

Religious Studies

Curriculum content

	YEAR 9	YR 10	YR 11
AUTUMN 1	<p>THEOLOGY 1: SCIENCE AND RELIGION: ORIGINS OF THE UNIVERSE AND LIFE, including examination of the ideas underlying atheism, creationism, scientific theism, deism, Genesis 1, and Islam.</p>	<p>CHRISTIAN BELIEFS: the afterlife (resurrection, judgement, Heaven, Hell), the nature and importance of Jesus (including incarnation, resurrection, ascension, salvation, atonement).</p> <p>MUSLIM BELIEFS : angels, akhira, the authority of holy books, prophets, the imamate (Shi'a Islam).</p>	<p>RELIGION CRIME AND PUNISHMENT, including the aims of punishment (retribution, deterrence and reformation), types of punishment (prison, corporal punishment and community payback), forgiveness.</p> <p>RELIGION PEACE AND CONFLICT, including study of violence, violent protest, terrorism, reasons for war, Just War Theory, Holy War, jihad and pacifism.</p>
AUTUMN 2	<p>THEOLOGY 2: SCIENCE AND RELIGION: SCIENCE AND RELIGION: MIRACLES, including Biblical miracles (nature, healing, resurrection, incarnation), miracles in Hinduism, criticisms of miracles (including those from Hume), non-realist views of miracles.</p>	<p>CHRISTIAN PRACTICES: liturgical and non-liturgical worship, prayer (including The Lord's Prayer), baptism and holy communion, pilgrimage (Iona and Lourdes), Easter and Christmas.</p> <p>MUSLIM BELIEFS: beliefs about the afterlife, including resurrection, judgement, predestination. Usul ad-Din (Shi'a Islam) and The Six Articles of Faith (Sunni Islam).</p>	<p>REVELATION AND EXISTENCE OF GOD, including the First Cause Argument, the Design Argument and the Miracles Argument, with criticisms.</p> <p>RELIGION, PEACE AND CONFLICT including study of religion as a cause of war, weapons of mass destruction, individual religious peacemakers, religious responses to victims of war (including the work of one religious organisation)</p>
SPRING 1	<p>PHILOSOPHY OF RELIGION 1: ARGUMENTS FOR THE EXISTENCE OF GOD, including First Cause, Design and the concept of God (Islam, Christianity, Hinduism).</p>	<p>CHRISTIAN PRACTICES: street pastors, food banks, reconciliation, responses to persecution, church growth, evangelism and mission, Christian Aid.</p> <p>MUSLIM PRACTICES: Shahadah , Salah, Zakah/Khums, Sawm</p>	<p>REVELATION AND EXISTENCE OF GOD, including special and general revelation, enlightenment, visions and criticisms from philosophy and science.</p> <p>ISLAM REVISION: beliefs</p>
SPRING 2	<p>PHILOSOPHY OF RELIGION 2: THE PROBLEM OF EVIL AND SUFFERING, including reference to natural and moral evil, the story of Adam and Eve, the story of Job, Free Will theodicy.</p>	<p>RELIGION AND LIFE: religious and non-religious views of the origins of the universe, the value of the universe and the status and use of animals (as food and in testing).</p> <p>MUSLIM PRACTICES: Hajj, Ashura, Id ul Adha, Id ul Fitr</p>	<p>CHRISTIANITY REVISION: beliefs and practices.</p> <p>ISLAM REVISION: practices.</p>
SUMMER 1	<p>MORAL PHILOSOPHY, including Divine Command Theory, agapeistic ethics, utilitarianism, Islamic ethics (with reference to the Five Pillars and jihad).</p>	<p>RELIGION AND LIFE: religious and non-religious views of the origins of human life, the value of human life and attitudes towards euthanasia, abortion and the afterlife.</p> <p>MUSLIM PRACTICES: Jihad/ 10 Obligatory Acts – Shi'a.</p>	<p>THEMES REVISION/EXAMS:</p> <p>ISLAM REVISION: beliefs and practices.</p>
SUMMER 2	<p>NEW GCSE: CHRISTIAN BELIEFS: the nature of God, including Trinity, omnipotence, omnibenevolence, creator. THE PROBLEM OF EVIL AND SUFFERING, including Christian theodicies (punishment, free will, Satan, mystery). MUSLIM BELIEFS: the nature of God (including tawhid and adalat),</p>	<p>RELIGION, CRIME AND PUNISHMENT, including types of crime, causes of crime and responses to criminals.</p> <p>RELIGION, PEACE AND CONFLICT, including study of peace, justice, forgiveness and reconciliation.</p>	

Skills

This course aims to help students to:

- develop knowledge and understanding appropriate to a specialist study of Christianity, Islam, philosophy and ethics
- develop an understanding and appreciation of similarities and differences within and between religions, and the impact these have on individuals, communities and societies, past and present
- adopt an enquiring, critical and reflective approach to the examination of varied truth claims espoused by religion, philosophy and ethics
- reflect on, and develop, their own values, opinions and attitudes in the light of their study, and express these coherently in writing
- develop effective memory and recall strategies to support examination preparation
- develop their interest in a rigorous study of religion and belief, and relate it to the wider world

Assessment

Internal assessment takes place throughout the course, and is always in the form of exam questions. For the award of the qualification, this linear AQA GCSE from AQA is examined entirely by examination at the end of Year 11. There are 2 x 1hr 45 minutes hour final examination papers:

Paper 1 – Christianity and Islam

Paper 2 – Themes: Philosophy and Ethics