

Religious Studies at OLA

"The unexamined life is not worth living" Socrates

Specification

Awarding body: OCR

Code: H573

The course is a two year A Level culminating in three two-hour examinations each comprising 33.3% of the total A level. The specification consists of three parts:-

- **Philosophy of Religion** - topics studied include: ancient philosophical influences, the nature of the soul, mind and body, arguments about the existence or non-existence of God, the challenge for religious belief of the problem of evil, and the philosophy of religious language.
- **Religion and Ethics**- topics studied include: normative ethical theories (Utilitarianism, Kant, Natural Moral Law and Situation Ethics), ethical language and thought, debates surrounding the significant idea of conscience, the application of ethical theory to Business ethics, euthanasia and sexual ethics.
- **Developments in Christian thought** - topics studied include: religious beliefs, values and teachings, their interconnections and how they vary historically and in the contemporary world, sources of religious wisdom and authority, significant social and historical developments in theology and religious thought - including pluralism and the rise of secularism, key themes related to the relationship between religion and society including Gender and theology and Liberation Theology and Marxist thought.

Who is suitable for this course?

Study RS if:

- You want to find answers to some of life's big questions
- You enjoy debating and putting forward arguments for your point of view. (although the course is Christian based, but you do not need to have a religious faith)
- You are ready to have their ideas challenged
- You enjoy reading and are willing to write – assessment is based on evaluative essays.

Where can Religious Studies lead?

Students following this course gain:

- The ability to think logically and to analyse the views of others
- The ability to put forward your own opinion both orally and in writing
- The opportunity to think about your own views of religion and what is right and wrong and to decide whether they are reasonable.

Career opportunities after studying RS/Theology at university are broad, varying from vocational courses to media and the City. James Norton (Happy Valley, McMafia) studied Theology at Cambridge. Two recent OLA RS candidates, Sam Hoskin and Olivia Purvis have gone on to study Politics Philosophy and Economics, and English at Jesus College, Oxford and Girton College, Cambridge respectively. This year James Himspon has won a place to read Philosophy at King's College Cambridge.



James Norton - theologian!

Results

2018 100% A*-E

All students met predicted grades.



Olivia studying RS before going to Cambridge