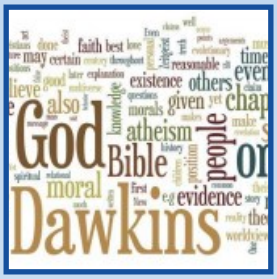
Religious Studies (Eduqas A Level)

What is the Course About?



We will explore various concepts such as the link between morality and religion, considering reasons for ethical decision making, the development of ethical theories and their influence on society. We will also critically evaluate the strengths and weaknesses of these theories. We will analyse different arguments to prove the existence of God, explore religious experiences and examine psychological views of religion in the context of the rise of atheism. All this is considered through the lens of Christianity, which we consider in detail. Many of the topics overlap considerably with contemporary issues and we consider issues like immigration, sexuality and the connection between politics and religion

Is this Course Suitable for Me?

You should expect to take a lively interest in the way the world is developing today. The Ethics modules are particularly topical and feature regularly in the news. Read about religion, ethics and philosophy from any source that you can find; if it excites you, interests you or even makes you annoyed, this might be the right course for you. You will enjoy this course if:

- You have an enquiring mind.
- You have an interest in moral dilemmas and religious issues.
- You enjoy investigation and discovery.
- You enjoy debate and argument.
- You want to develop analytical skills.
- You want to keep your options open for the wider world after 18+.

What Can I Combine it With?

RS complements other A-Levels with shared skills including:

- Philosophy, History, Government and Politics, Sociology, Psychology & English Literature

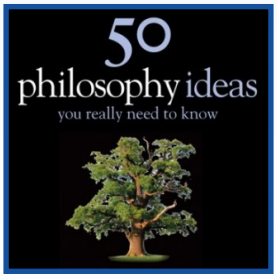
For a well rounded portfolio of A-levels RS also combines well with:

- Maths, Sciences & MFL

RS fits well with other level 3 courses, including:

- Art and Design CTEC, Criminology Diploma, Business CTEC, Health and Social Care CTEC.

How will I be assessed?



Exam board: EDUQAS Religious Studies A-Level. This course is linear, so all exams are in Year 13

Paper 1: Study of Religion 2 hours 100 marks
Paper 2: Philosophy of Religion 2 hours 100 marks
Paper 3: Ethics and Religion 2 hours 100 marks

All papers have the same structure where marks are split between shorter explanatory essays (40%) and longer evaluative essays (60%) .

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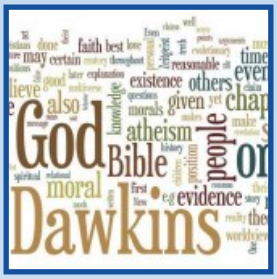
Year 12 Course Content

This year provides a basis for further study and addresses some of the major issues in Religion, Philosophy and Ethics.



Study of Religion (Christianity)

- Is God male?, Can God Suffer?, Is Christianity really monotheistic?

Philosophy of Religion

- Are there any successful arguments for the existence of God?, What are miracles?, How can God allow human suffering?

Ethics and Religion

- How should we make moral decisions?, Should we show love when making decisions?, Is it right to use animals for experiments?

Year 13 Course Content

This year builds on the previous year, making more links across the topics.

Study of Religion (Christianity)

- Can you only get to heaven if you are religious?, How has the Christian church developed in the 20th Century?, What problems did the first Christians face?

Philosophy of Religion

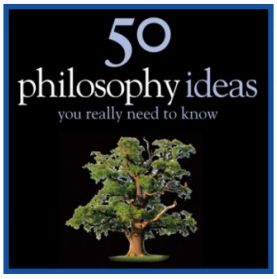
- Why does Freud say religion is a mental illness?, What do we mean when we talk about God?, Are near death experiences real?

Ethics and Religion

- Is everything determined or do we have free will?, How do we decide if an act is moral?, What are the ethics of the death penalty?

Where next?

Religious studies is a highly regarded A-level by both employers and universities at all levels and across a wide range of subject areas. It develops communication, evaluation and problem solving skills needed in the current world and provides cultural understating and knowledge which is valued in the current globalized community.



Previous students of RS at SWCHS have gone on to study at Russell group and Oxbridge universities, studying subjects such as theology, linguistics, history and philosophy. Many pursue careers as varied as business, charity work and journalism.

For more information please contact:

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