thinkers and three major theories of the cognitive perspective

SWBAT explain why certain research methods are used in the cognitive perspective

SWBAT discuss ethical considerations that go into research in the cognitive perspective

**Cognitive Perspective – Cognitive Processes**

SWBAT define the major terms of the cognitive perspective

SWBAT evaluate two major theories of this unit and examine two strengths and two weaknesses of each. This will also be done with Piaget’s theory of schema.

SWBAT evaluate how biological functions and sociocultural functions affect the cognitive processes

SWBAT evaluate the relevance of technological research methods in determining the reliability of cognitive processes

**Cognitive Perspective – Cognition and Emotion**

SWBAT evaluate the extent of cognitive and emotional factors in memory

SWB AT evaluate one theory related to emotion and cognition

SWBAT explain different types of memory

**Experiment 2**

SWBAT exhibit ability to create an experiment per IB IA guidelines in the cognitive perspective

**Sociocultural Perspective – Introduction**

SWBAT outline principles that define the sociocultural perspective

SWBAT explain how three principles may be demonstrated in research

SWBAT explain which research methodologies are best for the sociocultural perspective and cite two strengths and two weaknesses to each method

SWBAT discuss ethical considerations related to research in the sociocultural perspective

SWBAT discuss ethical considerations related to this perspective

**Sociocultural Perspective – Sociocultural Cognition**

SWBAT explain and describe the roles of situational and dispositional factors in behaviour

SWBAT describe and evaluate three theories of this unit

**Sociocultural Perspective – Social Norms**

SWBAT explain social learning theory

SWBAT evaluate three research studies on conformity

SWBAT evaluate factors influencing conformity

**Sociocultural Perspective – Cultural Norms**

SWBAT define and explain culture and cultural norms

SWBAT explain the role of the cultural dimension

SWBAT evaluate three effects of culture on behaviour

**Experiment 3**

SWBAT exhibit ability to create an experiment per IB IA guidelines in the sociocultural perspective

**Assessments**

**Introduction**

Unit test

Various written assignments

**Research/Methods**

Unit test

Various written assignments

Experiments with written reports

Internet research

Statistical work with calculators

**Biological Perspective – Introduction**

Unit test

Various written assignments

Experiments with written reports

**Biological Perspective – Physiology and Behaviour**

Unit test

Various written assignments/essay

Observation activities with written reports

**Biological Perspective – Genetics and Behaviour**

Unit test

Various written assignments

Experiment with written report

Essay

**Experiment 1**

Written report

**Cognitive Perspective – Introduction**

Unit test

Various written assignments/essay

Internet research and report

**Cognitive Perspective – Cognitive Processes**

Unit test

Various written assignments/essay

Reports from internet research

**Cognitive Perspective – Cognition and Emotion**

Unit test

Various written assignments/essay

Reports from experiments

Reports from internet research

**Experiment 2**

Unit test

Various written assignments

**Sociocultural Perspective – Introduction**

Unit test

Various written assignments/essay

**Sociocultural Perspective – Sociocultural Cognition**

Unit test

Various written assignments/essay

**Sociocultural Perspective – Social Norms**

Unit test

Various written assignments/essay

Experiments and reports

**Sociocultural Perspective – Cultural Norms**

Unit test

Various written assignments/essay

Experiments and written reports

**Experiment 3**

Experiment and report

**Core Topics**

**Introduction**

Reasons for the study of human behaviour

History of and thinkers who contributed to the study of psychology

**Research/Methods**

Types of data gathering

How to present data

**Biological Perspective – Introduction**

Outline the principles that define the biological level of analysis

Explain how these principles may be demonstrated in research

Discuss which methods of research are used and why

Discuss ethical considerations re: biological perspective

Realize the interconnectedness of the different perspectives

**Biological Perspective – Physiology and Behaviour**

Explain one study related to localization of brain function

Explain effects of neurotransmission on human behaviour using one or more examples

Explain functions of two hormones in human behaviour

Discuss two effects of the environment on physiological processes

Examine one interaction between cognition and physiology

Discuss uses of brain imaging in the investigation of brain function and behaviour

**Biological Perspective – Genetics and Behaviour**

Extent of genetic inheritance on behaviour

Evolutionary explanations of behaviour

Ethical considerations into genetic influences on behaviour

**Experiment 1**

Experiment study and partial replication

**Cognitive Perspective – Introduction**

Outline principles that define the cognitive level of analysis

Explain how these principles may be demonstrated in research

Examine how and why particular research methods are used in cognitive research

Discuss ethical considerations related to research in the cognitive perspective

**Cognitive Perspective – Cognitive Processes**

Evaluate schema theory

Evaluate two theories of cognitive processes

Explain how biological factors may affect cognition

Explore how social or cultural factors may affect cognitive processes

Evaluate, with reference to relevant research, how reliable cognitive processes can be

