



Religious Studies

Engage

Endeavour

Excel



Entry Requirements: There are **no entry requirements** for Religious Studies (RS). No prior knowledge of the subject is required. The course builds on, but does not depend on, the knowledge, understanding and skills specified for GCSE RS. It is recommended that candidates have attained communication and literacy skills at a level equivalent to GCSE Grade 5 in English.

Pass Rate: 100% Pass. Almost all the students achieve their highest grade in RS!

Exam Board: Eduqas

There is a very good up-take for Religious Studies at A-Level. Currently around 20 students begin an A-Level in Religious Studies each year, with almost all staying on for the full two years. The Department follows the Eduqas syllabus, specifically the Philosophy of Religion; Religious Ethics and Islam.

Student Voice: *"What I like about RS is how it has helped me to clarify my own thoughts and to logically organise an argument. This has helped me greatly in all my studies."*

Student Voice: *"RS A-Level is very different to GCSE. It is not just learning about religion, it makes you think about things differently. It challenges your own opinions and through discussions, I have a much better understanding of the views of others, which will help me in my chosen career of mental health."*

Student Voice: *"RS is the most interesting of all my subjects. The study of ethics, especially the application of theories to real scenarios, has given me far more self confidence in forming my own beliefs and values, which I know will help me when studying for a degree in medicine."*

Student Voice: *"Religious Studies is made up of such wide topics, skills and learning methods that it keeps my interest in class, and this encourages me to read more widely than I ever did before. I enjoy the mix of philosophy and ethical debates, but it also has helped me to understand my own faith more fully."*



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A Level Religious Studies Eduqas Specification

Year 12

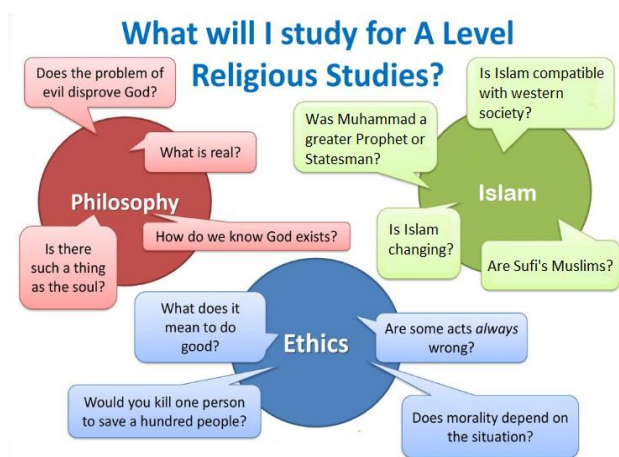
Philosophy of Religion	Religious Ethics	Islam
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Proof of the existence of God 2. Challenges to belief in a God 3. The Problem of Evil & Suffering 4. Are Mystical experiences real? 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Understanding Moral choices 2. Objective or self-serving ethics 3. Immoral behaviour & justice 4. Applied Ethics – abortion; crime; euthanasia; immigration; relationships 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Pre-Islamic Arabia & The Prophet 2. Beliefs, teachings & ethics 3. Unity, division & Muslim Identity 4. Islam and change

Year 13

Philosophy of Religion	Religious Ethics	Islam
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Freud and Jung on religion. 2. Atheism as an answer to faith. 3. Religious experience & miracles 4. Religious Language. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Meta Ethics to guide our actions 2. Applying moral laws - case studies: the Death Penalty; Immigration 3. Predestination v Determinism 4. How far am I free to choose? 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Sources of Shari'a and Jihad 2. Religion and Western society 3. Shi'a and Sufism in Islam 4. Crime & Punishment in Islam

A-Level Assessment

A-Level RS is assessed by three exams taken at the end of the two-year course. Each exam lasts 2 hours and the questions are drawn from material covered over the whole two years. Each of the three disciplines, Philosophy of Religion, Religious Ethics, and Islam carry equal weight, with each contributing a third of the final marks awarded. All questions require essay style answers, with part A requiring a display of knowledge and understanding, while part B requires a display of analysis and evaluation ability.



Beyond A-Levels: Future career Aspirations

Over 250 students have left WHGS with an A Level in Religious Studies. Whilst a small number have gone on to study RS or Philosophy, the vast majority have simply found the course to be a useful springboard to a variety of courses. The most popular destination for RS students has proven to be a branch of law or some form of medicine.

Student Voice: "RS is a mind opening subject which delivers lots of transferable skills and real life applications. I can see how these will help prepare me for a law degree."

Student Voice: "Studying the beliefs and actions of others has helped me to focus on a career in neuroscience, as well as giving me the confidence of securing the grades I require."

Student Voice: "I enjoyed GCSE RS so doing A Level was an easy choice for me. I have not regretted it and I have so far thoroughly enjoyed the course and the help I receive from the staff."

Note: All Student Voice contributions are from current Year 13 RS students.

