



Year 12/13 Course Overview Psychology HL & SL 2025-27

The DP psychology course aims to develop students' knowledge and understanding of psychological concepts, content, and contexts, as well as the models and theories associated with these areas. Through the course, students will develop the ability to engage in critical thinking, assess evidence and acknowledge the evolving nature of knowledge. They will acquire the ability to seek new information and generate understanding by employing research methodologies. (IBO, 2025)

Programme Aims

- develop knowledge and understanding of psychological concepts, content, and contexts, including models and theories
- think critically and creatively about behaviour and cognitive processes
- engage with problems facing individuals, groups, and societies using psychological understanding and skills.

Curriculum for Year 12/13

Standard Level

Year 1

Introduction to research
Learning and cognition
Human relationships
Internal assessment: Research proposal

Year 2

Health and wellbeing
Development

Higher Level

Year 1

Introduction to research
Learning and cognition
Human relationships
Internal assessment: Research proposal
Data analysis and interpretation

Year 2

Health and wellbeing
Development
Data analysis and interpretation

Year 12/13 Psychology SL/HL Assessment

SL Assessment component	Weighting
External assessment (3 hours)	70%
Paper 1 (1 hour 30 minutes) Integration of the concepts, content and contexts (35 marks) Section A: two compulsory short-answer questions from two of the three content areas Section B: two compulsory short-answer questions asking students to apply	35%

<p>their knowledge of content to an unseen situation, each from one of four contexts</p> <p>Section C: students answer one of two concept-based extended response questions, each from a different context</p>	
<p>Paper 2 (1 hour 30 minutes)</p> <p>Applying concepts and content to research contexts (35 marks)</p> <p>Section A: four compulsory questions that focus on the class practicals</p> <p>Section B: evaluation of an unseen research study with regard to two or more concepts</p>	35%
<p>Internal assessment (20 hours)</p> <p>Research proposal (24 marks)</p> <p>Design a research proposal to investigate a population of interest using one of the four research methods used in the class practicals.</p> <p>This component is internally assessed by the teacher and externally moderated.</p>	30%

HL Assessment component	Weighting
External assessment (4 hours 45 minutes)	80%
<p>Paper 1 (1 hour 30 minutes)</p> <p>Integration of the concepts, content and contexts (35 marks)</p> <p>Section A: two compulsory short-answer questions from two of the three content areas</p> <p>Section B: two compulsory questions asking students to apply their knowledge of content to an unseen situation, each from one of four contexts</p> <p>Section C: students answer one of two concept-based extended response questions, each from a different context</p>	25%
<p>Paper 2 (1 hour 30 minutes)</p> <p>Applying concepts and content to research contexts (35 marks)</p> <p>Section A: four compulsory questions that focus on the class practicals</p> <p>Section B: evaluation of an unseen research study with regard to two or more concepts</p>	25%
<p>Paper 3 (1 hour 45 minutes)</p> <p>Data analysis and interpretation of research data (30 marks)</p> <p>Four source-based questions with quantitative and qualitative findings will be provided.</p> <p>The focus of the questions will be from one of the HL extensions.</p>	30%
<p>Internal assessment (20 hours)</p> <p>Research proposal (24 marks)</p> <p>Design a research proposal to investigate a population of interest using one of the four research methods used in the class practicals.</p> <p>This component is internally assessed by the teacher and externally moderated.</p>	20%

Year 12/13 Learning Skills

The following skills are designed to empower students to succeed in meeting the learning objectives of this subject and prepare them for future success in their academic programme.

- Self Management
- Communication
- Social Skills
- Thinking Skills
- Research

Academic Integrity

This course follows Chinese International School's Academic Integrity Policy which can be found at this link and in the Student and Parent Handbook: [Academic Integrity Policy](#)

Teachers

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