

Subject:

A Level Philosophy, Religion and Ethics

Course Units and Content:

Units and Content A Level

Philosophy of Religion:

- Ancient Philosophical Influences: Plato and Aristotle.
- Soul, Mind, Body
- Arguments based on observation: Teleological argument, cosmological argument and challenges to arguments from observation.
- Arguments based on reason: ontological argument.
- Religious Experience
- Problem of Evil

Religion and Ethics

- Ethical theories (Kant, Utilitarianism, Situation Ethics, Natural Law, Meta-Ethics, Conscience)
- Applied Ethics topics (Euthanasia, Business Ethics and Sexual Ethics)

Developments in Christian Thought

- Augustine's Teaching on Human Nature
- Death and the Afterlife
- Knowledge of God's Existence
- Jesus Christ
- Christian Moral Principles and Christian Moral Action
- Religious pluralism and theology and society
- Gender, theology and society
- The Challenge of Secularism
- Liberation Theology and Marx

Assessment:

Three examinations at the end of Year 13: 2 hours for each paper.

Examination Board:

OCR Religious Studies (H573)

Progression and Careers:

A Level Philosophy, Religion and Ethics is highly regarded by both higher education institutions and employers. It can lead onto reading Philosophy, Theology, Law, Sociology, Politics, History, Psychology and Economics at higher education, and Broadcasting, Journalism, Education, Law, Counselling, Medicine, Social Work, and Business in employment.

A level Philosophy, Religion and Ethics will develop skills and qualities which are highly valued by universities and employers, such as skills of analysis, critiquing and evaluation. A successful 'A' level Philosophy & Ethics student will be an articulate and confident individual, someone who is able to read and make sense of complex issues and concepts, and form original ideas.

Student views:

"I chose to do Philosophy & Ethics at A level because it is an intellectually stimulating subject and I enjoyed it and did well in it at GCSE." Jessica

"The subject inspires deeper thinking and encourages you to question your own beliefs and values on topical issues." Ben

"You should take Philosophy and Ethics because you develop lots of skills, such as essay writing, presenting, how to structure an argument and how to successfully have a debate. This is quite challenging, but very enjoyable. The subjects are interesting and are concerned with current affairs which is really good for learning about what is happening in the world". Jess

"You get to discuss and argue relevant ethical issues." Shaun



Curriculum Leader:

Mrs L Cross