

Religious Studies

A level (OCR)

Religious Studies at A Level is an exciting and academically rigorous course. You will develop your understanding of religious thought, consider the challenges faced by religion in an increasingly secular society, and develop skills of analysis, evaluation and argument.

Entry Requirements

- **Minimum Standard:** Five or more grades at 4+ in GCSE or equivalent, including English and Maths.
- **Additional Criteria:** Minimum standard with a 5+ in RS, Geography or History and a 5+ in English (Lang or Lit).

What will you learn?

Philosophy of Religion

Ancient Philosophical Influences mind, body and soul, Arguments for and Against the Existence of God, The Problem of Evil, Religious Experience: Fact or Fiction, What/Who is God? and The Value of Religious Language.

Ethics

Natural Law, Kantian Ethics, Situation Ethics, Utilitarian Ethics, Business Ethics, Euthanasia, Conscience, Meta-ethics and Sexual Ethics.

Development in Christian Thought

The Person of Jesus Christ, Life After Death, Human Nature, Moral Principles and Action, Feminist Theology, Gender and Society, and Religious Pluralism.

How will you learn?

You will learn by studying three distinct components that combine factual knowledge with deep critical evaluation:

- Knowledge and Understanding (AO1): Memorize key religious concepts, sacred texts, and the specific arguments of major philosophers and scholars.
- Analysis and Evaluation (AO2): Practice weighing up strengths and weaknesses, critiquing arguments, and forming your own structured judgments.
- Synoptic Linking: Connect ideas across different modules—such as linking body/soul concepts in philosophy with resurrection ideas in religious thought.
- Essay Writing: Learn to plan and write clear, balanced essays with focused introductions, continuous critical evaluation, and strong conclusions

How will you be assessed?

33.3%

Paper 1 – 33.3% Philosophy of religion.
Written exam.

33.3%

Paper 2 – 33.3% Religion and ethincs.
Written exam.

33.3%

Paper 3 – 33.3% Developments in religious
thought. Written exam.

Where will it take you?

Religious Studies at A Level has inspired students to pursue a wide range of courses at degree level, including Theology, Philosophy and the Social Sciences. It will develop your skills of communication, critical thinking, analysis and evaluation whilst providing you with the confidence needed to perform well in many academic university subjects.

Who should you talk to?

Please speak to Mrs Hardcastle or email:
hannah.hardcastle@thebourneacademy.com