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)