

Next steps!

If you want to find out more about this GCSE Religious Studies course you should:

- visit the Edexcel website at www.edexcel.com/gcse2009
- talk to the Head of Religious Studies at your school who will be able to describe the course in detail and advise you of what you need to do next when it comes to your options.

Religious Studies Question:

The word 'atheist' was first used:

Religious Studies Answer:

(b) In reference to the early Christians

Edexcel GCSE Religious Studies



STUDENT GUIDE

Is this the right subject for me?

Religious Studies is not about making you 'religious', it is about enabling you to think for yourself about religious and moral issues. It is about you, your life and the issues you will face when you leave school and go into the multi-ethnic, multi-faith society which is the UK.

If you enjoy:

- learning about other people's beliefs, the nature of the society you live in and the big issues in life which generate debate
- gaining an understanding of what causes prejudice, hatred and violence in our world
- having the opportunity to explore religious and moral beliefs in a safe and questioning environment

then this GCSE Religious Studies course is the subject for you.

Edexcel

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About Edexcel

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What do I need to know, or be able to do, before taking this course?

GCSE Religious Studies follows on from what you have done in Religious Studies and Citizenship at Key Stage 3. You will be expected to have learned some skills in:

- thinking for yourself
- understanding why different people have different attitudes to religious and moral problems
- expressing and explaining your own opinions about religious and moral problems.

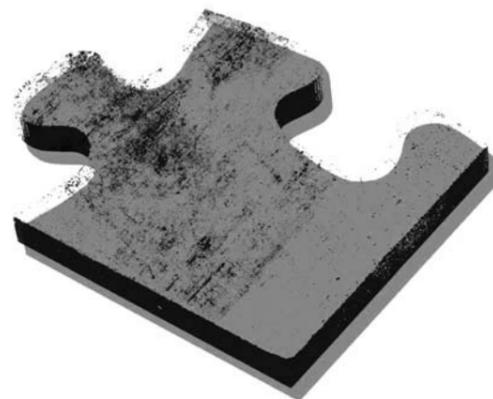
What will I learn?

If you study *Religion and Life*, you will cover:

- faith in practice
- why some people believe in God and some people don't
- why some people believe in life after death and some people don't
- different attitudes towards issues such as abortion, euthanasia, sex, marriage, divorce, homosexuality, contraception and family life
- religion and community cohesion in terms of women's rights, ethnic rights and the problems and benefits of living in a multi-faith society.

If you study *Religion and Society*, you will cover:

- different ways in which Christians make moral decisions
- different attitudes to human rights, genetic engineering, environmental problems, transplant surgery, infertility treatments, war, bullying, religious conflicts in families and crime and punishment
- the work of the UN for world peace
- problems of drugs and alcohol
- religious attitudes to drugs and alcohol.



How will I be assessed?

Short Course

Examination – You will be assessed by a 1 ½ hour exam.

Full Course

Examination – You will be assessed by two 1 ½ hour exams.

What can I do after I've completed the course?

The main advantage of GCSE Religious Studies is that it prepares you for life and gives you the skills you will need to make the decisions every adult faces.

It is also an excellent preparation for:

- A Level Social Sciences (law, sociology and psychology)
- A Level Religious Studies, History and English
- jobs that appreciate the skills GCSE Religious Studies will give you such as, medicine, the police, the armed forces and the caring professions (social work, nursing and probation service).

Religious Studies Question:

The word 'atheist' was first used:

- (a) By Richard Dawkins
- (b) In reference to the early Christians
- (c) By the bible
- (d) In World War I

