



Teddington Sixth Form

A Level Philosophy & Ethics

Course Details & Transition Tasks
2020-2022

A level Religion Philosophy and Ethics

Exam Board – OCR

Aims and learning outcomes OCR's A Level in Religious Studies will encourage learners to:

- Develop their interest in a rigorous study of religion and belief and relate it to the wider world
- Develop knowledge and understanding appropriate to a specialist study of religion
- Develop an understanding and appreciation of religious thought and its contribution to individuals, communities and societies
- Adopt an enquiring, critical and reflective approach to the study of religion
- Reflect on and develop their own values, opinions and attitudes in the light of their study.

What are the key features of this specification:

The key features of OCR's A Level in Religious Studies are:

- Three components, each with clear and well-defined content and strong supporting materials
- A choice of five major world religions for in depth study, allowing you to choose the most appropriate and interesting approach for you and your learners
- The encouragement to develop learners' understanding of the modern world and establish a deeper knowledge and appreciation of world religions
- The opportunity for learners to apply their knowledge and skills to contemporary issues, creating an up-to-date and thoroughly relevant course
- A focus on inspiring and motivating learners, while challenging and developing their perceptions of different world religions
- An emphasis on enabling learners to respond critically and engage with a wealth of philosophical, ethical and religious concepts, equipping them with analytical skills readily transferable to other subjects

Content Overview - A Level in Religious Studies

- The OCR A Level in Religious Studies will build on the knowledge, understanding and skills established at GCSE (9–1).
- Learners will be introduced to a more advanced approach to Religious Studies, and will develop a deeper understanding of the beliefs, teachings and philosophy they study.
- All learners will study three components; Philosophy of religion (01), Religion and ethics (02) and Developments in religious thought (03–07). Whilst Components 01 and 02 are mandatory, the third will be chosen from the five available options; Christianity (03), Islam (04), Judaism (05), Buddhism (06) or Hinduism (07).
- 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. Religion and ethics is characterised by the study of ethical language and thought, with exploration of key concepts and the works of influential thinkers.
- Ethical theory will also be applied to issues of importance; namely euthanasia, business ethics, and sexual ethics.
- Developments in religious thought provides an opportunity for the systematic study of one religious tradition. This will include the exploration of religious beliefs, values, teachings and practices that shape religious identity, as well as sources of wisdom and authority. Also central are the ways in which religious traditions have developed over time, and religious responses to challenges and significant contemporary social issues.

A Level Religious Studies - Overview

Component Title	Content Overview
Philosophy of Religion (01)	<p>Learners will study:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• ancient philosophical influences• the nature of the soul, mind and body• arguments about the existence or non-existence of God• the nature and impact of religious experience• the challenge for religious belief of the problem of evil• ideas about the nature of God• issues in religious language
Religion and Ethics (02)	<p>Learners will study:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• normative ethical theories• the application of ethical theory to two contemporary issues of importance• ethical language and thought• debates surrounding the significant idea of conscience• sexual ethics and the influence on ethical thought of developments in religious beliefs
Development in Religious Thoughts (03-Christianity)	<p>Learners will study:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• religious beliefs, values and teachings, their interconnections and how they vary historically and in the contemporary world• sources of religious wisdom and authority• practices which shape and express religious identity, and how these vary within a tradition• significant social and historical developments in theology and religious thought• key themes related to the relationship between religion and society

What skills can you expect to develop?

THALES OF MILETUS

- Hailed as "the first Greek mathematician"
- Invented abstract geometry
- Including the notion that a circle is bisected by its diameter
- and that the base angles of isosceles triangles are equal.

Challenging the beliefs of others

Develop skills such as forming an argument and debating different ethical and philosophical ideas.

Many topics covered are relevant to today's world such as business ethics, sexual ethics and medical ethics

You will develop critical thinking and analytical skills to solve problems and dilemmas?

Pythagoras



- Pythagoras was a Greek scholar and philosopher ca 548 BC to 495 BC.
- Known as "the father of numbers, his teachings covered a variety of areas such as mathematics, music, astronomy, and topography.
- Born in Samos, he is best known for the **Pythagorean Theorem** which bears his name.

