IB Psych Standards for New Curriculum – with updated guidance from IB

**Biological Approach to Understanding**

Topic – Content

The Brain & Behaviour

 Techniques used to study the brain in relation to behavior

 Localization

 Neuroplasticity

 Neurotransmitters & their effect on behavior

Hormones and Behaviour

 Hormones & behavior

 Pheromones & behavior

Genetics and Behavior

 Genes & behavior

 Genetic similarities

Evolutionary explanations for behavior

HL Only

The role of animal research in understanding human behavior (value of animal models in research, can animal research provide insight into human behavior, ethics)

**Cognitive Approach to Understanding**

Cognitive Processing

 Models of memory

Schema theory

Thinking and decision-making

Reliability of cognitive processes

 Reconstructive memory

 Biases in thinking and decision-making

Emotion and cognition

 The influence of emotion on cognitive processes

HL Only

 Cognitive processing in the digital world

(influence of digital tech on cog. proc., +/- of tech on cog. proc. And methods used to study interaction b/w digital tech and cog. proc.)

**Socio-Cultural Approach to Understanding**

The Individual & the Group

 Social Identity Theory

 Social Cognitive Theory

 Stereotypes

Cultural Origins of Behavior & Cognition

 Culture and its influence on behavior & cognition

 Cultural dimensions

Cultural Influences on Individual Attitudes, Identity, & Behaviors

 Enculturation

 Acculturation

HL Only

The Influence of Globalization on Individual Behavior (globalizations influence on behavior, effect of interaction of local/global influences on behavior, methods used to study the influence)