

Sixth Form Courses

Philosophy, Religion & Ethics



Why take this subject?

The course offers an academic approach to the study of philosophical questions about the nature of the universe, the human nature and moral behaviour. PRE allows you to discuss, debate and enquire into the fundamental questions that characterise human existence.

What do I need to have studied at GCSE?

No prior knowledge of Philosophy, Religion and Ethics is required. However, the opportunity is provided for candidates who have studied Philosophy & Ethics at GCSE to build on knowledge, understanding and skills gained at that level. Students wishing to study Philosophy and Ethics will be expected to have achieved at least a grade B in English or equivalent Humanities GCSE.

What will we study?

Students will explore and consider a range of philosophical and ethical issues and development in religious thought. Some of these issues have been debated by philosophers since the times of Ancient Greece such as the nature of God, reality, goodness and evil. Other issues studied are very contemporary such as the moral debate surrounding euthanasia and same-sex relationships.

Content overview	Assessment
<p>Philosophy of Religion:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ancient philosophical influences • the nature of the soul, mind and body • arguments about the existence or non-existence of God • the nature and impact of religious experience • the challenge for religious belief of the problem of evil • ideas about the nature of God • issues in religious language. 	<p>(01) 120 marks 2 hour written paper 33.3% of total A Level</p>
<p>Religion and Ethics:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • normative ethical theories • the application of ethical theory to two contemporary issues of importance • ethical language and thought • debates surrounding the significant idea of conscience • sexual ethics and the influence on ethical thought of developments in religious beliefs 	<p>(02) 120 marks 2 hour written paper 33.3% of total A Level</p>
<p>Developments in Christian thought:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • religious beliefs, values and teachings, their interconnections and how they vary historically and in the contemporary world • sources of religious wisdom and authority • practices which shape and express religious identity, and how these vary within a tradition • significant social and historical developments in theology and religious thought • key themes related to the relationship between religion and society 	<p>(03) 120 marks 2 hour written paper 33.3% of total A Level</p>

What super curricular opportunities will be available to me?

Students will be given the chance to visit places of worship, conferences to support exam success, university taster lectures on Philosophy and the unique opportunity of an overseas residential visit to Rome or Athens.

What can this subject lead to?

During the course the students will have an opportunity to develop philosophical evaluation, critical thinking, ethical exploration, creative and independent learning. Philosophy, Religion & Ethics is a challenging course which require a high level of analytical and evaluative study. The course is rigorous and demanding in terms of subject content and requires a great deal of independent reading and research.

Consequently the course is highly regarded by universities and businesses alike and can lead to careers in **Law, Journalism, Medicine** and many other professions involving communication and interface with people.