



Course Requirements

GCSE RE - Grade 4 (if studied) and GCSE English Language or GCSE English Literature – Grade 4

Students are not required to have taken GCSE RE in order to take this course.

Syllabus

AQA

Who to Contact

Mrs N Mann
Course Leader

Overview

Religious Studies is an exciting and interesting subject that investigates 'The Big Questions' in life and considers what religious beliefs have to offer modern society. It is more than just learning about religion, it requires you to consider your own and others view points about topical issues relating to human behaviour and experiences and offers an opportunity to consider topics that will challenge you both academically and personally.

Students who take Religious Studies for A-level enjoy debating ideas and thinking more deeply and critically about concepts that are central to human life. The course also provides students with a number of transferable skills which are highly valued by employers and Universities. It is particularly valuable for students who wish to pursue careers in medicine, law, teaching, nursing, business and politics.

Structure

All students study:

Year 12

Christianity and Philosophy

- The Nature of God – What is God believed to be like?
- Death and the Afterlife – What is the soul? What happens when we die?
- Arguments for the Existence of God – Does the Universe prove God exists?
- The Problem of Evil – How can an all loving God allow evil and suffering?
- Religious Experience- Are they genuine or can science disprove them?

Christianity and Ethics

- Ethical Theories – Virtue Ethics – What does it mean to be a good person?
- Situation Ethics – what does it mean to do the most loving thing?
- Natural Moral Law – do humans naturally know right from wrong?
- Applying the ethical theories to decisions about capital punishment, theft, euthanasia and embryo research.

Year 13

Christianity and Philosophy

- Christian responses to Science - can Christianity provide a challenge to science?
- Religious Language - What do we mean by terms such as 'truth'.
- Miracles - Do miracles really happen or can science offer an explanation for them.

Christianity and Ethics

- Sexual Ethics and Christian Feminism - study of contrasting views about transgender rights, gender equality and marriage.
- Utilitarianism - is it practical to always choose the greatest good for the greatest number.
- Free Will and Conscience - how much are your day to day choices determined by external factors?
- Religious Pluralism - study of contrasting views about non-Christian religions and belief systems.

Study of Religion (Christianity)

- Christianity and Gender
- Christianity and Science
- Christianity and the challenge of secularisation

Assessment is by two exams. There is no coursework in this subject.