

Philosophy and Ethics



Subject	Religious Studies
Exam Board	OCR
Head of Department	Mr Galgey

Assessment

Unit 1: Philosophy of Religion		Unit 2: Ethics		Unit 3: Development of Christian Thought	
33.3%	Written Exam, 2 hours	33.3%	Written Exam, 2 hours	33.3%	Written Exam, 2 hours

Welcome to Religious Studies,

This transition pack will provide you with a brief outline of the course structure and a reading list of sources and videos. You may wish to use these sources before and throughout the course to improve your wider understanding. This pack also contains some interesting and fun activities to get you ready for the first few weeks of the course. Please submit your work by the set to sixthform@sta.islington.sch.uk for the attention of Mr Galgey.

Curriculum Map (Term 1)

September - October 2020	November - December 2020
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ancient philosophical influences Normative ethical theories Religious beliefs, values and teachings, their interconnections and how they vary historically and in the contemporary world 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The nature of the soul, mind and body The application of ethical theory to two contemporary issues of importance Sources of religious wisdom and authority

Subject Specific Reading List:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Annas, J. (1998) An Introduction to Plato's Republic, Oxford University Press, Chapters 9 and 10 Stanford Encyclopedia of Philosophy (2004, rev.2013), Plato, http://plato.stanford.edu/entries/plato/ Blackmore, S. (2010) Consciousness; an introduction, Routledge, Chapters 1, 2 and 17 Ryle, G. (1949 - many editions available) The Concept of Mind, Chapter 1 Stanford Encyclopedia of Philosophy (2003 rev. 2009) Ancient Theories of the Soul http://plato.stanford.edu/entries/ancient-soul/ Dawkins, R. (1991) The Blind Watchmaker, Penguin, Chapter 1 Palmer, M. (2002) The Question of God, Routledge, Chapters 2 and 3 Van Inwagen, P. 'Necessary Being: the Ontological Argument' in Stump, E and Murray, M. J. (ed) (1999) Philosophy of Religion: The Big Questions, Blackwell Plantinga, A. (1978) God, Freedom and Evil, Grand Rapids, II.c Van Inwagen, P. 'Necessary Being: the Ontological Argument' in Stump, E and Murray, M. J. (ed) (1999) Philosophy of Religion: The Big Questions, Blackwell Plantinga, A. (1978) God, Freedom and Evil, Grand Rapids, II.c Augustine, 'What is evil?' in Davies, B. (2000) Philosophy of Religion: a guide and anthology, Oxford University Press
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Useful Websites:	<p> www.pped.co.uk www.tutor2u.net www.senecalearning.com https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PL8dPuuaLjXtNgK6MZucdYldNkMybYIHKR </p>
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Preparing for Post 16 courses

Dear 11 Students,

During these ever changing and difficult times it is very hard for you all to feel like you know how best to think about your education. With the picture over exam grades yet to be clearly defined at this point it feels better for you all to think about your next steps instead and look to work on preparing for post 16 courses. Most of you will have a good idea about what you intend to study next year and therefore subject leaders for all of the A-Levels we teach at Cherwell have devised some preparation work that you can work on during the next few weeks. The first set of work should take you around 2-3 hours in total, please do not feel you need to spend longer than this but if you get interested it is also fine to read more around the topic/unit.

Religion, Philosophy and Ethics (RPE):

In year 12 you will study a range of philosophy and ethics units. These include a study and application of different ethical theories such as natural law, utilitarianism. Philosophy units include Plato and Aristotle, Soul, Mind and Body, and Arguments for the existence of God. At this stage though we want you to start with the basics! You will find that you have something to read, watch and listen to for both philosophy and ethics.

Why this work?

Before starting the course it is really useful to have some background knowledge about what philosophy and ethics is so the first preparation for sixth form study will focus on this to help you understand how the approaches and ways of thinking in this subject are very different to what you might be used to. You might find that people are using vocabulary that you have never heard and also ideas that you've never come across. Don't worry - remember we will go through all of this when we teach you! We just want you to begin to develop some knowledge and understanding in these areas.

Where should I complete it?

Complete tasks either on paper or in Microsoft Word (or similar).