Discuss use of relevant technology in investigating cognitive processes

**Cognitive Perspective – Cognition and Emotion**

How, and to what extent, do cognitive and biological factors interact in emotion

Evaluation of one theory related to emotion and cognition

**Experiment 2**

Experiment study and partial replication

**Sociocultural Perspective – Introduction**

Outline principles that define the sociocultural perspective

Explain how these principles may be demonstrated in research

Explain how and why certain methodologies are used in this perspective

Discuss ethical considerations related to this perspective

**Sociocultural Perspective – Sociocultural Cognition**

Roles of situational and dispositional factors in behaviour

Errors in attributions

Evaluation of various theories

**Sociocultural Perspective – Social Norms**

Explain social learning theory and its base studies

Evaluate research on conformity to group norms

Factors influencing conformity

**Sociocultural Perspective – Cultural Norms**

Culture and cultural norms

Role of the cultural dimension

**Experiment 3**

Experiment study and partial replication

**Specific Content**

**Introduction**

Research on thinkers

Introduction to the demands of the course of study

Introduction to observation and experimentation in psychology

**Research/Methods**

Observation

Experimentation

Scientific Method and hypothesis

**Biological Perspective – Introduction**

Examination of the bases of biological perspective

Animal Research  
Cognitions, emotions, and behaviours related to the biological perspective

Experiments related to the biological perspective

**Biological Perspective – Physiology and Behaviour**

Research of Wernicke, Broca, Gazzinga, Sperry

Effects of anti-depressants and anti-psychotics

Adrenoline and dopamine

Effects of stress and jet-lag

Agnosia, anosognosia, prosapaganosia

CAT, PET, fMRI, EBS, EEG

**Biological Perspective – Genetics and Behaviour**

Darwin

Interpersonal attraction

Millgram and Zimbardo

**Experiment 1**

Methodologies necessary for research in the biological perspective

Data gathering and presentation

**Cognitive Perspective – Introduction**

Study of Piaget, Tolman and Loftus

Review of methodologies of psychological research

Review of ethics of various studies

**Cognitive Perspective – Cognitive Processes**

Memory

Perception

Language

Alzheimer’s disease

Sleep deprivation

Education

Effects of video games on attention

Reconstructive memory/confabulation

Perception/visual illusions

Decision-making/heuristics

MRI and fMRI scans

**Cognitive Perspective – Cognition and Emotion**

Two factor theory

Lazarus’ theory of appraisal

State-dependent memory

Flashbulb memory

**Experiment 2**

Methodologies necessary for research in the biological perspective

Data gathering and presentation

**Sociocultural Perspective – Introduction**

Social connectedness

Persona theory

Naturalistic observation/interviews, case study

**Sociocultural Perspective – Sociocultural Cognition**

Social Identity theory

Stereotypes

Fundamental attribution theory

Illusory correlation

**Sociocultural Perspective – Social Norms**

Lawrence Kohlberg

Stanley Millgram

Fundamental Attribution theory

Lowballing and foot-in-door techniques

Groupthink, minority influence

**Sociocultural Perspective – Cultural Norms**

Culture

Cultural norms

Individualism/collectivism

Masculinity/femininity

emic/etic

**Experiment 3**

Methodologies necessary for research in the sociocultural perspective

Data gathering and presentation

**Resources**

**Introduction**

Text (*Approaches to Psychology: Fifth Edition.* William Glassman and Marilyn

Hadad)

Lecture

Class demonstrations

Handouts

**Research/Methods**

Text

Lecture

PowerPoint presentation

Handouts

Experiments

**Biological Perspective – Introduction**

Text

Lecture

Research

Handouts

Discussion

**Biological Perspective – Physiology and Behaviour**

Text

Lecture

Guest speakers

Handouts

Research

**Biological Perspective – Genetics and Behaviour**

Text

Lecture

Guest speakers

Handouts

Research

**Experiment 1**

Text

Classroom notes

Teacher direction

**Cognitive Perspective – Introduction**

Text

Lecture

Research

Hanouts

Internet research (done by students

**Cognitive Perspective – Cognitive Processes**

Text

Handouts

Lecture

Guest speakers

Research

Experiments

**Cognitive Perspective – Cognition and Emotion**

Text

Research

Lecture

Experiments

**Experiment 2**

Text

Classroom notes

Teacher direction

**Sociocultural Perspective – Introduction**

Text

Lecture

Research

Guest speaker

**Sociocultural Perspective – Sociocultural Cognition**

Text

Lecture

Research

**Sociocultural Perspective – Social Norms**

Text

Lecture

Research

**Sociocultural Perspective – Cultural Norms**

Text

Lecture

Research

**Experiment 3**

Text

Classroom notes

Teacher direction