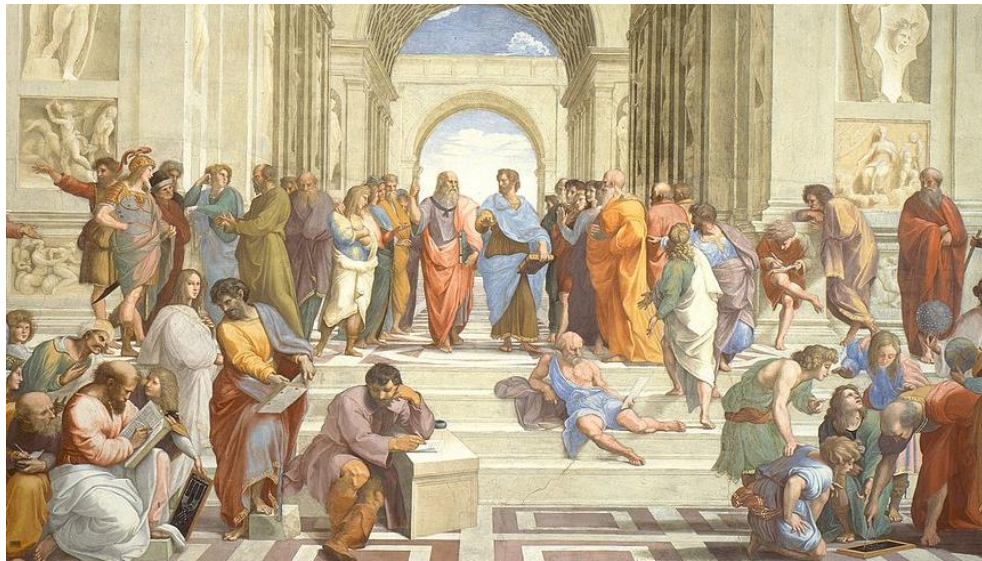


URSULINE HIGH SCHOOL



'The unexamined life is not worth living.' Socrates



"There's more to the truth than just the facts." (Author Unknown)

Year 11 into Year 12 Religious Studies Transition pack

Year 11 into Year 12 Religious Studies Transition pack

Taught at Ursuline High

Examination Board: OCR – A Level

The Religious Studies A level course gives you the opportunity to study some of the fundamental questions which people have always asked about:

- Why are we here?
- How should we behave?
- What happens to us when we die?
- How do religious beliefs explain and explore their beliefs

Religious Studies involves some major academic disciplines such as Theology, Moral Philosophy and Philosophy of Religion. Consequently, you will study some of the following themes:

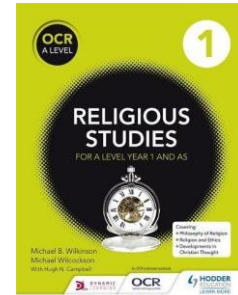
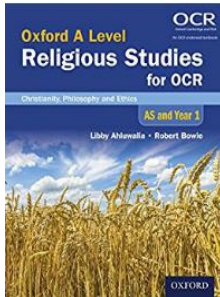
- **Theology (Development in Christian Thoughts)** – the nature of God; Christology; Revelation and debates about interpreting the bible; some analysis of biblical texts; religious belief in contemporary pluralist and secular society; religion and Feminist debates; exploring the writing of key scholars.
- **Moral Philosophy** – the major ethical theories, such as Utilitarianism, Kantian ethics; ethical theories from religious perspective, such as Natural Law and Situation Ethics; application of ethical theories to issues in Medical Ethics, Sexual Ethics and Business Ethics; what do we mean by Free Will, Conscience, Right, Wrong.
- **Philosophy of Religion** – possible arguments for/against the existence of God; the 'problem of suffering'; analysis of Religious Experience and Miracles; the challenge to religious belief of science and sociology; analysis of religious language.

In common with all the new A level qualifications the full A level qualification is the result of a two year course. It is assessed by 'terminal' exams in the summer of Year 12 and final A level exams in summer of Year 13. Exams will be a set of **three 2 hour exams**.

- **AO1: Knowledge & Understanding Weighting 40%**
Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of religion and belief, including: religious, philosophical and/or ethical thought and teaching; influence of beliefs, teachings and practices on individuals, communities and societies; cause and significance of similarities and differences in belief, teaching and practice; approaches to the study of religion and belief.
- **AO2: Analysis, Evaluation & Application Weighting 60%**
Analyse and evaluate aspects of, and approaches to, religion and belief, including their significance, influence and study.

SUMMER TASK – ETHICS

All students will be provided with copies following textbooks:



1. Oxford A Level Religious Studies for OCR: AS and Year 1 Student Book: Christianity, Philosophy and Ethics: AS and Year 1
2. Wilkinson, B., Wilcockson & Wilkinson, M. (2016). *Religious Studies for A level Year 1 and AS*. London, Hodder Education.

TASK

- Spend one hour exploring the information below from YouTube and the internet.
- Make notes as you listen and read through them.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=r_UfYY7aWKo

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9lQqKHVhJ0g>

<https://aquinasonline.com/natural-law/>

[http://www.rsrevision.com/Alevel/ethics/revision/natural law aspects of theory.pdf](http://www.rsrevision.com/Alevel/ethics/revision/natural%20law%20aspects%20of%20theory.pdf)

- Spend another hour answering the following questions

Question 1: Explain Thomas Aquinas' Natural Law.

Your explanation should include the following: Definition of Natural Law; origin of Natural Law (refer to Stoics and Aristotle); divine law, eternal law and natural law; primary and secondary precepts; interior and exterior acts; Real and apparent good; Principle of Double effects.

Make sure that your explanation is coherent. Imagine you are explaining this to someone who has not read anything about Natural Law.

Question 2: “Natural Law has no serious weakness”. Discuss

In your discussion consider reasons why some scholars may agree and others disagree with the statement. Use relevant evidence and reach a justified conclusion.