



PHILOSOPHY, ETHICS & RELIGIOUS STUDIES

A Level

Course Outline

This is a course that will stretch your mind, introduce you to great thinkers and give you a very useful qualification for higher education. This course gives you the opportunity to address the most profound philosophical questions about human existence through studying the philosophy of religion and ethics.

In Philosophy of Religion you will examine the major religious questions about the existence of God and in Ethics you will consider how and why humans make decisions about what is right or good behaviour and look at specific ethical issues. The final section of the course entails a fascinating in depth academic study of Buddhism, including its origins, philosophy and meditative practices.



Useful skills and experience

Do you enjoy debating and arguing about philosophical issues, challenging popular ideas and giving your own point of view?

You should have an enquiring mind, be receptive to new ideas and enjoy asking fundamental questions about important issues.

Philosophy of Religion and Ethics challenge students to criticise and analyse different ideas and to develop well-reasoned arguments. You should be able to work both independently and as part of a group and also be willing to participate fully in the often lively and energetic discussions which are essential for the development of good essay writing skills.



Exam Boards and Specification

OCR
Oxford Cambridge and RSA



Assessment

You will be required to be actively involved in lessons which comprise a mixture of individual study and group discussion work. All modules are examined in June of Year 13, assessment is by essay, and there is a choice of questions.



Where could this subject take me?

The skills you will be developing are highly valued in all kinds of careers, particularly those in which employers will be looking for someone with excellent communication skills, an ability to think critically, an appreciation of different viewpoints and an ability to come to clear balanced decisions.



Entry Notes

Grade 4 in GCSE Religious Studies if studied.



Complementary Subjects

- Philosophy complements all subject choice combinations



What our students say

It requires a lot of changing how you think but is a really enjoyable subject.

The course is enjoyable and really interesting but you do need to be able to write essays.

