

Subject: Religious Studies	
Examination Board: OCR	Specification code: H573
<p>Philosophy of Religion</p> <p>Three essay questions from four in a two hour exam Eg <i>Evaluate the claim religious experiences are illusions</i> [40 marks] 33% of total A Level mark</p>	<p>Learners will study:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ancient philosophical influences, particularly the theories of Plato and Aristotle • The nature of the soul, mind and body in relation to beliefs about death and the afterlife • Arguments about the existence or non-existence of God • The nature and impact of religious experience • The challenge for religious belief of the problem of evil • Ideas about the nature of God • Issues in religious language
<p>Religion and Ethics</p> <p>Three essay questions from four in a two hour exam Eg <i>Assess the view that situation ethics is of no help with regard to the issue of euthanasia.</i> [40 marks] 33% of total A Level mark</p>	<p>Learners will study:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Religious and secular ethical theories such as natural moral law and utilitarianism • The application of ethical theory to two contemporary issues of importance such war and medical ethics • Ethical language and thought • Debates surrounding the significant idea of conscience • Sexual ethics and the influence on ethical thought of developments in religious beliefs
<p>Developments in Christian Thought</p> <p>Three essay questions from four in a two hour exam Eg <i>'Secularists who say Christianity is a source of unhappiness are wrong.'</i> Discuss. [40 marks] 33% of total A Level mark</p>	<p>Learners will study:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Knowledge of God: both natural and revealed theology will be studied, including the relationship between faith and reason. • The influence of key Christian thinkers such as St Augustine and Dietrich Bonhoeffer • Historical and theological understandings of the person of Jesus Christ. They will consider Jesus as the Son of God, teacher of wisdom and a liberator, which will give them an insight into both traditional and contemporary Christian theology. • Christian moral principles will consider the Bible, Church and reason as sources of wisdom and authority. • Christianity in a secular (non-religious) age • The impact of feminism on Christian beliefs and practices
<p>What students can expect from the course:</p> <p>OCR's A Level in Religious Studies will encourage learners to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • develop their interest in a rigorous study of religion and belief and relate it to the wider world • develop knowledge and understanding appropriate to a specialist study of religion 	

- develop an understanding and appreciation of religious thought and its contribution to individuals, communities and societies
- adopt an enquiring, critical and reflective approach to the study of religion
- reflect on and develop their own values, opinions and attitudes in the light of their study.

Expected GCSE qualifications:

We recommend students have achieved a Grade 6 in English to be successful at A Level. Also GCSEs in History, Geography and/or Business Studies are a useful preparation as they involve problem solving and essay writing skills.