

A LEVEL RELIGIOUS STUDIES

Awarding Body: OCR H573



Examinations (each 2hrs)

All content is examined at the end of Y13 – there is no coursework in RPE.

Each paper will contain four essay questions, with the learner choosing three out of the four to answer.

1. Philosophy of Religion (01)
2. Religion and Ethics (02)
3. Developments in Religious Thought – Christianity (03)

Course content

Studying Religion, Philosophy and Ethics at Newstead Wood School provides students with an exciting opportunity to consider the big questions in life such as why we are here, matters of right and wrong and issues surrounding belief.

Paper 1: Philosophy of Religion	Paper 2: Religion and Ethics	Paper 3: Christian Thought
▪ 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.	▪ Normative ethical theories (Natural Moral Law, Situation Ethics, Utilitarianism) ▪ The application of ethical theory to Business Ethics and Euthanasia ▪ Ethical language and thought. ▪ debates surrounding the significant idea of conscience. ▪ sexual ethics ▪ The influence on ethical thought of developments in religious beliefs	▪ Augustine's teachings on human nature. ▪ Death and the Afterlife ▪ The Nature of God ▪ The person of Jesus ▪ Christian moral principles ▪ Religious pluralism ▪ Gender Theology ▪ Secularism ▪ Liberation Theology

What skills will you develop?

Assessment Objectives		
AO1	Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of religion and belief, including: ▪ religious, philosophical and/or ethical thought and teaching ▪ influence of beliefs, teachings and practices on individuals, communities and societies ▪ cause and significance of similarities and differences in belief, teaching and practice ▪ approaches to the study of religion and belief.	40%
AO2	Analyse and evaluate aspects of, and approaches to, religion and belief, including their significance, influence and study.	60%

Entry requirements

Grade 7 or above in at least one of English and/or a Humanities (namely, Religious Studies, History or Geography)

Future opportunities

Religion, Philosophy and Ethics teaches students how to think critically, challenge assumptions and construct arguments. It also helps them to develop a broad understanding of the beliefs that influence societies and individuals. As such, it is highly regarded by universities and employers and equips students well for a broad range of careers including in Law, Medicine, Psychology, Business, Journalism, Media etc... Students often subsequently go on to study 'Religious Studies', 'Philosophy', 'Religion and Ethics' or 'Theology' at university. Philosophy is a particularly popular choice as part of a joint honour's degree, for example, 'Philosophy, Politics and Economics' ('PPE'), 'Philosophy and Computer Science' or 'Psychology, Philosophy and Linguistics' ('PPL').

Further information

Our results are consistently high, and we are extremely proud of the achievements of our students. In recent years our students have gone on to study Philosophy, Theology or PPE at Oxford, Durham, Warwick, Sheffield and St Andrews. For any specific queries, please email akarmockgold@newsteadwood.co.uk