Introduction to A Level OCR Religious Studies

Philosophy, Ethics & Theology

Welcome to RS – Philosophy, Ethics & Theology!

Do you like thinking about questions such as these below? If so keep scrolling to find suggestions for great books to read and videos to watch – enjoy!

Philosophy

Can order come from Chaos? What makes us human? Is there an afterlife? Are there categories of evil? Does religious language have any meaning?

Ethics

Which is the most ethical choice? Is anyone pure evil? Should business be governed by ethical considerations? Do you have a duty? Should Euthanasia be legal? Are there ethical absolutes in relation to sex?

Theology

Does sin exist? Does God have a gender? Is Christianity sexist? Should religious people be political? Was Jesus a real person? Should you give your life for God?

https://www.chester.ac.uk/about/faculties/arts-humanities-and-social-sciences/school-of-humanities-and-social-sciences/theology-and-religious-studies-a-level-webinars/

- Check out the OCR Religious Studies syllabus for A Level for a list of topics.

Like watching videos to learn?

Try these well-known 'Youtube' video series to explore all of the OCR topics:

- The School of Life: Western Philosophy – There are 34
- Crash Course Philosophy – There are over 40 short videos – they are fast (you can alter the playback speed)

General websites:

- Stanford Encyclopedia of Philosophy https://plato.stanford.edu/
- https://alevelphilosophyandreligion.com/ocr-religious-studies/

Engaging general books to read over the holidays:

- The Story of Philosophy – Brian Magee
- The Philosophy Book: Big Ideas Simply Explained – DK Books
- Philosophy: 100 Essential thinkers – Philip Stokes
- Philosophy: A very short introduction – Edward Craig
- Theology: A very short introduction – David Ford
- Ethics: A very short introduction – Simon Blackburn

Textbooks we use:

- ✓ **Year 12 Topics** - AS and Year 1 Student Book: Christianity, Philosophy and Ethics (Oxford A Level Religious Studies for Cambridge OCR) – Libby Ahluwalia & Bob Bowie
- ✓ **Year 13 Topics** - Oxford A Level Religious Studies for OCR: Christianity, Philosophy and Ethics (Oxford A Level Religious Studies for Cambridge OCR) - Libby Ahluwalia & Bob Bowie
- ✓ **Year 12 & 13 Philosophy** - OCR A Level Religious Studies: Philosophy of Religion – Julian Waterfield, Chris Eyre & Karen Dean
- ✓ **Year 12 & 13 Ethics** - OCR A Level Religious Studies: Religion and Ethics – Julian Waterfield, Chris Eyre & Karen Dean
- ✓ **Year 12 & 13 Theology -** OCR A Level Religious Studies: Developments in Christian Thought – Julian Waterfield, Chris Eyre & Karen Dean

Philosophy, Ethics & Philosophy in Film

How many ways can you think that philosophy, theology and ethics might link to movies you have seen?

Which particular films can you make links to? What links did you make?