

Key Stage 5 Subject Timeline Year 12 & 13

Subject: Philosophy & Ethics

Exam Board: AQA

KEY: Cultural Capital

Diversity and Inclusion

Careers

	Autumn	Spring	Summer
Topics	<i>Philosophy of Religion and Ethics</i>	<i>Ethics and Religion</i>	<i>Christianity</i>
Key skills and Concepts	<p>Skills Identify different arguments for the existence of God and challenges to these. <i>Compare arguments for and against the existence of God.</i> Understand views on evil and suffering and religious experience from differing viewpoints.</p> <p>Key Concepts <i>There are many arguments the existence of God including the design argument, ontological argument and cosmological argument, as well as challenges to these.</i> Evil and suffering can be used to argue against belief in God but there are also challenges to this. <i>The way sin which different religious experiences can be explained and the impact this can have on followers.</i></p>	<p>Skills Identify different approaches to ethical decision making. <i>Compare different approaches to ethical decision making.</i> Application of ethical theories to real life issues of human and non-human life and death.</p> <p>Key Concepts <i>There are different approaches to ethical decision making including natural moral law, situation ethics and Aristotle's virtue ethics.</i> Different approaches to ethical decision making can have an affect on the way that issues of human and non-human life and death can be viewed, for example embryo research, abortion, euthanasia, capital punishment, uses of animals for food, science, medicine and entertainment.</p>	<p>Skills Identify and analyse sources of wisdom and authority within Christianity. <i>Acknowledge and compare different views on Christian sources of wisdom and authority.</i> Identify and compare different views that Christianity holds on God. <i>Compare Christian opinion on the self, death and afterlife.</i></p> <p>Key Concepts The importance of the Bible, the Church, and Jesus within Christianity. <i>Different Christian and non-Christian views about these sources of authority.</i></p>
Threshold Concepts	There are different ways to argue for a belief in God, but these also come with arguments against them in the form of challenges to these theories.	There are different ways to respond to ethical dilemmas and these different responses can cause different outcomes when using them in real life situations.	There are different views on the three major authorities within Christianity; these being the Bible, the Church, Jesus and God.
Endpoints	<p><i>Paley's Analogical Design Argument – strengths and weaknesses.</i> Criticisms of Paley's Design Argument from Hume. <i>Paley's Design Argument and the role faith has in this.</i> Anselm's Ontological Argument – strengths and weaknesses. <i>Criticisms of Anselm's Ontological Argument from Gaunilo and Kant.</i> The value of Anselm's argument for religious faith.</p>	<p>Normative ethical theories including deontological, teleological and character-based theories. <i>Strengths and weaknesses of natural moral law and the principle of double effect with reference to Aquinas.</i> Strengths and weaknesses of situation ethics with reference to Fletcher. <i>Strengths and weaknesses of virtue ethics with reference to Aristotle.</i> The application of each of the three normative ethical theories to issues of human and non-human life and death.</p>	<p><i>Sources of wisdom and authority including the Bible, Church and Jesus.</i> Monotheistic Christian views of God including God as omnipotent, and transcendent. <i>The meaning and purpose of life.</i> Christian views on resurrection. <i>Different Christian interpretations of judgement, heaven, hell, and purgatory.</i></p>

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	<p><i>Aquinas' Cosmological Argument – strengths and weaknesses.</i></p> <p>Criticisms of Aquinas' argument from Hume and Russell.</p> <p><i>The value of Aquinas' argument for religious faith.</i></p> <p><i>Concepts of natural and moral evil.</i></p> <p>The logical and evidential problem of evil.</p> <p><i>Strengths and weaknesses of responses to the problem of evil and suffering including the free will defence, Hick's soul-making theodicy, and Griffin's process theodicy.</i></p> <p>The nature of religious experiences such as visions, numinous experiences, and mystical experiences.</p> <p><i>The challenges of verifying religious principles and religious responses to these challenges as well as Richard Swinburne's principles of credulity and testimony.</i></p>		<p>Christian views of good conduct and key moral principles, including the sanctity of life, stewardship, and dominion.</p> <p><i>Different expressions of religious identity, including baptism, holy communion, and the mission of the Church.</i></p>
<p>Assessment</p>	<p>Philosophy of Religion Assessment</p>	<p>Ethics and Religion Assessment</p>	<p>AS Level Style Assessment</p>