



What will Year 12 students learn and how many lessons will they have each week?

Year 12 students will study 4 hours a week of philosophy of religion, religious ethics, and the developments of Islam. Some of the topics they will explore include, ancient philosophical influences of Plato and Aristotle, the nature of the soul, mind and body, arguments about the existence or non-existence of God, religious experience, and the challenge for religious belief. They will also study normative ethical theories. (Utilitarianism, Kantian, Natural Law) and the application of these theories to two contemporary issues such as Euthanasia and Business ethics. They will also study Islamic spirituality, history, philosophy and ethics and explore contemporary issues in the Muslim world.

What will Year 12 students need to do to get the most out of their lessons?

Year 12 will need to read a lot of contemporary articles about faith in society and explore religious texts. Students will get a lot out of the lessons if they take an interest in different worldviews and are prepared to apply critical thinking to their reading. Students must also be prepared to share their views and be challenged by their peers.

How much homework will Year 12 students have in this subject?

Weekly reading and comprehension tasks are set to increase the knowledge and understanding of the topics being taught in class.

There will also be essay preparation and writing set for homework.

Students will be expected to complete 4 hours of work outside their lessons.

Which careers can this subject lead to?

Activist, Author, Charity Coordinator, Child & Youth Worker, Clergy person, Community Center Director, Community Developer, Diplomat, Entrepreneur, Foreign Service Worker, Historian, Human Rights Advocate, International Aid Worker, Journalist, Lawyer, Legal Aide, Lobbyist, Media Correspondent, Mediator, Museum Curator, Political Consultant, Public Policy Advisor, Religious Rights Advocate, Researcher, Social Worker, Teacher, Victim's Advocate, Writer and many more.

Which other subjects complement this subject?

Humanities subjects (History and Geography) and any Social Sciences subject. Maths will support the areas of the course that explore logic and reasoning. Science subjects will support areas where students explore the beginnings of the universe, creation, intelligent design and the philosophy and history of scientific development in the Islamic world. English language, English Literature and Media will support topics such as Gender Equality, study of religious literature and poetry and the complexity of religious language.

HOW MUCH WRITING DO I HAVE TO DO?

This subject requires you to study the art of essay writing and formulating persuasive arguments that make you confident in putting forward ideas. Each exam paper requires you to write three essays in 2 hours. You will also be expected to write essays for homework and throughout the year.

DO WE HAVE TO STUDY A LOT OF RELIGION IN THE COURSE?

One third of the course is spent on the study of philosophy of religion which explores the ideas of western philosophical traditions, including the study of Jewish, Christian, Atheist and Agnostic philosophers. One third explores ethics which involves discussions and debates about how humans make moral decisions. After which you will apply different ethical principles to business ethics and euthanasia. One third explores Islamic history, Islamic ethics, and Islamic philosophy. You will be expected to study religious texts to understand the principles behind Islamic beliefs and ethics in order to apply this to a variety of philosophical and ethical issues.

HOW DO THE TOP UNIVERSITIES REGARD THIS SUBJECT?

Oxford, Cambridge and all the Russell Group universities offer courses in this subject. In fact, this subject has formed the foundations for learning throughout the history of education in Britain. All universities value this subject as an academic course that prepares students for rigorous independent study. This enables them to be proficient in the use of language, rhetoric and critical thinking which can be applied in all areas of life and work.