

RELIGIOUS STUDIES

YEAR 12

AUTUMN 1

Christianity - Religious figures and Sacred Texts (4 weeks). Students will study the birth narratives in Matthew and Luke, different views towards the resurrection, and the Bible as a source of wisdom and authority.

Christianity – Religious Concepts (4 weeks). Students will study the nature of God - is God male? Can God suffer? Beliefs associated with the Holy Trinity and different understandings of atonement.

Prior Learning
Students will build on the analytical skills that they have developed throughout Key Stages 3 and 4 and their understanding of Christian beliefs and practices.

AUTUMN 2

Religion and Philosophy – Religious Experience (3 weeks). Students will study visions, conversions, mysticism and prayer, and the challenges to the objectivity and authenticity of such religious experiences.

Religion and Philosophy – Religious Experience (3 weeks). Students will study the influence of religious experience on religious practice and faith, definitions of miracles, and challenges to their authenticity.

Prior Learning
Students will continue to build on the analytical skills that they have developed at Key Stage 3 and 4 and the issues they have explored regarding miracles.

SPRING 1

Christianity – Religious identity through diversity (3 weeks). Students will study Infant and Believer's Baptism, the different beliefs surrounding Eucharist and the practices associated with festivals of Christmas and Easter.

Religion and Ethics – Ethical Thought (3 weeks). Students will study Divine Command Theory, Virtue Theory and Ethical Egoism, and the issues associated with these theories.

Prior Learning
Students will build on the work covered within the Religious Experience unit by looking at specific examples from within the Christian tradition.

SPRING 2

Religion and Ethics – Natural Law (3 weeks). Students will study the key elements of Thomas Aquinas' Natural Law system, as a religious ethical system, and apply it to the issues of abortion and voluntary euthanasia.

Religion and Philosophy – Inductive Arguments for the Existence of God (3 weeks). Students will study Cosmological and Teleological arguments for the existence of God, and challenges to these arguments.

Prior Learning
Students will build on the work covered on ethical decision-making by looking at a religious ethical system.

SUMMER 1

Religion and Philosophy – Deductive Arguments for the Existence of God (3 weeks). Students will study Ontological arguments for the existence of God, and challenges to these arguments.

Religion and Philosophy – Challenges to Religious Belief (3 weeks). Students will study the problem of evil and suffering, and religious responses to these challenges, in the form of the Augustinian and Irenaean Theodicies.

Prior Learning
Students will build on the analytical skills developed within the Religious Experience topic, by studying further arguments for the existence of God.

SUMMER 2

Christianity – Religious Life (3 weeks). Students will study the teachings of Martin Luther, the beliefs of the Early Church as portrayed in the New Testament, and the key moral principles of Christianity.

Religion and Ethics – Teleological Ethical Systems (4 weeks). Students will study the key elements of Utilitarianism, and apply it to the issues of animal experimentation and nuclear weapons.

Prior Learning
Students will build on their understanding of key Christian concepts from term one, and how these have led to division within the Church. They will also be able to contrast religious and non-religious ethical systems.

CAREERS LINKS

Health and social care professions, legal profession, education, public Service sector.

CHARACTER LINKS

Moral virtues such as compassion, respect and humility are fostered when examining faiths and belief systems. Curiosity, reflection and critical thinking are encouraged (intellectual virtues) when pursuing lines of enquiry in to knowledge and truth.

KEY ASSESSMENT DATES

Students will have regular practice timed exam questions in lessons or as homework. There will be a formal assessment in assessment weeks and at the end of each unit.