

A2 Programme of study and Eduqas Specification

Year 1 – Philosophy of Religion and Christianity

Teacher: Mr Hyde

Term	Module/Theme of Study
Term 1.1	Theme 1: Arguments for the existence of God – Inductive A. Inductive arguments – Cosmological Argument B. Inductive arguments – Teleological Argument C. Challenges to Inductive arguments
Term 1.2	Theme 2: Arguments for the existence of God - Deductive A. Deductive argument – Origins of the Ontological Argument B. Deductive argument – developments of the Ontological Argument C. Challenges to the Ontological argument
Term 2.1	Theme 3: Challenges to Religious Belief (Part1) – the Problem of Evil and Suffering A. The Problem of Evil and Suffering B. Religious Responses to the problem of evil: Augustinian Theodicy C. Religious Responses to the problem of evil: Irenaean Theodicy
Term 2.2	Theme 4: Religious Experience (Part 1) A. The nature of religious experience B. Mystical experience C. Challenges to the objectivity and authenticity of religious experience Assessment on Philosophy of Religion
Term 3	Theme 1: Religious Figures and Sacred Texts A. Jesus: his birth B. Jesus: his resurrection C. The Bible as a source of wisdom and authority in daily life
Term 3	Theme 2: Religious Concepts A. The Nature of God B. The Trinity C. The Atonement

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Year 1 – Religion and Ethics and Christianity

Teacher: Mr McCarthy

Term	Module/Theme of Study
Term 1.1	Theme 1: Ethical Thought A. Divine command theory B. Virtue theory C. Ethical egoism
Term 1.2	Theme 2: Aquinas' Natural Law- a Religious approach to ethics A. Thomas Aquinas' Natural Law: Laws and precepts as the basis of morality B. Aquinas' Natural Law: the role of virtues and good in supporting moral behaviour. C. Aquinas' Natural Law: application of theory
Term 2.1	Theme 3: Situation Ethics – a Religious approach to ethics A. Joseph Fletcher's Situation Ethics: his rejection of other forms of ethics and his acceptance of sage as the basis of morality. B. Fletcher's Situation Ethics: The principles as a means of assessing morality C. Fletcher's Situation Ethics: application of the theory.
Term 2.2	Theme 4: Utilitarianism – a non-religious approach to ethics A. Classical Utilitarianism – Jeremy Bentham's Act of Utilitarianism: happiness as the basis of morality. B. John Stuart Mill's development of Utilitarianism: Types of pleasure, the harm principle and the use of rules. C. Utilitarianism: Application of the theories (Acts and Rules) Assessment on Philosophy of Religion
Term 3	Theme 3: Religious Life A. Faith and works B. The community of believers C. Key moral principles
Term 3	Theme 2: Religious Practices that shape religious identity A. Religious identity through diversity in baptism B. Religious identity through diversity in Eucharist C. Religious identity through diversity in festivals

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Year 2 – Philosophy of Religion and Christianity

Teacher: Mr McCarthy

Term	Module/Theme of Study
Term 1.1	Theme 1: Challenges to religious belief – Religious belief as a product of the human mind A. Religious belief as a product of the human mind: Sigmund Freud B. Religious belief as a product of the human mind: Carl Jung C. Issues relating to rejection of religion: Atheism
Term 1.2	Theme 2: Religious Experience (Part 2) A. The influence of religious experience on religious practice and faith B. Different definitions of miracles C. Contrasting views on the possibility of miracles: David Hume and Richard Swinburne
Term 2.1	Theme 3: Religious Language (Part 1) A. Inherent problems of religious language B. Religious language as cognitive, but meaningless C. Religious language as non-cognitive and analogical
Term 2.2	Theme 4: Religious Language (Part 2) A. Religious language as non-cognitive and symbols B. Religious language as non-cognitive and mythical C. Religious language as a language game Assessment
Term 3	Theme 1: Religious Figures and Sacred Texts A. The Bible as a source of wisdom and authority B. The Early Church (in Acts of the Apostles) C. Two views of Jesus
Term 3	Theme 2: Significant social developments in religious thought A. Attitudes towards wealth B. Migration and Christianity in the UK C. Feminist theology and the changing role of men and women

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Teacher: Mr McCarthy

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Term 1.1	Theme 1: Ethical Thought A. Divine command theory B. Virtue theory C. Ethical egoism
Term 1.2	Theme 2: Aquinas' Natural Law- a Religious approach to ethics A. Thomas Aquinas' Natural Law: Laws and precepts as the basis of morality B. Aquinas' Natural Law: the role of virtues and good in supporting moral behaviour. C. Aquinas' Natural Law: application of theory
Term 2.1	Theme 3: Situation Ethics – a Religious approach to ethics A. Joseph Fletcher's Situation Ethics: his rejection of other forms of ethics and his acceptance of sage as the basis of morality. B. Fletcher's Situation Ethics: The principles as a means of assessing morality C. Fletcher's Situation Ethics: application of the theory.
Term 2.2	Theme 4: Utilitarianism – a non-religious approach to ethics A. Classical Utilitarianism – Jeremy Bentham's Act of Utilitarianism: happiness as the basis of morality. B. John Stuart Mill's development of Utilitarianism: Types of pleasure, the harm principle and the use of rules. C. Utilitarianism: Application of the theories (Acts and Rules) Assessment on Philosophy of Religion
Term 3	Theme 3: Significant historical developments in religious thought A. Challenges from secularisation B. Challenges from science C. Challenges from pluralism and diversity within tradition
Term 3	Theme 2: Religious Practices that shape religious identity A. Religious identity through diversity in unification B. Religious identity through diversity in experience C. Religious identity through diversity in poverty and injustice