

A LEVEL RELIGIOUS STUDIES

Thank you for choosing A level RS. We are thrilled that you are joining us. We truly believe that the course will develop a variety of knowledge and skills that will benefit you in a variety of degrees/ careers. If you would like to prepare for the A level here are some suggestions of activities that you can do.

There are 3 components to A level Religious Studies

- Buddhism
- Philosophy of Religion
- Religion and Ethics

We have textbooks, so there is no expectation that you will buy them, but if you wanted your own copy, these are the key ones:

- Eduqas A level Buddhism Illuminate publishing Richard Gray ISBN 978-1-908682-97-0
- Eduqas A level Philosophy of Religion Libby Ahluwalia Oxford publishing ISBN 978-1-382-02898-1
- Eduqas A level Religion and Ethics Oxford publishing Clare Lloyd ISBN 978-1-382-02900-1

The revision notes are good summaries and cheaper:

- My revision notes A level Religious Studies Buddhism Richard Houghton-Knight
- My revision notes WJEC and Eduqas A level Religious Studies Philosophy of Religion Clare Lloyd
- My revision notes WJEC and Eduqas A level Religious Studies Religion and Ethics Clare Lloyd

Look at the specification.

The exam board we use is Eduqas. You could look at the specification and resources here: [AS and A Level Religious Studies | Eduqas](#)

Make a timeline of key scholars.

Create a timeline of these key scholars we will be looking at in the first year of the A Level. You could add a few facts about each scholar (e.g. when they lived, where they lived, where they studied (if relevant), one or two key ideas)

Philosophy of Religion – Thomas Aquinas/ William Lane Craig/ William Paley/ FR Tennant/ David Hume / Charles Darwin / Anselm / Descartes / Norman Malcolm / Gaunilo/ Immanuel Kant

Religion and Ethics – Plato/ Aristotle/ Max Stimer/ FH Bradley/ David Hume/ Aquinas/ Tom Finnis/ Bernard Hoose/ Joseph Fletcher/ Jeremy Bentham/John Stuart Mill/Augustine/ John Calvin

Useful websites

YouTube – There are lots of different videos linked to our course but two particularly useful channels are: Ben Wardle and Crash Course Philosophy.

Internet Encyclopedia of Philosophy - This Encyclopaedia covers a number of subjects across the course with articles that contain useful explanations of key concepts and references to scholars. Be aware that this is aimed at students at University level.

BBC Religion & Ethics - The BBC no longer updates this page, but the archived information can provide very useful outlines of religious practices, customs and ethical ideas..

BBC History of Ideas has some relevant short clips. In particular have a look at 5 modern dilemmas Philosophy can help you with [BBC Radio 4 - A History of Ideas - 5 Modern Dilemmas Philosophy Can Help With](#)

Alan Peto has a useful website [Alan Peto - Learn Buddhism for Beginners and Westerners](#)

Play some philosophy games on <https://www.philosophersmag.com/games>
These are great for checking whether your views are consistent.

Podcasts

Alan Peto does some great podcasts on Buddhism that you can listen to.

[thepanpsycast.com](#) has a range of podcasts linked to our course.

BBC In Our Time has some relevant podcasts.

Books

Any book with a philosophical theme. [Seán McGrady's top 10 philosophers' novels | Philosophy books | The Guardian](#)

Law, S. The Philosophy Files,

Warburton, N. Philosophy: The Basics

Gaarder, J. Sophie's World

Davies, B. An Introduction to the Philosophy of Religion

Hansel, N. The Sage Train, Matador 2016

Vardy, P. The Puzzle of God and/or The Puzzle of Ethics

The Moral Philosophers, OUP 1998