Religious Studies

Overview

AQA Religious Studies is a rigorous, highly respected academic essay-based subject. You do not need to be religious or have a GCSE in RS to study it. It is all about tackling big questions, analysing tough concepts, and weighing competing arguments.

Religious Studies balances out STEM subjects by giving you practice in extended writing and philosophical logic, while complementing subjects like history, politics, sociology and English literature.

Oxford, Cambridge and all major universities recognise Religious Studies as a robust academic subject.

Exam Board

AQA

Specification 7062

https://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/religious-studies/a-level/religious-studies-7062/specification/specification-at-a-glance

Assessment

A Level – two year course	
Paper 1 - **Philosophy of Religion:** Asking if God exists, exploring the problem of evil and suffering, looking at miracles, and debating life after death or the nature of the mind and body. Meta ethics, moral responsibility and the nature of conscience.	3 hour written exam Marked out of 100 50% of final grade
Paper 2 - Deep-diving into a specific tradition (Buddhism) looking at its beliefs, sources of authority, gender, sexuality, and how it interacts with science and secular values.	3 hour written exam Marked out of 100 50% of final grade

Subject Specific Entry Requirements

A GCSE grade 5 in English and another essay-based subject such as Religious Studies or History is preferred and will be beneficial.
The student should have an interest in Philosophy, religion and culture. An ability to write in-depth answers and essays and be able to evaluate arguments is essential.

"Studying RS has helped to develop my understanding of literature and poetry at A level. I have an advantage over other students."
Ashley

"Studying religion has helped me to understand aspects of the politics and sociology course." Abi

Progression and Career Opportunities

Religious Studies leads to many areas of employment including journalism, politics, research, teaching/education, health/social care, management and law.