



Maths & Computing

Course Details		Religious Studies
Exam Board	OCR	
Syllabus title	A Level Religious Studies	
Course Code	H573 A Level GCE Religious Studies	
Course Content	<p><b>Philosophy of Religion*</b> In Philosophy of religion learners will study philosophical issues and questions raised by religion and belief. These include arguments regarding the existence or non-existence of God, the nature and influence of religious experience and the problems of evil and suffering. They will also explore philosophical language and thought through significant concepts and the works of key thinkers, illustrated in issues or debates in the philosophy of religion.</p> <p><b>Ethics*</b> The study of Religion and ethics is characterised both by a study of ethical language and thought through significant concepts and the works of key thinkers, illustrated in issues or debates in religion and ethics, and also by the application of ethical theory to issues of importance. Learners will study normative ethical theories and key ethical concepts, as well as developments in the way these ideas are applied to significant issues in religion and belief.</p> <p><b>Developments in Religious thought (theology)*</b> Developments in religious thought provide an opportunity for the systematic study of one religious tradition. This will include exploration of religious beliefs, values and teachings, sources of wisdom and authority and practices that shape and express religious identity. Also central are the ways in which religious traditions have evolved and developed over time, and religious responses to challenges and significant contemporary social issues.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">*Content slightly condensed for AS.</p>	
Assessment and weighting	<p><b>A Level</b>  <b>Philosophy of religion (01):</b> 120 marks 2 hour written paper 33.3% of total A level  <b>Religion and ethics (02):</b> 120 marks 2 hour written paper 33.3% of total A level  <b>Developments in religious thought (03–07):</b> 120 marks 2 hour written paper 33.3% of total A level</p>	
Trips/visits	<p><b>Krakow, Poland.</b> Our trip itinerary encompasses a range of visits all of which are closely linked to several topics including the impact of the Holocaust on human psychology, the moral dilemmas that people faced in the lead up to and during the Second World War and the alterations in government as a result of the events of the 20th Century. The itinerary includes a tour of Auschwitz and Birkenau and Kazimierz Jewish Quarter.</p>	
Future opportunities/career	<p>This qualification is designed to nurture the development of critical and reflective thinking with the aim of developing a greater understanding and appreciation of religious beliefs and teachings, as well as the disciplines of ethics and philosophy of religion. Emphasis is placed on critical analysis and the construction of balanced, informed arguments within the context of a religious, philosophical and ethical awareness. The Russell Group of top universities has made it clear that Religious Studies A level provides 'suitable preparation for University generally'. The course is suitable preparation for a wide range of Higher Education courses including, Theology, Philosophy, Law, Economics, History and Politics.</p>	



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Person Specification		Religious Studies
	<b>Essential</b>	
Qualifications/ School record	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• 5/6 in English and Religious Studies GCSE</li><li>• 95% attendance in year 11</li><li>• Good attitude to learning</li></ul>	
Attitude/Qualities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Hard working</li><li>• Critical and Reflective thinker</li><li>• Interested in Current Affairs</li><li>• Enjoys engaging in debate and asking 'big' questions</li></ul>	
Skills	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Reading</li><li>• Essay Writing</li><li>• Creative</li><li>• Organised</li></ul>	
Experience	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• A desire to engage in topical issues and acquire knowledge and a critical understanding of major issues that are relevant in the 21st century.</li></ul>	
	<b>Desirable:</b>	
Qualifications/ School record	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• 5/C Sociology GCSE</li></ul>	
Skills	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Confident reading a variety of texts</li></ul>	
Experience	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Watches and reads the news on a regular basis</li></ul>	