For Tasks 1 and 2; email your work to sixthform@sta.islington.sch.uk –

- If you have completed your task on a computer please attach the document to an email
- If you have completed your tasks on paper then please take a clear photo and email the photo

For Task 3; bring your work to your first lesson in september –

- If you have completed your task on a computer please save this in Google Drive or bring a memory stick containing it with you
- If you have completed your tasks on paper then please bring this to lessons

How long will it take?

Task 1 should take you around 2-3 hours in total (approximately 1.5 hours for philosophy and 1.5 hours for ethics), please do not feel you need to spend longer than this but if you get interested it is also fine to read more around the topic. Task 2 and Task 3 should take you approximately 6 hours each.

Task 1: Philosophy

Due: 29th May 2020

Email to: sixthform@sta.islington.sch.uk

A-Level topic: An Introduction to Philosophy		TASK
Something to read	'The Man Who Asked Questions: Socrates and Plato' by Nigel Warburton, <i>A Little History of Philosophy</i>	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1) Read the information from start to finish2) Write a brief summary of what philosophy is about3) Write a list of 10 interesting things you've learnt about each Socrates and Plato
Something to watch	What is Philosophy (Crash Course) https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1A_CAkYt3GY Theory of Knowledge (Epistemology) https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=r_Y3utleTPg	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1) Watch each of the videos one at a time. We recommend watching it once fully without making notes and then a second time to be able to write things down that you found interesting.2) Summarise the main ideas of each video in no more than 3 sentences. Make sure you include subheadings in your notes.
Something to listen to	MM McCabe on the 'Socratic Method' [13 minutes] https://hwcdn.libsyn.com/p/0/9/4/094f2a0c73fbaff/M.M. McCabe on Socratic Method.mp3?c_id=1779479&cs_id=1779479&expiration=1585146798&hwt=55c041ac4c5ff7be409fed6e23a095f If the link doesn't work, google 'Philosophy Bites' and search directly from there.	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1) Listen to the podcast which deals with questions about what are the best ways to do practical ethics and work out how to behave? As you listen, write a list of possible answers to these questions<ol style="list-style-type: none">a) Who was Socrates?b) How do we know about the life and views of Socrates?c) What is the socratic method? What was Socrates trying to show people through using this method?d) Why was the socratic method controversial to some people?e) What does McCabe think Socrates means when he says 'the unexamined life is not worth living?'f) What might be the problems with examining all aspects of life?g) Is there something we can learn from Socrates today? Why is questioning and reflecting important?h) Are there any problems? (e.g. with exams, courses).

Task 1: Ethics

Due: 29th May 2020

Email to: sixthform@sta.islington.sch.uk

A-Level topic: An Introduction to Ethics		TASK
Something to read	What is Ethics (handout)	1) Read the information from start to finish 2) Write a list of 10 interesting things you've learnt about ethics, trying to focus on any new vocabulary you have learnt.
Something to watch	Moral Relativism: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5RU7M6JSVtk Deontology: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wWZi-8Wji7M Consequentialism: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=51DZteag74A Virtue Ethics: https://www.youtube.com/watch?time_continue=92&v=NMB1KpkKYao&feature=emb_logo	3) Watch each of the videos one at a time. We recommend watching it once fully without making notes and then a second time to be able to write things down that you found interesting. 4) Summarise the main ideas of each video in no more than 3 sentences. Make sure you include subheadings in your notes.
Something to listen to	James Wilson 'Real World Ethics' [20 minutes] https://hwcdn.libsyn.com/p/3/5/3/353a0393c3b08eed/James_Wilson_on_Real_World_Ethics.mp3?c_id=52696484&cs_id=52696484&expiration=1585134153&hwt=14fbe132999e47a16eadc71efd13f114 If the link doesn't work, google 'Philosophy Bites' and is on the main home page.	2) Listen to the podcast which deals with questions about what are the best ways to do practical ethics and work out how to behave? As you listen, write a list of possible answers to these questions a) What are thought experiments? (Give an example). What is Wilson's view on the use of thought experiments? b) What is meant by real world ethics? c) How are real world problems different from thought experiments? d) Why does context matter when thinking about ethical issues (according to Wilson)? e) Aside from thought experiments, what other techniques or tools could be used to help make ethical decisions? f) What does Wilson think about the use of principles in ethics? (strengths/weaknesses)

Task 2

Choose **one** boxed area from each of the 3 topic areas in the PLC below **Religion and Philosophy, Religion and Ethics** and **Developments in Christian Thought**. For the first three tasks write a 500 word summary of **different Christian views on the topic**. Use the tips below to you. SUB TOTAL 1500 words.

