



# AS Religious Studies

Pre enrolment Booklet 20-21



Tauheedul Girls

Shireen Apa

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Welcome to the world where you discover the answers to the mysteries of the world!

I am very excited to meet and greet you into the new academic year. I know the year 2020 wasn't all what you expected, but hey, Guess what?!! I'm going to talk you through it in lesson and how the COVID19 played a part in Philosophy and Ethics.

I hope you enjoy the exploring and working through the booklet, as it will be a little taster of the lesson itself.

I look forward to seeing you all in the new year, with your booklet all complete and raring to go!  
**YOU GOT THIS!!!.**

Shireen Apa

Let's get the boring stuff out of the way

## Expectations of learners studying AS Religious Studies at

### Tauheedul Islam Girls Sixth Form

#### Expectations of learners studying AS RS at

#### Tauheedul Islam Girls Sixth Form

**We have very high expectations of all our students at TIGHS. You will be taught to the highest standard and IA it is expected that all learners will achieve an A grade.**

1. You are expected to attend all Religious lessons. If you are absent it is your responsibility to catch up with any work missed
2. There will be a formal in class assessment every week/ fortnight and 2 mock exams during your AS Year. You will also be expected to complete homework. All grades will be recorded and monitored and you will be expected to meet at least your Minimum Target Grade (MTG) on every assessment. If your teacher feel that you need to attend additional sessions (AST), additional 1-1's, supervised study periods then these will be added to your timetable.
3. You must file all your weekly assessments into the folder presented to you. You must record your assessment questions and marks on the record sheet. After each assessment you must annotate your responses with improvements and set yourself 2 targets. This assessment folder is crucial to your success and will be checked on a regular basis.
4. Your folder will be checked on a termly basis to ensure you are organised and up to date with your work.
5. Homework consists of completing homework assessments, revising for the fortnightly assessment, wider reading, completing past exam questions and extended essays. It is expected that you will spend at least 2.5 hours per week on RS homework/ revision
6. It is highly advisable to make personal outline notes on a weekly basis – 20 min each week will pay dividends come exam time. It will also be helpful as a recap and consolidation activity.
7. You are expected to use the resources available to you online, **Religion is everywhere and the best students are those who are up to date with current Social and Religious events.**
8. As teachers we believe we have a rights and duty to teach and all learners have a right and duty to learn. This means that disruptive behaviour, is not expected and will not be tolerated. There is a step by step procedure that will be followed in the case of any behaviour issues. Ultimately, we hope that we will be issue sing out more rewards that sanctions!

Now let discuss (Powerpoint) on how RS can help in your career.

What career do you want to go into?

# WHY STUDY RELIGIOUS STUDIES?

Investigate ultimate questions such as "why does evil exist?" and "what is the purpose of life?"

Study topics that explain the diversity of life and religion in the modern world

Improve philosophical thinking skills and the ability to think outside of the box

Understand contemporary ethical and religious issues such as medical ethics and religious fundamentalism

Develop communication skills and learn to clearly express your views and increase your self-confidence



## RELIGIOUS STUDIES COMPLEMENTS OTHER SUBJECTS



### ART

An understanding of religious ideas, symbols and concepts is crucial to a good understanding of art



### PHILOSOPHY

Religious questions are often deeply philosophical and can serve to improve the critical thinking skills necessary for philosophy



### ENGLISH

A knowledge of religious ideas, concepts and symbols is crucial to the study of literature



### PSYCHOLOGY

Religious Studies promotes deeper thought and analysis of broader issues such as "Do humans have an in-built need for a divine being?"



### HISTORY

Religious Studies help to develop greater understanding of the religious issues behind important events in history

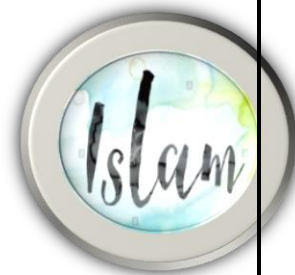


### SCIENCE

Religious Studies often asks the 'why' questions and can provide an important perspective when considering the 'how' questions often asked in science

THE RUSSELL GROUP OF TOP UNIVERSITIES HAS MADE IT CLEAR THAT RELIGIOUS STUDIES PROVIDES 'SUITABLE PREPARATION FOR UNIVERSITY' AND OXFORD AND CAMBRIDGE INCLUDE IT IN THEIR TOP LEVEL LIST OF 'SUITABLE ARTS A LEVELS'.

