



Wakefield Girls' High School
 Queen Elizabeth Grammar School
Wakefield

Technical Information

A-level

A-level Course Title	Unit Code	Awarding Body
Religious Studies	9RS0	EDEXCEL

A-level Examinations:

Name	Method of Assessment
Paper 1: Philosophy of Religion (Paper code: 9RS0/01)	Examination: 2 hours
Paper 2: Ethics (Paper code: 9RS0/02)	Examination: 2 hours
Paper 3: New Testament (Paper code: 9RS0/03)	Examination: 2 hours

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Course Guide

A-level Religious Studies

Religious Studies

Background Knowledge and Qualifications

There are no prior knowledge requirements to study RS at A-level but the ability to write well-structured essays is essential.

If you have an interest in religion in general, or if you wish to follow a philosophical or ethical approach to religion, then this course will provide you with the opportunity to study some of those areas of interest.

Course Description

This A level is a reformed A Level. For your A level you will be studying the following areas:

Component 1

Paper 1: Philosophy of Religion

Year 12 — Philosophical issues and questions; The nature and influence of religious experience;

Problems of evil and suffering.

Year 13 — Philosophical language; Works of scholars; Influences of developments in religious belief.

Component 2

Paper 2: Ethics

Year 12 — Significant concepts in issues or debates in religion and ethics; A study of three ethical theories; Application of ethical theories to issues of importance.

Year 13 — Ethical language; Deontology, Virtue Ethics and the works of scholars; Medical ethics: beginning and end of life issues.

Component 3

Paper 3: New Testament

Year 12 — Social, historical and religious context of the New Testament; Texts and interpretation of the Person of Jesus; Interpreting the text and issues of relationship, purpose and authorship.

Year 13 — Ways of interpreting the scripture; Texts and interpretation: the Kingdom of God, conflict, the death and resurrection of Jesus; Scientific and historical-critical challenges, ethical living and the works of scholars.

For each paper, students will be assessed in three sections:

Section A — Three short, structured questions.

Section B — Two extended-response questions on an unseen passage.

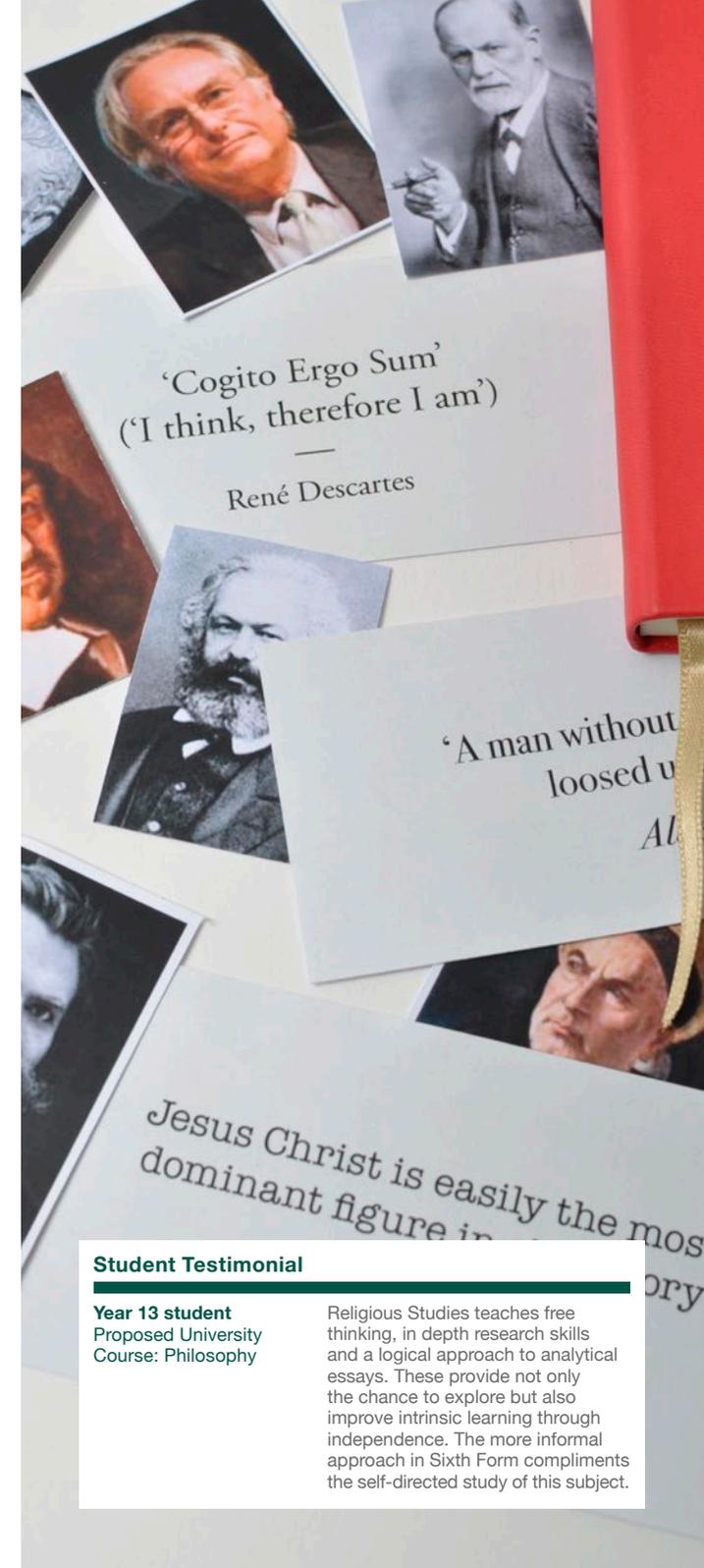
Section C — A choice of two extended essay questions.

Use of Course and Qualification

Successful completion of this A level will give access to a range of possible career and Higher Education opportunities. The course will provide you with the opportunity to develop a range of transferable skills, including the skills of collecting, synthesising and interpreting information from a range of sources, and will consider a range of topical, sensitive and potentially controversial issues. The findings of your research will need to be effectively communicated, and you will also be required to identify and develop the links between the different parts of the subject that you have studied. These skills are in great demand and are recognised by employers, universities and colleges as being of great value.

Religious Studies combines well with almost all other humanities subjects such as History, Geography and English. In addition, if taken with sciences like Mathematics, Physics, Chemistry and Biology, Religious Studies will give you a broad-based curriculum.

Religious Studies will certainly be beneficial if you are seeking a career in Medicine, Law, Politics or Journalism, where an understanding of current and relevant issues, UK Law and an appreciation of different social attitudes is essential. Students have also found themselves suited to caring and empathetic occupations such as social work and nursing. In reality, however, RS graduates have entered many different professions, and the qualification is useful for any occupation which requires a high level of research, analysis and evaluation.



Student Testimonial

Year 13 student
Proposed University
Course: Philosophy

Religious Studies teaches free thinking, in depth research skills and a logical approach to analytical essays. These provide not only the chance to explore but also improve intrinsic learning through independence. The more informal approach in Sixth Form compliments the self-directed study of this subject.