

Oxford Psychology fully updated for the revised study design!

Oxford Psychology VCE Units 3&4 has been updated to reflect revisions to the VCE Psychology Study Design 2017–2021. These amendments were released in June 2017, and have been implemented with immediate effect. (More information can be found on the VCAA website.)

VCAA Amendments to the study design	Updates to <i>Oxford Psychology</i>
<p>Unit 3 Area of Study 1 Nervous system functioning</p> <p>The term dopamine has replaced the term GABA in reference to Parkinson's disease.*</p> <p><i>"The effects of chronic changes to the functioning of the nervous system due to interference to neurotransmitter function, illustrated by the role of dopamine in Parkinson's disease."</i></p>	<p>We have removed references to GABA in relation to Parkinson's disease and have emphasised the focus on dopamine.</p> <p><i>This was originally featured on pages 71–72 in the current edition.</i></p>
<p>Unit 3 Area of Study 2 Process of memory</p> <p>The spelling of 'Shiffrin' has been updated and a comma has been added to the key knowledge dot point.</p>	<p>We have updated the spelling of Shiffrin to reflect the correction.</p>
<p>Unit 4 Area of Study 1 Effects of sleep disturbances and possible treatments</p> <p>A comma has been added to the key knowledge dot point.</p>	<p>We have updated the text to include the comma that was added by VCAA.</p>
<p>Unit 4 Area of Study 1 Effects of sleep disturbances and possible treatments</p> <p>Narcolepsy as a dyssomnia and sleep apnoea as a parasomnia have been removed.</p>	<p>We have removed narcolepsy and sleep apnoea from the text and have extended our explanation of sleep-onset insomnia and sleep walking.</p> <p>We have also corrected the spelling of 'dyssomnia'.</p> <p><i>This was originally featured on pages 321–333 in the current edition.</i></p>
<p>Unit 4 Area of Study 2 Application of a biopsychosocial approach, as a scientific model, to explain specific phobia</p> <p>The term antagonist has been replaced with agonists.</p>	<p>We have updated the text to reflect the change in word use.</p>

* Please note: The 2017 VCE Psychology examination will accept both GABA and dopamine in relation to Parkinson's disease.

Based on feedback from teachers and on market comparisons, we have also updated pages 88–89 on the fight-flight-freeze response. Specifically, we have included more of an explanation of the role of the parasympathetic branch of the autonomic nervous system and how this affects the freeze response.