

PHILOSOPHY, ETHICS & RELIGION

A LEVEL



ST HILDA'S
COLLEGE

Course Content
This course consists of 3 units – Philosophy of Religion, Ethics & Religion and Developments in Religious Thought.
Teaching and Learning
<u>Philosophy of Religion:</u> This is the study of the big questions! Does God exist? Should we fear death? Do we really have freewill? Is there so such thing as fate? Through exploring and debating these questions you will develop a deeper understanding of the world we live in as well as developing the critical thinking skills that are desired by universities and employers alike.
<u>Religion & Ethics:</u> This is the study of right and wrong. Students will critically examine a number of ethical theories and apply them to topical issues. Is abortion wrong? Should we experiment on animals? Where does our conscience come from? Should the death penalty be reintroduced? Students carry out an in-depth study of business ethics, sexual ethics and euthanasia as well as debating other contemporary issues.
<u>Developments in Religious Thought:</u> This is an attempt to explore the key questions raised by religion. What constitutes sin? Is the church sexist? Is there really an afterlife? Do science and religion oppose each other? Students will explore how historical, political and social change has shaped religion in the 21 st century and consider what role, if any, religion will play in the future.
Assessment
3 x 2 hour written examinations - There is no coursework
Progression
The Russell Group of universities has made it clear that Philosophy & Religious Studies A level provides 'suitable preparation for University generally' and both Oxford and Cambridge University include Philosophy, Ethics and Religious Studies in the top level list of 'generally suitable Arts A levels'. Past students have gone onto study a variety of degrees such as Theology, Business studies, Law and Early Years Education.
The critical thinking skills gained in this demanding curriculum area are of value in many different areas. Students go on to work in a variety of different roles in a range of employment sectors. Typical employers include:
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• National and local government• Schools, colleges and universities• Charities, voluntary and non-profit organisations;• Health Service, Social services and other caring professions;• The church and other religious organisations;• Financial and legal firms;• PR, advertising, sales and marketing companies;• Television companies and publishing houses
Entry Requirements
GCSE Grade 4 or above in English is essential. GCSE RS Grade 4 or above is desirable. Students of all faiths and no faith are welcome.
Examination Board
OCR
Further Details
Mrs Martin, Mrs S Sunderland

The 6th Form
@ St Hilda's