

IB Psychology - New Syllabus (First Assessment 2027)

Content Audit Sheet

Biological Approach

Content	Theoretical Knowledge	Example/Study
Animal research/animal models	Usually mammals as similar nervous system/ endocrine system. More ethical than human research, more simple so more reliable, shorter lifespan so see changes quicker. Questions over generalisability. Used to study effect of oxytocin on relationships.	Ferguson et al (2000) Aim: To test oxytocin and social recognition. Method: Ps – normal and oxytocin knockout mice. Measured time spent sniffing new and familiar mice. Results: Normal mice spent less time sniffing familiar mice. Knockout mice spent same time sniffing both. Conclusion: Oxytocin is essential for social recognition in mice.
Biological reductionism		
Brain imaging techniques		

Chemical messengers		
Diathesis-stress model		
Genetic inheritance		

Localization of function		
Neuroplasticity		
Neuroplasticity		



Cognitive Approach

Content	Theoretical Knowledge	Example/Study
Anchoring bias		
Classical Conditioning		
Cognitive load theory		

Cognitive models		
Confirmation bias		
Dual processing theory		

Operant conditioning		
Schema theory		



Sociocultural Approach

Content	Theoretical Knowledge	Example/Study
Cognitive dissonance		
Compliance techniques		
Conformity		

Cultural dimensions		
Emic approach		
Enculturation		

Etic approach		
Models of acculturation		
Social identity theory		

Social learning theory		
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