



GCSE Religious Studies

Information about the course

Exam board: Eduqas GCSE Religious Studies

Course title: Eduqas GCSE (9-1) in RELIGIOUS STUDIES

The students will study the following topics:

Year 10

Component 1: Religious, Philosophical and Ethical Studies in the Modern World (Weighting 50%)

- Issues of relationships: family relationships, sexual relationships, marriage, changes in relationships and issues of equality
- Issues of life after death: the world, the value of life, beliefs about death and the afterlife, issues about sanctity and quality of life and medical ethics
- Issues of good and evil: good, evil, suffering, crime and punishment and forgiveness
- Issues of human rights: human rights, racial prejudice and discrimination, issues of wealth and poverty, issues of social justice and religion in the twenty-first century Britain.

Year 11

Component 2: Study of Christianity (Weighting 25%)

- Beliefs and teachings: the nature of God, Creation, Jesus Christ, Salvation, the afterlife
- Practices: Forms of worship, Sacraments, Pilgrimage, The Church in the local community, the worldwide Church.

Component 3: Study of a World Faith (Weighting 25%)

Candidates will be assessed on ONE of the following options: Buddhism, Hinduism, Islam, Judaism or Sikhism.

How to prepare for Year 10?

Students can start preparing for the course by doing preliminary research.

You can find out more by visiting the Eduqas website at <http://www.eduqas.co.uk/qualifications/religious-studies/gcse/> or the BCC Bitesize website at <http://www.bbc.co.uk/schools/gcsebitesize/rs/> or by talking to your R.S. teacher at school.

Over the summer holidays students should research the following:

- Charles Darwin and the theory of evolution
- Scientific explanations of the universe
- The Christian and Islamic creation story
- Humanism
- The design argument and William Paley
- Intelligent design and Michael Behe

Who would enjoy it?

- Anyone who likes to debate issues which appear in our newspapers every day such as; legalising of assisted suicides, capital punishments and life after death
- People who don't like direct answers but like to formulate their own opinions
- Students planning on taking Humanities, Psychology or Social Science A-Levels
- Anyone who wants to make informed decisions about a variety of moral issues.

What happens when you finish?

On completion of a GCSE in Religious Studies, you could progress to further education. Courses at Level 3 include: Philosophy and Ethics A Level, or any other Humanities, Psychology or Sociology A Level. If you choose to look for an apprenticeship you will have an excellent qualification that demonstrates your ability to understand other people and evaluate differing situations.

Student Quotes:

"It's really fascinating. You get to learn about topics like the death penalty; euthanasia; abortion and then study what the religious beliefs are on those topics."

"It's really good, we get to have lots of discussions and debates about the topics we study and reflect on our own beliefs."

"This subject has helped me develop my understanding of a range of faiths. It has helped me be more tolerant and respectful of other peoples' beliefs."

Our department encourages pupils to think critically, listen empathetically and write in a clear and concise manner- all skills that will be of value no matter what you go on to do in life.

If you have any queries about the Religious Studies course please see Miss Hannam or Mr Barnes.