## Purpose of the course

A Level Religious Studies (which includes the study of Philosophy, Ethics & New Testament studies) is of interest to students wishing to build upon what they have learned in their GCSE Religious Studies. The Edexcel Specification offers an academic approach to the study of Religious Studies and is accessible to candidates of any religious persuasion or none.

The course encourages students to:

- Develop their interest in, and enthusiasm for, a rigorous study of religion and its relation to the wider world.
- Treat the subject as an academic discipline by developing knowledge, understanding and skills appropriate to a specialist study of religious ideas.
- Adopt an enquiring, critical and reflective approach to the study of religious concepts.
- Reflect on and develop their own values, opinions and attitudes in the light of their learning.

## Entry requirements

Grade 5 in Religious Studies and English but depends on other relevant results

## Type of qualification

A Level: graded A* to E

## Course contents

Students will study the following topics throughout the course:

**Philosophy of Religion:**
- Philosophical issues and questions
- The nature & influence of religious experience
- The problems of evil & suffering
- Religious language
- Works of scholars
- Influences of developments in religious belief

**Ethics:**
- Significant concepts in issues or debates in religion & ethics
- A study of three ethical theories
- Application of ethical theories to issues of importance
- Ethical language
- Deontology, Virtue Ethics and the works of scholars
- Medical ethics: beginning and end of life issues

**New Testament Studies:**
- Social, historical and religious context of the New Testament
- Texts and interpretation of the Person of Jesus
- Interpreting the text and issues of relationship, purpose and authorship
- Ways of interpreting the scripture
- Texts and interpretation: the Kingdom of God, conflict, the death and resurrection of Jesus
| Scientific and historical-critical challenges, ethical living and the works of scholars |
| Assessment method |
| **Paper 1: Philosophy of Religion** (EDEXCEL *Paper code: 9RS0/01)  
Written examination: 2 hours 33.33% of the qualification 80 marks |
| **Paper 2: Religion and Ethics** (*Paper code: 9RS0/02)  
Written examination: 2 hours 33.33% of the qualification 80 marks |
Written examination: 2 hours 33.33% of the qualification 80 marks |
| Further studies |
| The course is of considerable value in its own right and there are many courses in Religious Studies, Philosophy and Theology in further education. Many of our students have moved on from JFK to study these courses at degree level. The A Level may complement and balance choices in other subject areas, especially humanity subjects.  
It is highly regarded by universities and employers alike. |
| More information from |
| Mr Brophy, Mr Fahey & Mrs Kolka |