
Unit title: Psychology: Mind and Behaviour (National 5)

SCQF: level 5 (6 SCQF credit points)

Unit code: to be advised

Unit outline

The general aim of this Unit is to enable learners to investigate psychological explanations for topics relating to the mind and behaviour. Learners will find out about the work of psychologists and the application of psychology. Learners will investigate two topics and will explain behaviour using psychological evidence drawn from a range of sources. Contemporary examples of how psychological knowledge and understanding is used in a real-world context will be used to illustrate the practical application of psychological theory.

Learners who complete this Unit will be able to:

- 1 Describe ways that psychological knowledge and understanding of the individual is applied in psychology

This Unit is a mandatory Unit of the Psychology (National 5) Course and is also available as a free-standing Unit. The Unit Specification should be read in conjunction with the *Unit Support Notes*, which provides 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 the *National Assessment Resource*.

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:

- ◆ People and Society¹ (National 4) Course or relevant component Units
- ◆ Biology (National 4) Course or relevant component Units
- ◆ social studies or science Courses or relevant component Units at SCQF level 4

In terms of prior learning and experience, relevant experiences and outcomes may also provide an appropriate basis for doing this Unit. Further information on relevant experiences and outcomes will be given in the *Unit Support Notes*.

¹ This is a new development. The Course title is being discussed.

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*.

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Standards

Outcomes and assessment standards

Outcome 1

The learner will:

- 1 Describe ways that psychological knowledge and understanding of the individual is applied in psychology by:**
 - 1.1 Describing work carried out in one field of psychology
 - 1.2 Describing two mind and behaviour topics appropriate to this chosen field of psychology
 - 1.3 Using a range of sources from which to present evidence to explain behaviour for the two topics
 - 1.4 Describing how psychological knowledge and understanding of the two topics is applied in the chosen field of psychology, with reference to evidence

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.

Assessment requires learners to focus on the application of theory to practice in one field of psychology. Fields of psychology relate to work carried out by chartered psychologists and approved by the British Psychological Society. These include the following fields of psychology: clinical, counselling, educational, forensic, health, neuropsychologists, occupational, sport and exercise.

Mind and behaviour topics are required to relate to the psychology of the individual as distinct from social psychology.

The range of sources chosen will allow candidates to show their ability to draw on a range of evidence in psychology. This may include empirical and theoretical evidence from published journal articles, books, research papers or electronic sources. Learners should choose concepts, theory and evidence from a minimum of three sources to provide a basic but clear explanation of behaviour for the two topics.

Presentations may use one or more formats, for example a basic academic poster, essay, PowerPoint, Prezi, or short video.

The learning Outcomes and Assessment Standards require learners to use basic psychological knowledge and understanding and to investigate two topics in one field of psychology. However, it is expected that good quality teaching will normally cover a wider range than the minimum required to pass the Unit assessment.

Exemplification of assessment will be provided in the *National Assessment Resource*. 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 drawn from the main skills areas listed below. These must be built into the Unit where there are appropriate opportunities.

1 Literacy

- 1.1 Reading
- 1.2 Writing
- 1.3 Listening and talking

3 Health and wellbeing

- 3.1 Personal learning
- 3.2 Emotional wellbeing

5 Thinking skills

- 5.2 Understanding
- 5.3 Applying

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 of 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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Superclass: to be advised

History of changes

Version	Description of change	Authorised by	Date

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Note: readers are advised to check SQA's website: www.sqa.org.uk to ensure they are using the most up-to-date version of the Unit Specification.