## SO WHAT WILL YOU LEARN:



### Component 1: An Introduction to the Study of Religion Written examination: 1 hour 30 minutes 33 1/3% of qualification

This component offers the choice of the study of **one** religion from a choice of **six**:

Option A: Christianity Option **B: Islam** Option C: Judaism Option D: Buddhism Option E: Hinduism  
Option F: Sikhism

There will be four themes within each option: religious figures and sacred texts; religious concepts; religious life; and religious practices.

Learners will be expected to answer one question from Section A out of a choice of two and one question from Section B out of a choice of three in this component. Questions can be taken from any area of the specification.

### Component 2: An Introduction to the Philosophy of Religion Written examination: 1 hour 30 minutes 33 1/3% of qualification

There will be four themes within this component: inductive arguments for the existence of God; deductive arguments for the existence of God; challenges to religious belief - the problem of evil and suffering; and religious experience.

Learners will be expected to answer one question from Section A out of a choice of two and one question from Section B out of a choice of three in this component. Questions can be taken from any area of the specification.

### Component 3: An Introduction to Religion and Ethics Written examination: 1 hour 30 minutes 33 1/3% of qualification

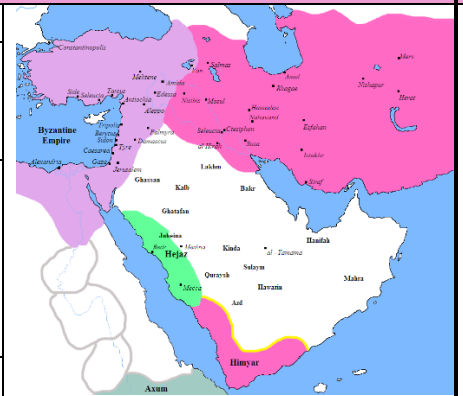
There will be four themes within this component (including applied ethics in themes two to four): ethical thought; Aquinas' Natural Law; Fletcher's Situation Ethics and Utilitarianism.

Learners will be expected to answer one question from Section A out of a choice of two and one question from Section B out of a choice of three in this component. Questions can be taken from any area of the specification.



### Paper 1-Religion-Islam

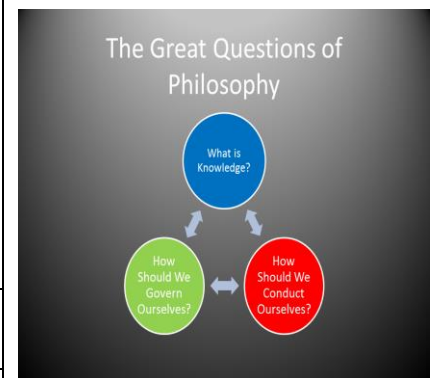
Content	Challenges
The development of the life in Makkah and Madinah	Could the propagation have been any different?
The significance in the development of Islam of both the Hijrah and the life and teachings of Muhammad in Madinah	Would you class the mission in Islam as a failure?
The Quran as a source of Shariah	How effective is the message of the Quran in the 21 <sup>st</sup> century



### Paper 2- Philosophy:- Arguments for the existence of God – inductive and deductive

**This theme considers how the philosophy of religion has, over time, influenced and been influenced by developments in religious beliefs and practices.**

Cosmological and teleological arguments <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Aquinas ways</li> <li>Kalam argument</li> <li>Tennant's anthropic and Aesthetic principles</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Can David Hume's argument prove otherwise?</li> <li>Can the Big bang theory prove the existence of the universe and deny God?</li> </ul>
Guanilo's island	Can an island be compared to the nature of God
St Anslem's Proslogian	Is the ontological argument effective?
The problem of evil and suffering	Who can be put to blame for the evil and suffering? Can God or man?



