

RELIGIOUS STUDIES

GCSE

INTRODUCTION

The GCSE Religious Studies course covers content from a Western religious perspective, with a focus on ethics and philosophy in the modern world. Our chosen religions of focus will be Christianity and Islam.

WHAT WILL I LEARN?

Students will learn how to demonstrate an understanding of the influence of religion on individuals, communities and societies, from different perspectives. These may derive from either different religions or different views/denominations within a particular religion. The course ensures that learners know and understand the fact that religious traditions of Great Britain whilst being, in the main, Christian are also diverse and include the following religious and non-religious traditions and beliefs such as humanism and atheism. Learners will be expected to know, understand and express common and divergent views, and the basis for beliefs, teachings and practice.

HOW WILL I BE ASSESSED?

In Year 11 you will be assessed on three components and will complete three written papers;

Component 1: Religious, Philosophical and Ethical Studies in the modern world

Written examination: 2 hours
50% qualification, 120 marks (plus 6 marks for spelling, punctuation and grammar)

Component 2: Study of Christianity

Written examination: 1 hour
25% qualification, 60 marks (plus 6 marks for spelling, punctuation and grammar)

Component 3: Study of a World Faith

Written examination: 1 hour
25% qualification, 60 marks.



WHY STUDY THIS COURSE?

You will study topics that explain the diversity of life and religion in the modern world. It can also complement other subjects such as; **English**, as it helps to build a learner's knowledge of religious ideas, concepts and symbols which is crucial to the study of literature; **History**, as it can help a learner to develop a greater understanding of the religious issues behind important events in history; **Science**, as it can provide an important perspective when considering the 'why' and 'how' questions often asked in science. This course will allow learners to improve their philosophical thinking skills and their ability to think outside of the box. It will allow them to understand the contemporary ethical and religious issues such as medical ethics and religious fundamentalism, as well as developing their communication skills as they learn to clearly express their views and increase their self-confidence.

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

The Religious Studies GCSE is open to all students but due to the qualification being 100% examined, it is recommended that students have a good attitude to learning levels and attitude towards the subject. Students are required to be attaining A1 or A2 attitude to learning grades in Religious Studies throughout Year 9.

FUTURE OPPORTUNITIES

Religious Studies equips you with a range of transferable skills that will aid you in a range of subjects offered at post-16. It is a qualification that employers look for due to the analytical and strategic thinking that is required, as well as a range of other key skills that you develop throughout the course.

FURTHER INFORMATION

The course specification can be viewed at www.edugas.co.uk; select qualification, the subject Religious Studies and then the GCSE tab. The GCSE Specification we follow is for the Full Course and is Route A. If you would like any further information please contact Miss Day, Head of Religious Studies.