Religion, Philosophy and Ethics at Teddington

Day to Day Lessons

- Open and honest discussion about ideas and own opinions
- Analysis of others' ideas
- Note taking
- Independent reading
- Essay writing
- Group/paired/individual tasks
- Essay structure

Day to Day Assessment of progress

- Checklists (PLCs)
- Folder checks
- End of topic essays

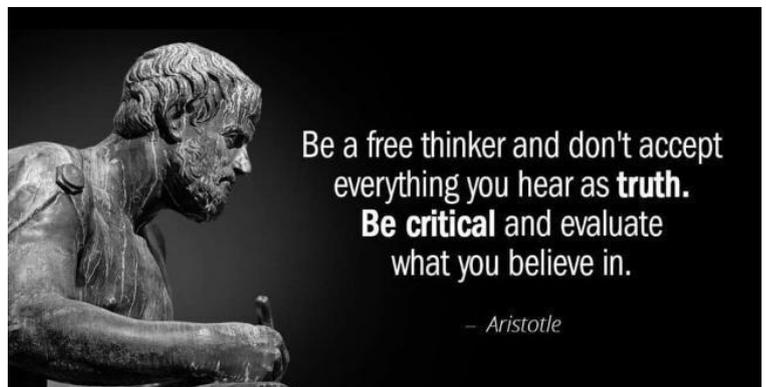
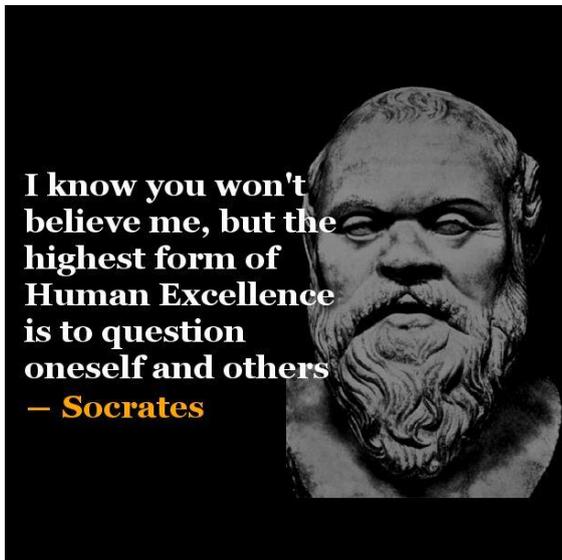


Year 13 Philosophy and Ethics Students at a conference in Covent Garden with Peter Vardy (British Philosopher and Author)

A Level Religious Studies Assessment

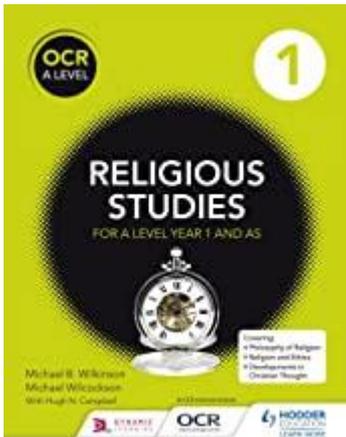
This specification has a simple, clear assessment structure which consists of three written examinations.

Component Title	Marks	Duration		Weighting
Component 1	Philosophy of Religion	120	2 hours	33.3%
	Three questions from four			
Component 2	Religion and Ethics	120	2 hours	33.3%
	Three questions from four			
Component 3	Development in Religious Thoughts	120	2 hours	33.3%
	Three questions from four			

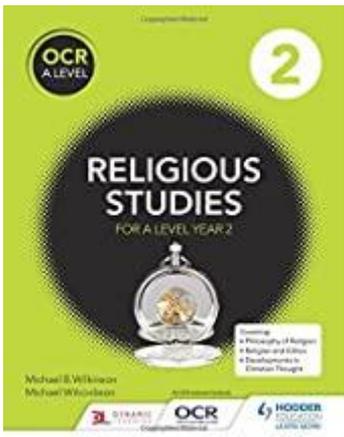


Relevant Course Materials

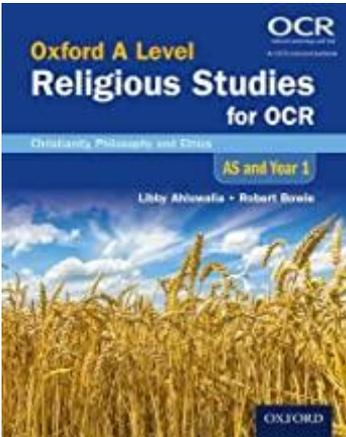
Course Textbooks



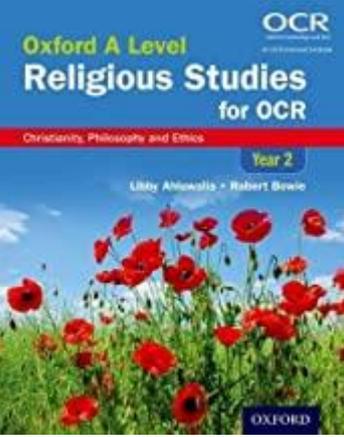
OCR Religious Studies A Level Year 1 (Hodder)
by Hugh Campbell, Michael Wilkinson, et al.