TIPS for writing about your task above:

1. In all assessments complete the 2 assessment objectives as this is how you will be assessed in the box below in your exams.

A01 – **Knowledge and Understanding** – Examples might include *“What I understand by this Christian idea is...”* and *“A quote from x source suggests ‘....’ However, a quote from another sources states ‘...’”* *Examples and evidence are good to use here for top marks.*

A02 - **Critical evaluation** - Examples might include *“The strength of viewing God a monotheistic is...”*, *“A weakness of the Trinity is....”*

2. The answer needs to be clear and coherent with effective use of specialist vocabulary, so explain those key words clearly.
3. Use your **connectives** when a Philosopher/Ethicist argues an idea, please do NOT use believe, use alternatives like: suggests, stipulates, proposes, maintains, etc.
4. When you summarise someone’s views quote them directly. You should include **at least 5 quotes in both tasks** either from the scholar or the holy book. Explain what you understand them to be arguing and then evaluate their comments and state what you think about it.

Topic 1 – Philosophy of Religion (Mr Galgey)

Choose one of the 12 boxes below and write a 500 word piece on different Christian views on the topic

Due: 26th June 2020 Email to: sixthform@sta.islington.sch.uk



1. Philosophical Language and Thought - Ancient philosophical influences Plato			
Ancient philosophical influences – Aristotle			
Soul, Mind and Body – The philosophical language of soul, mind and body in Plato and Aristotle.			
Metaphysics of consciousness, including substance dualism and materialism.			
2. The Existence of God – Arguments based on observation. The Teleological argument			
Arguments based on observation – Cosmological			
Challenges to argument from Observation (Hume’s criticisms and evolution)			
Arguments based on reason – The ontological argument, Anselm, Gaunilo and Kant			
3. God and the world – The Nature of Religious Experience			
Different ways in which individual religious experiences can be understood			
The problem of evil and suffering – Logical and Evidential problem of Evil			
The problem of evil and suffering – Augustine and John Hick and challenges			

Topic 2 – Religion and Ethics (Mr Brown)

Choose one of the 12 boxes below and write a 500 word piece on different Christian views on the topic

Due: 26th June 2020 Email to: sixthform@sta.islington.sch.uk



1. Normative Ethical Theories: Religious approaches - Aquinas natural law including, telos			
Natural law including the Aquinas four tiers of law and the precepts			
Situation Ethics – Fletchers agape and the six propositions			
Fletchers the four working principles and conscience.			
2. Normative Ethical Theories – Katian ethics, including duty and the hypothetical imperative			
Kantian ethics including the categorical imperative and tis three formulations and thee postulates.			
Utilitarianism including utility and the hedonic calculus			
Utilitarianism including act utilitarianism and rule utilitarianism			
3. Applied Ethics – Euthanasia, the sanctity of life and quality of life			
Voluntary Euthanasia and non-voluntary euthanasia			
Business Ethics – Corporate social responsibility and whistle blowing			
Business Ethics – Good Ethics is good business and globalisation			

Topic 3 - Developments in Christian Thought

Choose one of the 12 boxes below and write a 500 word piece on different Christian views on the topic