### Paper 3-Ethics

**This theme considers how the study of ethics has, over time, influenced and been influenced by developments in religious beliefs and practices and the philosophy of religion**

Divine Command theory <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Intuitionism</li> <li>Emotivism</li> </ul>	Is morality an emotion?
Natural Law- situation Ethics	Can you lead a life filled with virtue? Is religion virtuous, or morality virtuous?
Utilitarianism	If everything was about the greater good, does mankind need religion?










# SSortfolio (Scrapbooking)

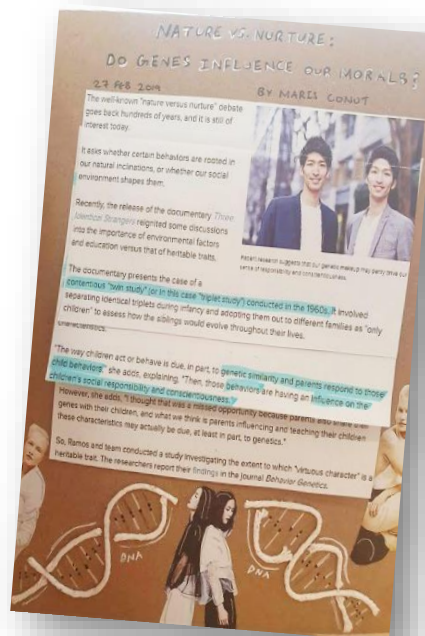
## WHAT IS IT?

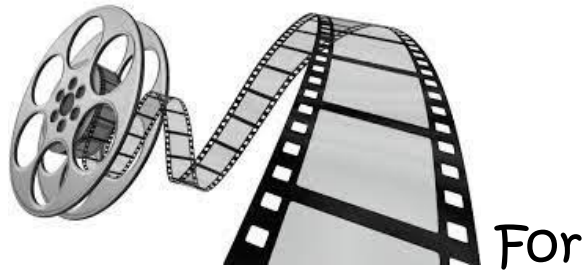
-  A creative outlet to complement weekly learning
-  An array of news articles/info related to the week's learning
-  Own viewpoints/links
-  Global perspective/different cultures/changes over time
-  Generate an exam question from your scrapbook page.

## CRITERIA

-  Creativity: Should be colourful / eye-catching. Make it your own!
-  Links made to A-level Psychology/topics taught
-  Submit every 2 weeks for Psychology
-  Should spend no longer than 30 mins
-  End of term prizes!

Few examples...





For



FILMS FOR ETHICAL STUDY

Film	Study Topic	Ethical Questions	Where can I find it?	Cer t
The Imitation Game	War and peace Utilitarianism homosexuality	Should we save every life? Or should some die for the greater good of others?	Amazon Prime	12A
Avengers: Infinity War/ Endgame	Utilitarianism Good and evil	Is Thanos really the villain? Is he acting in a way that is for the greater good of the universe?	SkyMovies Disney +	12A
Hot Fuzz	Utilitarianism Law and order	The 'Greater Good'? Should we turn a blind eye to the law if it's for the betterment of society?	SkyCinema	15
Valkyrie	War and peace Utilitarianism	Can we justify the assassination of a world leader? Is Von Stauffenberg right to attempt the coup?	Netflix	12A
Zero Dark Thirty	War and peace Utilitarianism terror	How far are should we go to stop terror? Is it justified to assassinate a leader ?	SkyCinema	15
The Dark Knight	War and peace Good and evil Utilitarianism Kantianism Mental health	Is batman wrong not to break his 1 rule – killing the joker? Tip: 2 thought experiments to look out for: opening scene uses Pirate Game Theory and the Prisoners Dilemma on the ferries.	SkyCinema	12A
The Hunger Games Series	War and peace Law and order Utilitarianism Womens rights	Is it right to place the hopes of a revolution on the Mockingjay? Many characters could be behaving in a way that brings the greater good – but are they?	Film 4	12A
Eternal Sunshine of the Spotless Mind	Love Utilitarianism What makes us human	Is pain avoidance a good thing?	Google play/YouTube	15
Hacksaw Ridge	War and peace Mental health	Is pacificism a weakness?	Amazon Prime	15
Spotlight	Abuse Exploitation	How do we protect the most vulnerable from exploitation?	Netflix	15
Deepwater Horizon	Business Ethics Environment	Should companies be more ethical?	Amazon Prime	12
The White Helmets	War and Peace	How far would you go to protect the ones you love?	Netflix	12
The Two Popes	Christianity	Should one person have the authority over religion?	Neflix	12
Lion	Identity Family	Should we have the right to find our parents?	Netflix	PG
Under the shadow	World Cinema Afterlife Supernatural	Do we create the things that 'haunt' us?	Netflix	15
Making Unorthodox	World cinema Judaism Womens rights	Should freedom of marriage be a human right?	Netflix	U

