

Introduction to Psychology

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We're delighted you're thinking about studying at Brunel University London.

Our Introduction to Psychology course is designed to help you understand the scientific study of behaviour and the mind. You will explore the biological, cognitive and environmental influences on behaviour and the mind. You will also learn about the history and development of psychology as a discipline. The course is designed to be both challenging and enjoyable, and to provide you with a solid foundation for your studies in psychology.

Sample lecture/coursework questions

1. A person who is very confident and outgoing is likely to be high on the Big Five personality trait of **Extraversion**.
2. How does the brain process information? Explain the flow of information from the environment through the senses to the brain, and then to the muscles and glands.
3. Compare and contrast the biological, cognitive and environmental influences on behaviour. How do these influences interact to shape behaviour?
4. Describe the role of the hypothalamus in the brain. How does it regulate basic drives and emotions?



Reading list

- Cox, A. (2012). *Child Psychology: Developmental Psychology*. Routledge.
- Jones, R. S., Collins, I. C. A., Cunniff, C., & Lunt, D. C. (Eds.). *Research in Child Psychology* (4th edn). Psychology Press.
- Leitch, J. (2015). *Teaching and Learning in Schools* (Textbook). Psychology Press, Taylor & Francis Group. (Chapters 6, 7, 8, 9, 14 & 15).
- Reid, J. P. J., & Brown, S. (2018). *Behaviour* (Textbook). Psychology (Chapters 2, 3, 4, 5, 7, 10).
- Greenberg, M. S., Lerner, R. B., & McGue, G. R. (2014). *Child Psychology: Developmental Psychology*. In C. A. Nelson, M. Beeghly, & R. L. Collins (Eds.), *Handbook of Child Psychology: Applied and Preventive Child Psychology* (3rd edn). (Chapters 1, 2, 3)
- Morris, J. E. (2017). *Learning and Development* (Ebook). Routledge, Taylor & Francis Group.
- Baltes, N. R., & Baltes, R. A. (2017). *Social Psychology* (Ebook). Psychology.
- Nelson, D. J., & Fergusson, D. R. (2019). [Learning and Development: A Developmental Psychology](#) (Chapter 0.70).

[View the full reading list for this module](#) on the module page.

[View the full reading list in APA format](#)

Indicative content

Learning and Development: The role of the environment; the role of the child; the role of the parent; the role of the teacher; the role of the community; the role of the culture; the role of the society; the role of the world.

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