



# Holly Lodge High School A-level Religious Studies 2021-2023

The Eduqas A Level specification contains three components which include a wide range of topics for consideration including an in-depth and broad study of one of the six major world religions, philosophy of religion, religion and ethics.

This course encourages learners to: develop their interest in a rigorous study of religion and belief and relate it to the wider world, develop knowledge and understanding appropriate to a specialist study of religion, develop an understanding and appreciation of religious thought and its contribution to individuals, communities and societies, adopt an enquiring, critical and reflective approach to the study of religion, reflect on and develop their own values, opinions and attitudes in the light of their study. A level Religious Studies is designed to enable learners to develop their interest in, and enthusiasm for, a study of religion and its place in the wider world.

## A Level UCAS points

| Grade | Points |
|-------|--------|
| A*    | 56     |
| A     | 48     |
| B     | 40     |
| C     | 32     |
| D     | 24     |
| E     | 16     |

## Cultural Capital

- construct well informed and reasoned arguments about religion and belief, substantiated by relevant evidence
- Understand, interpret and evaluate critically religious concepts, texts and other sources, present responses to questions which are clear and coherent
- Use specialist religious language and terminology appropriately, identify, investigate and critically analyse questions, arguments, ideas and issues arising from the study of religion including those of scholars/academics.
- Develop enthusiasm for Religious Studies as a subject and careers associated with the subject

## Course Outcomes

This specification provides a suitable foundation for the study of Religious studies or a related area through a range of higher education courses, progression to the next level of vocational qualifications or employment. In addition, the specification provides a coherent, satisfying and worthwhile course of study for learners who do not progress to further study in this subject.

- Ethical language and thought through significant concepts and the works of key thinkers in religion and ethics.
- Three normative ethical theories such as deontological, teleological or character based ethics.
- The application of ethical theory to two personal, societal or global issues of importance, including religious ethical perspectives.
- How ethical language in the modern era has changed over time; including a study of meta-ethical theories and significant ideas in religious and moral thought such as free will, conscience or authority. How the study of ethics has, over time, influenced and been influenced by developments in religious beliefs and practices, the philosophy of religion and/or textual interpretation

## Component 3: Religion and Ethics

2) Philosophical language and thought through significant concepts and the works of key thinkers, illustrated in issues or debates in the philosophy of religion, how views of religious language have changed over time; the challenges posed by the verification/falsification debate and language games theory over whether religious language should be viewed cognitively or non-cognitively

3) A comparison of the significant ideas presented in the field of the philosophy of religion, and developments in the way these ideas are applied to issues in religion and belief.

4) How the philosophy of religion has, over time, influenced and been influenced by developments in religious beliefs and practices, ethics or textual interpretation.

## YEAR TWO

1) Philosophical issues and questions raised by religion and belief including about the existence or non-existence of God, gods or ultimate reality, the nature and influence of religious experience, challenges to religious belief such as the problems of evil and suffering.

## Component 2: Philosophy of Religion

4) The relationship between religious and other forms of identity; religion, equality and discrimination; religious freedom; the political and social influence of religious institutions; religious tolerance, respect and the ways that religious traditions view other religions and non-religious worldviews and their truth claims.

3) Challenges of secularism, science, responses to pluralism and diversity within traditions, migration, the changing roles of men and women, feminist and liberal views.

## YEAR ONE

## Component 1: Study of a religion

There will be four themes within this component: 1) Religious figures and sacred texts. religious beliefs, values and teachings, in their interconnections and as they vary historically and in the contemporary world, including those linked to the nature and existence of God, gods or ultimate reality, the role of the community of believers, key moral principles, beliefs about the self, death and afterlife, beliefs about the meaning and purpose of life

2) Study scripture and/or sacred texts and how they are used and treated, key religious figures and/or teachers and their teachings, practices that shape and express religious identity, including the diversity of practice within a tradition

**Size and Structure:** 100% exam subject assessed by three written examinations each lasting 2 hours

Three components each worth 33.33% of the A level.

Each component consists of three assessment objectives

A01 Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of religion and belief

A02 Analyse and evaluate aspects of, and approaches to, religion and belief

## Key assessments:

Every half term: formative and summative assessments.

Mock exam period 1: January

Mock exam period 2: May