## Activity- 40 mins

1. PPT on debate activity- Is Islam a peaceful a religion?
2. Complete the worksheets

# How to Plan and Write an A grade Religious Studies Essay

In any response that is 10 marks or over you must **PERC it.**

This means you will include an intro –

You will then write 3 or 4 PERC paragraphs, each paragraph will include

1. A Point
2. An Explanation
3. A Reference
4. A Criticism

This structure will ensure that you cover all three skills – A01 and A02

<p><b>Introduction</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• In which you will breakdown what the question is asking you to do.</li> <li>• You will define any key terms and outline key statistics.</li> <li>• philosophers never agree, you will therefore also outline the 2 (or even more) sides of the argument</li> </ul>
<p><b>P – Point</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• You should start each pararaph by making your point. This is the main statement you will discuss in this paragrph.</li> <li>• <b>It would be agood idea to begin or end each paragraph with a direct link to the question, this shows the examiner that you are focused on the question.</b></li> </ul>
<p><b>E – Explain and apply</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• After you have made your point you will explain it in detail – this means breaking it up and developing your point. You may illustrate the point by giving examples</li> </ul>
<p><b>R – Reference</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The cosmological is an inductive prosteriori argument which.. is an evidence/ theory based subject – this means you need to reference a philosopher in each paragraph</li> </ul>
<p><b>C- Criticism or strength</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• This is your evaluation – identify and explain the strengths and/or weaknesses of the points that you have made.</li> <li>• You should use the following language to develop and link your criticism to the question/ point that you have made. An alternative theory to...view...was developed by...who...stated that..... A major criticism of the...view is.... A major weakness of the...theory is....</li> <li>• Support Links Further evidence supports the view that.... In addition... supports the view that....</li> </ul>
<p><b>Conclusion</b></p>	<p>In your conclusion you will address the essay question directly and answer whether the statement is corrent/ incorrect with the main reasons why.</p>



# Let's try some RS

Basic introduction to ethics.

When you are introduced to a dilemma in life, it can be any situation that you could be faced with which will ask you to make an instant decision or a timely decision. In your case this could prove difficult for reasons that an answer may not be available through the Quran, hadith or sunnah. Subsequently what do you do when this situation arises?

There are different approaches to ethical decision making:

- Deontological
- Teleological
- Character based

**Deontology:** the approach to ethics in which the rightness or wrongness of an act is judged by its conformity to duties, rules and obligations.

**Teleological:** these theories hold that there is a goal or purpose to our moral behaviour; they seek to bring about the best consequences of our actions.

**Character based:** these theories are based on persons rather than on actions. They emphasise moral character/the virtues rather than the rules and duties or the consequences of our action

These two are act-centred- we judge that specific acts are good or bad, right or wrong.

= Agent centred goodness is not in the act but in the person

### Task 1

Use the key words to describe the 'act/theory'.

- Do not steal
- Do not lie
- Do not commit adultery
- Do not break your promise

### Task 2

With the person next to you, write 4 more 'acts/theory' that best describe deontology.

### Task 3

You and 4 friends are in a car when it is hijacked at some traffic lights. The group have guns and insist that you shoot one of your friends, if you do not shoot one of them then the hijackers will shoot all of you.

What would you do?

### Task 4

A group of people are in a hot air balloon that is damaged. It is approaching the ground, and fast. If you could only lighten it somehow chances are you can make it to a safe landing. The group have thrown all unnecessary materials overboard, all that remains is the 10 of them, but the air balloon can only carry 8 safely.

Should you pick 2 people to throw overboard?