OCR Religious Studies A Level Year 2 (Hodder)
by Michael Wilkinson and Michael Wilcockson

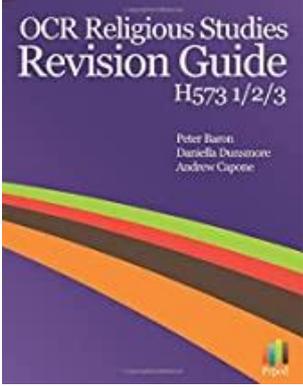
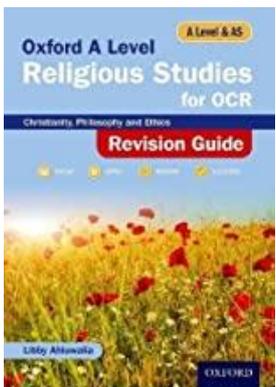
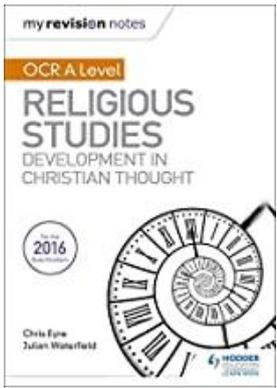
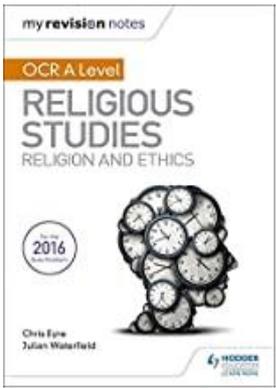
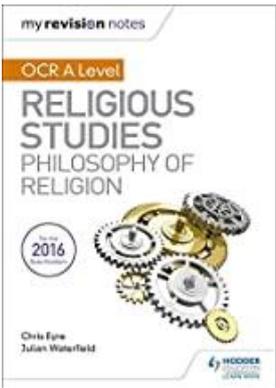


Oxford A Level Religious Studies for OCR: AS and Year 1 Student Book: Christianity, Philosophy and Ethics
by Libby Ahluwalia and Bob Bowie



Oxford A Level Religious Studies for OCR: Year 2 Student Book: Christianity, Philosophy and Ethics
by Libby Ahluwalia and Robert Bowie

Revision Guides



These are a selection of the different revision guides available.
Students can see the example copies in school to see which guides would suit their learning.

Transition Tasks – An introduction to Religion, Philosophy and Ethics

Websites	Online Channels
<p>OCR A-Level Specification https://ocr.org.uk/qualifications/as-and-a-level/religious-studies-h173-h573-from-2016/</p> <p>PEPED https://peped.org/</p> <p>For this website you will need to use the drop-down menu ‘subjects’ then select the area you are working on – there are model essays, articles tutorials etc</p> <p>Philosopher Kings http://www.philosopherkings.co.uk/</p> <p>RS Revision Websites https://revisionworld.com/a2-level-level-revision/religious-studies-level-revision https://www.thestudentroom.co.uk/a-level/subjects/religious-studies/ http://www.rsrevision.com/contents/newalevel_ocr.html</p>	<p>Ethics Online www.ethicsonline.co.uk</p> <p>You can view all of their online videos for free until July 2020. You can register for free to access them.</p> <p>Youtube</p> <p>You can subscribe to and watch (for free) short videos on most of the topics listed above. Subscribe to the following channels by typing in...</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Crash Course Philosophy • Wireless Philosophy • Famous Philosophers • Philosophy Tube • School of Life <p>Podcasts</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BBC Radio 4 – In our Time: Philosophy • Philosophy Bites • Philosophize This! • Panspsycast <p>TED Talks – search for any topic – they are very good and universities use them a lot.</p>
Social and Film/TV	Reading
<p>If you are on Twitter, I would recommend following these:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Philosophy now • Ancient Philosophy • Stephen Law • Richard Dawkins <p>Relevant films</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Transcendence (consciousness) - The Matrix (What is real?) - Inception (What is real?) - Schindler’s List (Problem of Evil) - The Passion of the Christ (Gory Crucifixion alert!) - A Short Stay in Switzerland (Euthanasia) - Erin Brockovich (Business Ethics) - The Invention of Lying (Life after death) <p>Relevant TV Series</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The Good Place (Netflix) - After Life (Netflix) - The Handmaid’s Tale (Dystopian Future) - Story of God with Morgan Freeman (Netflix and Youtube) 	<p>Sophie’s World by Jostein Gaarder</p> <p>Books by Peter Vardy I would recommend:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - God Matters - The Puzzle of God - Ethics Matter - The Puzzle of Ethics <p>Books by Stephen Law I would recommend:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The Complete Philosophy Files - Believing Bullsh*t - The Great Philosophers <p>Books by Richard Dawkins I would recommend:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The God Delusion - The Selfish Gene - The Blind Watchmaker <p>Books by Rosemary Radford Reuther I would recommend:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Feminist theologians - Sexism and God Talk

