



AS/A2 PHILOSOPHY & ETHICS

Head of Department - Mrs S. Godfrey

EXAMINATION BOARD AND SYLLABUS: OCR

The focus will be on Philosophy and Ethics.

ENTRANCE REQUIREMENTS FOR AS:

Grade B in English Language and / or Religious Studies.
Also essential is an open and enquiring mind.

ENTRANCE REQUIREMENTS FOR A2:

Grade C or above at AS. Students with grade D at AS may only continue to A2 after consultation with teachers and with close monitoring and regular target setting.

SPECIFICATION:

The aim of this specification is to encourage candidates to identify basic questions of Philosophy and Ethics and to explore such questions within the context of religious traditions, scholarship and experience, both past and present. No commitment to any religion is presupposed or required by the syllabus. The assessment will not be concerned with judging a candidate's personal beliefs; arguments about the issues raised will be judged solely on their own merits.

OBJECTIVES:

Candidates will be expected to demonstrate:

- (a) knowledge of the topics and texts specified in the chosen modules;
- (b) understanding of the significance of the material studied, in religious traditions, scholarship and experience, both past and present.
- (c) ability to express themselves clearly and logically in an intelligent argument and to make some attempt at critical evaluation.

SCHEME OF ASSESSMENT:

The Advanced Subsidiary GCE is assessed at a standard between GCSE and Advanced GCE and forms 50% of the assessment weighting of the full Advanced GCE. Advanced Subsidiary GCE can be taken as a qualification in its own right or as the first half of the full Advanced GCE course. Assessment is by means of **2 units of Assessment** for Advanced Subsidiary GCE and **4 units of Assessment** for Advanced GCE.

UNITS OF ASSESSMENT

AS - Unit No. and Name

- ① G571: Philosophy of Religion
- ② G572: Religious Ethics

A2 - Unit No. and Name

- ① G581: Philosophy of Religion
- ② G582: Religious Ethics

CAREERS AND THE VALUE OF PHILOSOPHY & ETHICS:

Critical analysis, coherent thought, careful decision-making and clear presentation are important skills for Philosophy but also in themselves. They serve as valuable preparation for many careers. At the end of the course each student will be able to think independently and will have a respect for reasoned argument. Many employers value flexibility of thought and the capacity of marshalling arguments in a coherent and compelling manner which this course offers. Students tend to follow a career in the following areas: Law, Medicine, Accountancy, Commerce and Industry, Business Management, Journalism, Civil Service, Teaching, The Church, Politics, Research.