

# Religious Studies



## About the Subject

Religious Studies is the social study of Religion and Religious practices. It focuses on contemporary issues and encourages students to engage critically. Although it is a traditional subject, it carries much relevance to understanding the modern world.

Religious Studies is a rigorous A-level, akin to philosophy in its demands and degree of difficulty and is therefore far from being a soft option. Throughout human history, religions of one form or another, have played, and continue to play, a central role in literally billions of people's lives. RS covers all the world's major faiths and considers the future of religion, in an increasingly scientific and arguably secular age.

Choosing Religious Studies will give students a much better understanding of themselves and the society in which we live. Religious Studies requires students to be logical, open-minded and analytical in thought.

Learning activities are interactive and include small-group activities, whole-group discussions, presentations and fun, active involvement in class participation. The method of delivery ensures all learning styles, visual, auditory and kinaesthetic are catered for.

***"RS unlocks many situations which can be related to real life. It provides you with fantastic analytical skills as you must read between the lines and understand complex opinions."***

***Tania (Year 13)***

## Course Content

In the first year, you will study AS level Religious Studies, which comprises of three modules and is half the full A level. In the second year, you will study another three modules which lead to the full A level. Religious Studies can be undertaken as either an AS or A-Level.

The AS modules include: Philosophy of Religion, Religion and Ethics, and Religion and New Testament Studies. Each unit is worth 33.3% of the AS qualification and worth 16% of the Advanced A2 level. The method of assessment is examination consisting of three 1-hour exams. These are taken in May/June of that academic year.

A Level modules include: Philosophy of Religion, Religion and Ethics and New Testament Studies. The method of assessment is three 2-hour examinations.

## Entry Requirements

Students wishing to study AS/A Level Religious Studies must have 5 GCSEs at grade C and above, including a B in an essay-based subject, preferably RE.

## Career Paths

Careers within Religious Studies are wide-ranging, and include teaching, social work, and any graduate fast-track training program.

Religious Studies gives students a valuable insight into the truly diverse and multicultural society in which we live. It is a demanding A level and adequate preparation for a number of popular and demanding undergraduate courses. The skills learned by doing Religious Studies are transferable skills, highly valued in many occupations and useful for entry to many degrees, even if you do not pursue a career in Religious Studies.

### Watch our Video

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