

A Level Philosophy, Ethics and the study of Religion.

Philosophy: Investigations are upon rational thinking, striving to make no unexamined assumptions and no leaps based on faith or pure analogy.

Ethics: Encompasses right conduct and good living. How do we decide upon right and wrong and which authority takes priority?

Developments of Christian Thought:



What will I study?

Philosophy:

Ancient Greek Influences

Plato

Aristotle

Traditional arguments

Cosmological: Does the universe need a cause?

Teleological: Is there evidence for design in the world?

Religious Language: If something cannot be proven, is it then not true?

Attributes of God.

Miracles: How can an arbitrary God be worthy of worship?

Religious Experience: If there is a God, are there likely to be experiences of him?

Evil and suffering: Is there a justification for evil and suffering in the world

Arguments for the existence of God:

What is the evidence for existence of God?

The nature and function of religion.

Ethics:

Ethical theories

Natural law: Is morality innate, God given?

Kantian Ethics: Are we duty bound to behave in a certain way?

Utilitarianism: Does the masses always take priority over the alone individual

Religious Ethics: Does morality only come from those who have a belief God?

Ethical issues: Embryo research, theft ext.

Meta Ethics: 'The gun is good.' How can this be a valid statement?

Sexual Ethics: Does following our duty provide us with the best guidance towards sex

Euthanasia:

Free Will and Determinism: Is there such thing as free will, are all our actions are predetermine?

The Conscience: Are humans motivated by self-love and benevolence?

Religious identity: The role of faith, works and rituals.

Developments of Christian Thought

Augustine and Human Nature:
Interpreting Augustine Today.

Death and the Afterlife:
Developments and Challenges to
Eschatological Theory.

Knowledge of God's Existence:
Natural/Revealed Knowledge.

Jesus Christ:
Who was he?

Christian Moral Principles:

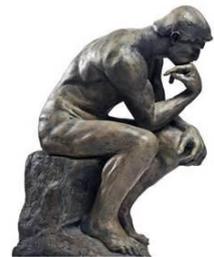
The Life of Dietrich Bonhoeffer:

What skills will I acquire?

The art of Philosophical Discourse- always
based upon reasoned and critical
thought...

Listening
Thinking
Presenting
Debating
Questioning
Exploring

Your brain will hurt after leaving the
lesson!



"Man is the measure of all things".

Can morality differ from place to place, person to person and be determined by society?

Example of questions:

Plato's Analogy of the Cave has nothing to do with reality - Discuss
Examine how faith in God may be challenged by natural and moral evil.
The free will defence is inadequate as the theodicy, evaluate this claim.
Jesus was simply a teacher of wisdom. How far do you agree?



The exam

Philosophy, Ethics and the study of Religion all have equal weighting in the exam.

There are three, 1.5 hour exams at the end of year two.

A01- Knowledge 50%

A02- Analysis and Evaluation 50%