Due: 26th June 2020 Email to: sixthform@sta.islington.sch.uk



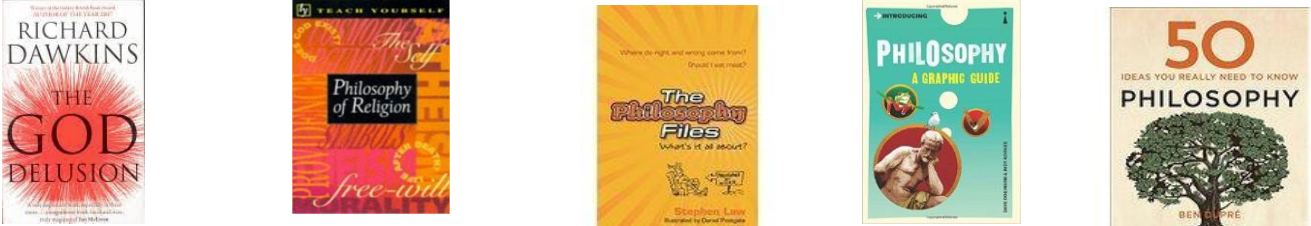
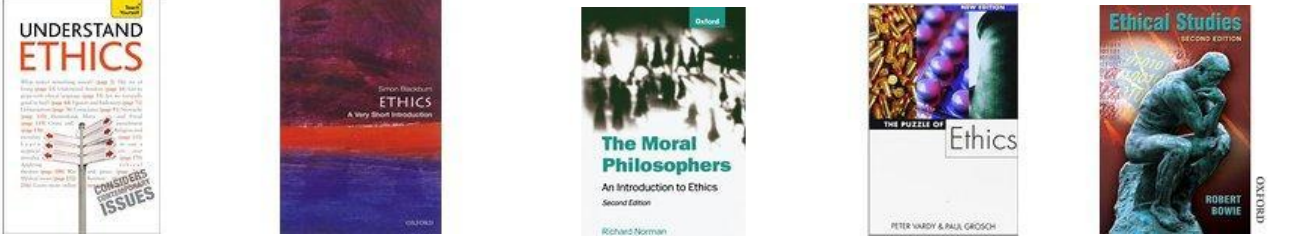
1. Insight – Human relationships and pre-and post-Fall			
Original Sin and its effects on the will and human societies and God's grace			
Death and the afterlife – Christian teaching on heaven, hell and purgatory			
Christian teaching on election including different Christian views on who will be saved			
2. The Foundations - Natural knowledge of God's existence though humanity and creation.			
Revealed knowledge of God's existence, through faith and God's grace and revealed knowledge of God in Jesus Christ.			
Jesus Christ's authority as the Son of God and a teacher of wisdom			
Jesus Christ's authority as the Son of God and a liberator			
3. Living The diversity of Christian moral reasoning and practices sources of ethics, including: The Bible as the only authority for Christian ethical practices			
The Bible, Church and Reason as the course of Christian ethical practices.			
Love (agape) as the only Christian ethical principle which governs Christian practices			
Christian moral action - The teaching and example of Dietrich Bonhoeffer on the duty to God and duty to the State. Bonhoeffer on the Church as community, source of spiritual discipline and the cost of discipleship.			

Task 3

Choose **three books** from the RS course below. Provide a summary of each book and your own view on its contents. (At least 500 words on each one). All the books below are will help with reading for the course. Some of the copies below are available cheaply second hand, the cost supplied is from amazon.

SUBTOTAL 1500 words.

Due: September 2020 Bring to first lesson

Books on Philosophy	Author	Cost
The God Delusion	Richard Dawkins	£2.14
Teach Yourself Philosophy of Religion	Mel Thompson	£2.69
The Philosophy Files	Stephen Law	£1.88
Philosophy A Graphic Guide	Dave Johnson and Judy Groves	£2.54
50 Philosophy Ideas	Ben Dupre	£5.14
		
Books on Ethics	Author	Cost
Teach Yourself Ethics	Mel Thompson	£6.82
A very short introduction to Ethics or Being Good....	Simon Blackburn	£2.81
The Moral Philosophers: An Introduction to Ethics	Richard Norman	£4.08
Puzzle of Ethics	Peter Vardy	£2.28
Ethical Studies	Robert Bowie	£2.81
		
Books on Development in Christianity	Author	Cost
Christianity – A Very Short Introduction	Linda Woodhead	£2.81
History of Christianity	Nick Page	£7.51
Teach Yourself Christianity	John Young	£2.81
The Story of the Book	Terence Copley	£2.79
The Shack	William Young	£1.87
