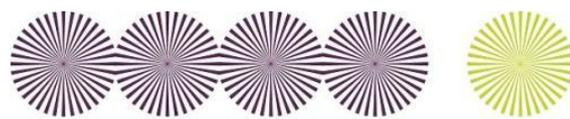


Religious Studies course pre-learning



ISAAC NEWTON
ACADEMY

Overview of the units : Eduqas –Religious Studies

Term	Christianity	Philosophy	Ethics
Year 12 -Autumn 1	1 ABC	1 ABC	1 ABC
Autumn 2	4 ABC	2 ABC	2 ABC
Spring 1	2 ABC	1 DEF	3 ABC
Spring 2	2 DEF	3 ABC	3 DEF
Summer 1	Revision	Revision	Revision
Summer 2	3 ABC	3 DEF	1 DEF
Year 13 - Autumn 1	3 DEF	2 DEF	2 DEF
Autumn 2	1 DEF	4 ABC	4 ABC
Spring 1	4 DEF	4 DEF	4 DEF
Spring 2	Revision	Revision	Revision
Summer 1	Exam	Exam	Exam

What will I need to purchase?

Books

- WJEC/Eduqas Religious Studies for A Level Year 1 & AS - Philosophy of Religion and Religion and Ethics. Richard Gray, Karl Lawson - 24 Oct 2016
- WJEC/Eduqas Religious Studies for A Level Year 1 & AS - Christianity Paperback by Gwynn Gwilym – 24 Oct 2016
- NIV Holy Bible (Hodder Classics) (New International Version) Paperback – 16 Jul 2015

Resources

- 3 x A4 folders (Large – Lever Arch files- you'll need it!) Organise your folders (one each for Ethics, Study of Religion and Philosophy) by creating a clearly labelled section for each module. Put the module descriptions, available in your resource pack at the front of each relevant section.
- Put your pre-course preparation work and reading in the front of the relevant folder ready for inspection.
- Plastic document wallets
- Plastic dividers
- Labels
- A4 lined paper
- Highlighter pens

What learning will I need to do before the first lesson?

Religion

- **TASK 1**- After purchasing the Bible, read the whole of Matthew and John. Make detailed notes on each version.

Ethics

Ethics is the part of philosophy that deals with good and evil. Ethics tries to answer questions like: What actions are good? What actions are evil? How can we tell the difference? Are good and evil the same for everyone? How do our actions affect others?

To be prepared for the study of ethics it is important to be able to distinguish between:

Deontological ethics – This is the branch of ethics concerned with actions. Here we should follow independent moral rules or duties. When we follow our duty, we are behaving morally. When we fail to follow our duty, we are behaving immorally.

Absolutist ethics – Some people think there are such universal rules that apply to everyone. This sort of thinking is called moral absolutism.

Teleological ethics – This is the branch of ethics concerned with consequences. Consequentialism teaches that people should do whatever produces the greatest amount of good consequences.

Relativist ethics – If you look at different cultures or different periods in history you'll find that they have different moral rules. So what is right or wrong depends on the situation.

- **TASK 2** - Research the FOUR main categories of ethical theory and produce a summary of each.
- You should include particular philosophers or ethical theories, and link these to examples of ethical dilemmas such as the ones listed below:
- Abortion
- Voluntary Euthanasia
- Immigration
- Capital Punishment
- Homosexual & Polyamorous Relationships
- Animal Experimentation for Medical Research
- Use of Nuclear Weapons as a Deterrent

You can use magazine articles or any other sources to help with your explanation if you wish to do so.

Philosophy

- **TASK 3** - Research the answers to these questions. Try to keep a log of the resources (websites/books) that you use.

- a. What is philosophy?
- b. What is epistemology and metaphysics?
- c. What is rationalism, empiricism, scepticism and idealism?
- d. What did the Ancient Greek Philosophers have to say about 'change'?
- e. What does Plato's Analogy of the Cave tell us about knowledge?
- f. What do Christians believe about the nature of God?
- g. In your opinion, can we know anything for certain?