### Task 5

You are a Doctor in a hospital. You have 5 patients who each need a vital organ transplant. If you don't find a suitable donor they will die.

One night a homeless man is admitted to the hospital for his stomach pumped, it is the 3<sup>rd</sup> time this month he has had to do this.

He has 5 working vital organs which are matches for the 5 transplant patients.

Should the Doctor kill the homeless man to save the 5 patients?



**Go!** give it a

## **Explain the religious and moral benefits Muslims receive by observing Ramadan. [25]**

### **Points to remember:**

- Follow the essay plan
- Make a plan of what you are going to include in your essay
- You are aiming for approximately 500-600 words.

To receive full marks you should include : **21-25 marks**

- Thorough, accurate and relevant knowledge and understanding of religion and belief.
- An extensive and relevant response which answers the specific demands of the question set.
- The response demonstrates extensive depth and/or breadth. Excellent use of evidence and examples.
- Thorough and accurate reference made to sacred texts and sources of wisdom, where appropriate.
- Thorough and accurate use of specialist language and vocabulary in context.

**Basic introduction**- who, when why and how do Muslims fast?

**Paragraph 1:** Focus on the WHY  
**Paragraph 2:** The Spiritual benefits and significance

**Title of essay/Essay question**

Explain the religious and moral benefits Muslims receive by observing Ramadan. [25]

**Paragraph 3:**  
Physical benefits of fasting  
**Paragraph 4:**  
Scientific benefits of fasting

**Conclusion**

**Paragraph 5:** Morally what is prescribed for Muslims to do



## **What I'm looking for in an answer.**

- The Muslim practice of fasting for the whole month of Ramadan. Keeping the fast is a religious duty for Muslims and the act of obedience and submission involved helps a Muslim to feel spiritually fulfilled.
- Fasting is probably the most universal practice because it is something everyone does together. It therefore brings the religious benefit of unifying and strengthening the Ummah.
- Muhammad received the Qur'an during the month of Ramadan and this significant event is remembered and celebrated by Muslims through a more intense focus on reading it, reciting it and studying it.
- Fasting brings Muslims closer to Allah as it provides Muslims with a religious goal as opposed to physical matters. It develops a personal spiritual relationship with Allah through time dedicated to individual prayer and spiritual reflection.
- Morally, Ramadan gives Muslims an opportunity to identify with the poor, while fasting, Muslims empathise with the needy in society. Fasting evokes feelings for the plight of the starving.
- Ramadan is more than just fasting, it encourages self-control for Muslims. It encourages self-control of bad thoughts, deeds etc. and thoughts that need to be banished. It leads to a renewal of moral obligations within Islam. There are also specific moral goals such as a deliberate focus on not speaking ill of anyone, not lying or swearing and these shift focus away from the 'self' towards a consideration of others.
- Ramadan mentally and spiritually prepares Muslims for any hardships they may face in life and in the year ahead.

**There are other answers that you could write and will gain marks.  
As long as you keep making reference back to the statement, you will attain marks.**

## One last exercise

I'd like you to type in the following link into a you tube link. Tell me what you think?

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cM-DoO84Sf4>

Do you think his actions could be justified? (Natural Law)

If you were (hypothetically speaking) and evil dark lord of the world, would you support him? (situational ethics)

What solution would you offer? (Utilitarianism)

IF he were to be a Muslim, what would Islam say? (Synoptic link to religion)

# What will I need to Bring to AS RS

Here is a short list of things to get ready for September!

## To Buy:

- Lever Arch Folder
- Plastic Wallets
- Dividers
- Writing Pad
- Stationary Selection including a stapler
- A notebook or an academic diary
  - A scrapbook to make a SSortfolio – which will be explained in the new year.

## To Do:

- Complete all the activities in this booklet – feel free to use online resources to help you and do try to complete all the tasks - but do not worry if some things appear complicated! We will soon fix that in class!!
- Spend some time looking through a range of RS resources. ([WWW.edqugas.co.uk](http://WWW.edqugas.co.uk)) (<https://resources.eduqas.co.uk>)
- Keep up to date with ethical news – everyday – Make notes in your notebook/ diary

And, of course ... you must come brimming with lots of enthusiasms and a commitment to doing really well!

