VCE PSYCHOLOGY UNIT 3 2012
The Conscious Self

SCOPE AND SEQUENCE

TOPICS
Area Of Study 1      Mind, Brain and Body
Area Of Study 2      Memory

LEARNING OUTCOMES

On completion of this unit the student should be able to:

• Explain the relationship between the brain, states of consciousness including sleep, and behaviour, and describe the contribution of selected studies and brain research methods to the investigation of brain function.

• Compare theories that explain the neural basis of memory and factors that affect its retention, and evaluate the effectiveness of techniques for improving and manipulating memory

WORK REQUIREMENTS

1. Visual Presentation: Consciousness: Term 1 Week 4 (25 marks)
2. Essay: Brain research methods: Term 1 Week 9 (25 marks)
3. Research Investigation: Term 2 Week 4 (30 marks)
4. Test: Memory: Term 2 Week 6 (20 marks)

5. Unit 3 VCAA Examination: June 13th 9.00-10.45am (33%)

• Coursework for Unit 3 contributes 17% to final study score
• Note: SAC dates are tentative and may change


TIMELINE

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<th>Term 1</th>
<th>Term 2</th>
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<td><strong>Area of Study 1. Mind, Brain and Body</strong></td>
<td><strong>Area of Study 2. Memory</strong></td>
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<td>Week 1: Consciousness and States of Consciousness</td>
<td>Week 1: Memory formation mechanisms</td>
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<td>Week 2: <em>Sleep</em> as an ASC and methods used to study sleep</td>
<td>Week 2: Measures of retention and theories of forgetting</td>
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<td>Week 3: Sleep cont.</td>
<td>Week 3: Theories of forgetting cont.</td>
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<td>Week 4:</td>
<td>Week 4: <strong>SAC:</strong> Research Investigation (25 marks) Reconstructive nature of memory and use of cues</td>
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<td>• <strong>SAC:</strong> Visual Presentation (25 marks)</td>
<td>Week 5: Mnemonic Devices</td>
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<td><strong>Central Nervous System:</strong> Role of the CNS and the four lobes of the</td>
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| **cerebral cortex.**  
**Week 5:** *The Brain*: control of motor and somatosensory processing and hemispheric specialisation.  
| **Week 6:** *Cognitive processes* of brain and implications: aphasia, spatial neglect, split-brain studies and perceptual anomalies.  
| **Week 7:** Application and use of *brain research methods*.  
| **Week 8:** The *Peripheral Nervous System*: Sympathetic and Parasympathetic.  
| **Week 9:**  
- **SAC:** Essay (25%)  
  
  *Area of Study 2. Memory*  
  Models for explaining human memory  
| **Week 6:**  
- **SAC:** Test (20 marks)  
  Preparation for examination  
| **Week 7:** Research Methods  
| **Week 8:** Preparation for examination  
| **Week 9:**  
- **Unit 3 Examination**  
  13th June, 2012: 9.00-10.45am  
  
  **Unit Four**  
  *Area of Study 1. Learning*  
| **Week 10:** Behaviour not dependent on Learning  
| **Week 11:** Classical Conditioning |