

## A Level Religious Studies

Subject Title	Religious Studies
Exam board	OCR
Specification code	AS H173 A level H573
Exam details	AS 3 papers: 1 hour 15 minutes each A level 3 papers: 2 hours each
Setting arrangements	None
Time allowed	12 lessons per fortnight
Link to the Toolkit:	
Textbooks and revision guides	Oxford A level Religious Studies for OCR 978-0-019-837533-3
Homework information	3-4 hours per week to include, but not exclusively a range of independent research, reading, revision and essay writing

Term	Topics	Skills	Assessment
<b>Year 12</b> 1	Ancient philosophical influences: the philosophical views of Plato, in relation to: understanding of reality, the Forms, the analogy of the cave, the philosophical views of Aristotle, in relation to: the understanding of reality, the four causes and the Prime Mover Utilitarianism	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Understanding different viewpoints</li> <li>• Empathy</li> <li>• Self-critical awareness</li> <li>• Independent thinking</li> <li>• <u>Skills in the classroom</u> Critical and evaluative listening</li> <li>• Presentation to the class</li> <li>• Articulating concepts and ideas</li> </ul>	At least one examination question used as an assessment at the end of each theme. Some of these to be completed in individual study, others completed in timed conditions in lessons.
1	Fletcher's situation ethics, including: agape, the six propositions, the four working principles and conscience	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Asking questions</li> <li>• <u>Evaluative skills</u></li> </ul>	Retrieval Practice Short tests and exam question for homework

1	Aquinas' natural law, including: telos, the four tiers of law and the precepts
2	Augustine's Teaching on Human Nature Human relationships pre- and post-Fall, Original Sin and its effects on the will and human societies, God's grace
2	Kantian Ethics including: duty, the hypothetical imperative, the categorical imperative and its three formulations and the three postulates
2	Arguments based on observation including the teleological argument, the cosmological argument and challenges to arguments from observation
2	Christian moral action The teaching and example of Dietrich Bonhoeffer on: o duty to God and duty to the State o Church as community and source of spiritual discipline o the cost of discipleship Knowledge of God's Existence Natural knowledge of God's existence: as an innate human sense of the divine, as seen in the order of creation Revealed knowledge of God's existence: through faith and God's grace, Revealed knowledge of God in Jesus Christ
3	Arguments based on reason the ontological argument
3	The nature and influence of religious experience, including: mystical experience, conversion experience, different ways in which individual religious experiences can be understood

- Making links between themes
- Analysis
- Evaluation
- Establishing opinions
- Individual Study
- Independent Research
- Reading
- Writing skills
- Balanced argument
- Critical and persuasive argument
- Concise notetaking
- Organising ideas and content
- Using evidence to support arguments
- Essay writing especially with examination timings
- Skills for examinations
- Analysing examination questions
- Effective revision

A mix of retrieval practice and essay writing
As term 1
Revision and testing on terms 1 and 2 Essay questions looking at how topics are interlinked in the exam
Timed essay question in class

3	Death and the Afterlife Christian teaching on: heaven, hell and purgatory Election		As for term 1 and Mock examination to assess all 3 papers and elements from Y12 and 13. Consider whether to focus student revision on a range, but not all themes. Assess for essay writing style and effectiveness particularly
3	Soul, mind and body the philosophical language of soul, mind and body in the thinking of Plato and Aristotle Metaphysics of consciousness, including: substance dualism and materialism		
4	Christian moral principles The diversity of Christian moral reasoning and practices and sources of ethics, including: the Bible as the only authority for Christian ethical practices, Bible, Church and reason as the sources of Christian ethical practices, love (agape) as the only Christian ethical principle which governs Christian practices Euthanasia Key ideas, including: the sanctity of life, quality of life, voluntary euthanasia and non-voluntary euthanasia		
4	The person of Jesus Christ Jesus Christ's authority as: the Son of God, a teacher of wisdom, a liberator		
5	Revision and AS prep		
6	Intro to A Level		
<b>Year 13</b> 1	The nature and attributes of God Conscience Gender and society Religious Language: negative; analogical; or symbolic Religious Language: negative; analogical; or symbolic	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Understanding different viewpoints</li> <li>• Empathy</li> <li>• Self-critical awareness</li> <li>• Independent thinking</li> <li>• <u>Skills in the classroom</u> Critical and evaluative listening</li> <li>• Presentation to the class</li> <li>• Articulating concepts and ideas</li> </ul>	At least one examination question used as an assessment at the end of each theme. Some of these to be completed in individual study, others completed in timed conditions in lessons.
2	Gender and theology Sexual ethics Meta-ethical theories		As for term 1 and opportunities for retrieval practice to be built into lessons
			Developing skills from terms 1, 2 and 3

3	Religious pluralism and theology The challenge of secularism Revision and self-assessment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Asking questions</li> <li>• <u>Evaluative skills</u></li> <li>• Making links between themes</li> <li>• Analysis</li> <li>• Evaluation</li> <li>• Establishing opinions</li> <li>• <u>Individual Study</u></li> <li>• Independent Research</li> <li>• Reading</li> <li>• <u>Writing skills</u></li> <li>• Balanced argument</li> <li>• Critical and persuasive argument</li> <li>• Concise notetaking</li> <li>• Organising ideas and content</li> <li>• Using evidence to support arguments</li> <li>• Essay writing especially with examination timings</li> <li>• <u>Skills for examinations</u></li> <li>• Analysing examination questions</li> <li>• Effective revision</li> </ul>	As for term 1 and Mock examination to assess all 3 papers and elements from Y12 and 13. Consider whether to focus student revision on a range, but not all themes. Assess for essay writing style and effectiveness particularly
4	Religious pluralism and society Liberation theology and Marx		As for term 1 and 2
4 & 5	Revision of all Year 12 & 13 work		As for Term 1 and 2

Links to websites and revision materials:

<https://www.ocr.org.uk/qualifications/as-and-a-level/religious-studies-h173-h573-from-2016/planning-and-teaching/>

<https://global.oup.com/education/content/secondary/key-issues/ocr-a-level-religious-studies/?region=uk>

<https://divinityphilosophy.net/a-level-model-essays/>

<http://www.philosopherkings.co.uk/>

<https://www.edgbarrowschool.co.uk/sixth-form/information/year-13/>

<https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PL8dPuuaLjXtNgK6MZucdYldNkMybYIHKR>