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## Psychology: Individual Behaviour (Higher) Unit

**SCQF:** level 6 (6 SCQF credit points)

**Unit code:** H261 76

### Unit outline

The general aim of this Unit is to enable learners to analyse individual behaviour. Learners will investigate topics and learn how these topics can be explained, using psychological approaches and theories. Learners will evaluate approaches and theories and apply psychological knowledge to show how an understanding of psychology can be applied.

Learners who complete this Unit will be able to:

- 1 Analyse topics relating to individual behaviour

This Unit is a mandatory Unit of the Higher Psychology Course and is also available as a free-standing Unit. The Unit Specification should be read in conjunction with the *Unit Support Notes*, which provide advice and guidance on delivery, assessment approaches and development of skills for learning, skills for life and skills for work. Exemplification of the standards in this Unit is given in *Unit Assessment Support*.

The *Course Assessment Specification* for the Higher Psychology Course gives further mandatory information on Course coverage for learners taking this Unit as part of the Higher Psychology Course.

### Recommended entry

Entry to this Unit is at the discretion of the centre. However, learners would normally be expected to have attained the skills, knowledge and understanding required by one or more of the following or equivalent qualifications and/or experience:

- ◆ National 5 Psychology Course or relevant component Units
- ◆ National 5 Biology Course or relevant component Units
- ◆ Social studies or social sciences Courses at SCQF level 5 or relevant component Units

## **Equality and inclusion**

This Unit Specification has been designed to ensure that there are no unnecessary barriers to learning or assessment. The individual needs of learners should be taken into account when planning learning experiences, selecting assessment methods or considering alternative evidence. For further information, please refer to the *Unit Support Notes*.

# Standards

## Outcomes and assessment standards

### Outcome 1

The learner will:

- 1 Analyse topics relating to individual behaviour by:**
  - 1.1 Explaining a topic relevant to individual behaviour, using psychological approaches and theories
  - 1.2 Evaluating the use of approaches and theories, to explain the behaviour
  - 1.3 Explaining, with supporting evidence, how psychological knowledge can be applied

### Evidence Requirements for the Unit

Assessors should use their professional judgement, subject knowledge and experience, and understanding of their learners, to determine the most appropriate ways to generate evidence and the conditions and contexts in which they are used.

Exemplification of assessment is provided in *Unit Assessment Support*. Advice and guidance on possible approaches to assessment is provided in the *Unit Support Notes*.

# Development of skills for learning, skills for life and skills for work

It is expected that learners will develop broad, generic skills through this Unit. The skills that learners will be expected to improve on and develop through the Unit are based on SQA's *Skills Framework: Skills for Learning, Skills for Life and Skills for Work* and are drawn from the main skills areas listed below. These must be built into the Unit where there are appropriate opportunities.

## **1 Literacy**

1.2 Writing

## **3 Health and wellbeing**

3.1 Personal learning

## **5 Thinking skills**

5.3 Applying

5.4 Analysing and evaluating

Amplification of these is given in SQA's *Skills Framework: Skills for Learning, Skills for Life and Skills for Work*. The level of these skills should be at the same SCQF level as the Unit and be consistent with the SCQF level descriptor. Further information on building in skills for learning, skills for life and skills for work is given in the *Unit Support Notes*.

# Administrative information

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**Published:** April 2014 (version 2.0)

**Superclass:** PK

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## History of changes to National Unit Specification

Version	Description of change	Authorised by	Date
2.0	Page 1 — Unit outline: minor rewording to final sentence of first paragraph to aid clarity — ‘can support individual wellbeing’ changed to ‘can be applied’.  Page 3 — Assessment Standard 1.3 revised: ‘Explaining how psychological knowledge and understanding can be applied to support individual wellbeing’ changed to ‘Explaining, with supporting evidence, how psychological knowledge can be applied’.	Qualifications Development Manager	April 2014

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Note: readers are advised to check SQA’s website: [www.sqa.org.uk](http://www.sqa.org.uk) to ensure they are using the most up-to-date version of the Unit Specification.