

# MIP|W

## Birmingham

### AS and A2 Level Course Outlines

#### Psychology

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These revision sessions are particularly recommended for students following the AQA(A) specification, although individual topics will also be relevant to those following the Edexcel specification. The structure of the course is as follows:

**Topic 1 (AS) – Cognitive and Developmental Psychology:** Models of memory; Eyewitness testimony; Cognitive Interview. Explanations of attachment; types of attachment; cultural variations; effects of disruption of attachment; day care.

**Topic 2 (AS) – Research Methods:** Quantitative and qualitative research methods: Research design and implementation, and data analysis.

**Topic 3 (AS) – Biological Psychology:** Stress as a bodily response; stress-related illness; workplace stress; Type A personality; stress management.

**Topic 4 (AS) – Social Psychology:** Social influence - Conformity to peers and obedience to authority; resistance to conformity; locus of control and resistance; research in social psychology.

**Topic 5 (AS) – Individual Differences:** Abnormality - Defining psychological abnormality; biological, psychodynamic, behavioural and cognitive models of abnormality.

**Topic 6 (A2) – Psychopathology:** Clinical characteristics, diagnosis, explanations and treatment for schizophrenia, depression or anxiety disorders.

**Topic 7 (A2) – Criminal Psychology:** Explanations of criminal behaviour, treatments, offender profiling.

**Topic 8 (A2) – Research Methods:** the application of the scientific method in Psychology; designing psychological investigations; data analysis and reporting.

**Topic 9 (A2) – Relationships and Gender:** theories of relationships; sexual selection; the effects of early experience and culture on adult relationships. Biological and psychological explanations of gender development; cross-cultural studies.

**Topic 10 (A2) – Aggression and Eating Behaviour:** Biological and psychological explanations of aggression; aggression as an adaptive response. Cultural factors affecting eating; biological and psychological explanations of eating disorders.