



Semester 1 Course Overview

Faculty: Science
Subject: Psychology
Year level: 10

Course Outline

Psychology provides opportunities for students to engage with concepts that explain behaviours and underlying cognitions. In Unit 1, students are introduced to Psychology, neurons and the Brain. In Unit 2, are introduced to the importance of sleep, dreams and hypnosis and its potential impact on the human body.

Psychology aims to develop students’:

- interest in psychology and their appreciation for how this knowledge can be used to understand contemporary issues
- appreciation of the complex interactions, involving multiple parallel processes that continually influence human behaviour
- understanding that psychological knowledge has developed over time and is used in a variety of contexts, and is informed by social, cultural and ethical considerations
- ability to conduct a variety of field research and laboratory investigations involving collection and analysis of qualitative and quantitative data and interpretation of evidence
- ability to critically evaluate psychological concepts, interpretations, claims and conclusions with reference to evidence
- ability to communicate psychological understandings, findings, arguments and conclusions using appropriate representations, modes and genres

Semester 1	
Unit 1: Intro to Psychology, Neurons and the Brain	Unit 2: Sleep, Dreams and Hypnosis
<p>To develop an understanding of the broad nature of psychology, including how to become a psychologist and the importance of the scientific method.</p> <p>To develop an understanding of the complex roles that our brain plays in creating an understanding of the world in which we live.</p> <p>To develop an understanding of the complex structures within our brain, and the roles that they play as they contribute to the amazing range of capabilities of the human brain.</p> <p>To develop an appreciation for the significant role that specialised cells called neurons play in our experience of emotions, our recall of memories and the functioning of our brain.</p> <p>To develop an understanding of the possible causes of mental illness and its impact on behaviour, and the hope for the future provided by exciting advances in technology, understanding and research.</p> <p>Participation in a range of experiments and investigations will allow students to progressively develop their suite of science inquiry skills while gaining an enhanced appreciation of the variables that affect the quality and quantity of sleep.</p> <p>Throughout the unit, students develop skills in: planning, conducting and interpreting the results of investigations; synthesising evidence to support conclusions; recognising and defining the realm of validity of psychological theories</p>	<p>To develop an understanding of the possible causes of mental illness and its impact on behaviour, and the hope for the future provided by exciting advances in technology, understanding and research.</p> <p>To develop an appreciation of the factors that can influence how well our brain works for us and how we can make it work better.</p> <p>To understand when dreaming occurs, appreciate different ways of interpreting the meaning of dreams and consider the usefulness of lucid dreams and daydreams.</p> <p>To appreciate the usefulness of hypnosis, dispel the myths about hypnosis and consider the main debates surrounding it.</p> <p>To develop an understanding of the key factors that are usually involved in interpersonal attraction, with a focus on initial friendships and evaluation of the research.</p> <p>Participation in a range of experiments and investigations will allow students to progressively develop their suite of science inquiry skills while gaining an enhanced appreciation of the variables that affect the quality and quantity of sleep.</p> <p>Throughout the unit, students develop skills in: planning, conducting and interpreting the results of investigations; synthesising evidence to support conclusions; recognising and defining the realm of validity of psychological theories and models; and communicating these conclusions to others in a range of formats.</p>

<p>and models; and communicating these conclusions to others in a range of formats.</p>	
<p>Assessment</p>	
<p>Formative assessment: Data test This assessment focuses on the application of a range of cognitions to multiple provided items — questions, scenarios and problems.</p>	<p>Formative assessment: Student experiment This assessment requires students to research a question or hypothesis through collection, analysis and synthesis of primary data.</p>