

A LEVEL

Exam board OCR

RELIGIOUS STUDIES

SPECIFIC ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

It is **not** essential to have studied religion, philosophy and ethics at GCSE. A grade 5 or above in either English Literature, English Language or religion, philosophy and ethics GCSE is recommended to facilitate an easier transition to A Level RPE

COURSE CONTENT

The type of student who is suited to this course is open minded, enquiring, enthusiastic and interested in independent learning and debating ultimate questions.

Year 12

Developments of religious thought: this includes an examination of human nature, death and the afterlife, the nature of God, moral principles and moral action with a specific focus on Dietrich Bonhoeffer.

Philosophy: this includes a study of ancient Greek philosophy including Plato and Aristotle, an examination of the body, soul, mind dilemma, philosophical proofs based on observation and reason for the existence of God, religious experience, and the problem of evil.

Ethics: this involves a study of the normative ethical theories of natural law, situation ethics, Kantian ethics and utilitarianism. Applied ethics involves a discussion of the sanctity and quality of life in relation to euthanasia, business ethics and their relationship with the different ethical theories.

Year 13

Developments of religious thought: this includes pluralism and theology which includes gender and society, secularisation and the responses of Freud and Richard Dawkins, humanism and atheism, liberation theology and the responses of Karl Marx. It has links to psychology and sociology.

Philosophy: this considers freewill and determinism and religious language (negative, analogical and symbolic), Wittgenstein and logical positivism.

Ethics: this includes a study of ethical language (naturalism, intuitionism and emotivism), Freud's psychological approach and Aquinas' view on conscience and sexual ethics.

EXAMINATIONS AND ASSESSMENTS

OCR

Three 120 minute exams. Each paper has one knowledge-based question and two analytical questions.

SKILLS, LINKS AND PROGRESSION

This course develops the ability to reflect on, select and deploy specified knowledge. To identify, investigate and analyse questions and issues. To interpret and evaluate philosophical and ethical concepts, issues, ideas, the relevance of arguments and the use of scholars. This skills-based subject is an excellent combination with English, history, geography, psychology, sociology, sciences, maths and business. Our current A-Level students come from a wide variety of subject disciplines. Religion, philosophy and ethics is well respected by universities as an established academic subject. It will lead to numerous career opportunities: law, teaching, journalism, publishing, the police, health, medicine, catering, and working with people.

CONTACT

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