BERLIN BRITISH SCHOOL
Course overview
Psychology

A sequential approach



Grade 11

Introduction to research

- **Variables and sampling**
- **True vs Quasi experiments**
- **Limitations**
- **Ethical considerations and biases**

Learning and Cognition

- **Classical and operant conditioning**
- **Social Learning theory**
- **Multi-store model**
- **Schema theory**
- **Introduction to a cognitive process (either memory or attention)**
- **Culture and cognition**
- **Environment and cognition**
- **Cognitive load**
- **Biological factors: localisation of function, neurotransmission, neuroplasticity**
- **Dual Process theory**
- **Cognitive biases**

Human Relationships

- **Acculturation**
- **Cognitive Dissonance**
- **Compliance techniques**
- **Conformity**
- **Cultural dimensions**
- **Either attraction / conflict: examining research, the role of chemical messengers, cognitive explanations, strategies for improvement**

Grade 12

Human Development

- **Biological factors: brain imaging**
- **Neuroplasticity and brain maturation**
- **Critical periods**
- **Stage theory**
- **Socio-cultural factors in development**
- **Theory of mind**
- **Attachment theory**
- **Enculturation**
- **Acculturation**
- **Peer influence**
- **Childhood experiences**

Health and Well-being

- **Stress and health**
- **Social learning and health problems**
- **Prevaelence of health problems**
- **Prevention of health problems**
- **One mental health disorder: diagbosies, cognitive model, biological treatment, psychological treatment**
- **Genetics and mental health**
- **Environmental factors in mental health**
- **Culture and mental health**

Throughout the course, there are four practical investigations to be designed and completed, covering the methods of experiment, survey, observation and interview. The IA focuses on designing an investigation of students' choice.

The higher level students additionally study statistics for psychological research in more depth and do more investigative work into topics including culture, motivation and technology.

There is an emphasis on learning the vocabulary associated with describing and analysing psychological research and considering the 6 core concepts of bias, responsibility, causality, change, measurement and perspective.