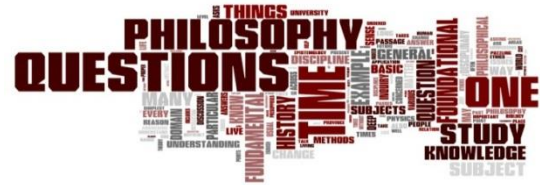


# A Level RS: Philosophy and Ethics

## Year 11-12 Bridging Work Project

Due : 1<sup>st</sup> lesson in September

We are thrilled you are taking Philosophy and Ethics and look forward to September to get started. Before you begin your A Level you are going to need to get prepared. Below is an overview of the course and text books to purchase. On the reverse are 3 tasks you **must** have ready to submit at the start of your first lesson.



**Anyone not completing the work** or producing such poor quality will be re-interviewed about their place on the course.

## Course overview

### Specification: Edexcel A Level Religious Studies

The course is divided into 3 modules taught over 2 years:

#### **Paper 1: Philosophy of Religion (33.33% of course)**

External Assessment – 2 hours

- Explores arguments for the existence of God, problem of evil, religious and philosophical issues, life after death, religion and science.

#### **Paper 2: Ethics (33.33% of course)**

External Assessment – 2 hours

- Explores ethical theory, religious verses secular morality, environmental ethics, war, meta-ethics, medical ethics.

#### **Paper 3: New Testament (33.33% of course)**

External Assessment – 2 hours

- Explores origins of the new testament, interpretations, theological problems (did Jesus have to die?), scientific and historical criticism.

### **The following text books will last the 2 years of study:**

Pearson Edexcel Religious Studies A level/AS Student Guide: **Philosophy of Religion** Paperback – 30 Aug 2019  
ISBN-13: 978-1510433397  
Approx Price £9.99

Pearson Edexcel Religious Studies A level/AS Student Guide: **Religion and Ethics** Paperback – 25 Oct 2019  
ISBN-13: 978-1510433403  
Approx Price £9.99

Pearson Edexcel Religious Studies A level/AS Student Guide: **New Testament Studies** (Student Guides) Paperback – 22 Feb 2019  
ISBN-13: 978-1510433427  
Approx Price £9.99

Do **not** buy books from last years students as this is a new spec!!!

# Bridging Work

Complete BOTH essays AND debate notes. Your bridging work tasks are an opportunity for you to get started engaging with your topics before you begin in September. They are essential preparation.

## Task 1

### Ethics

#### *Should we base our morals on holy books?*



- Write an essay answering this question.
- You need to give arguments for your view as well as show you understand arguments for the opposite view.
- Research different views on this topic.
- Show knowledge of what is in holy books from specific religions.
- Give examples from holy books to support your view (either for or against).
- Your essay should have an intro, discussion & conclusion.
- Minimum length 1 ½ pages typed or 2 pages hand written.



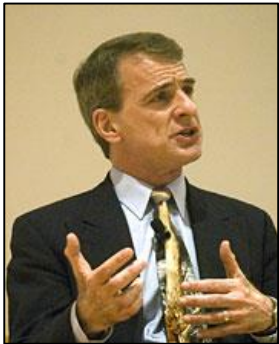
## Task 2

### Philosophy

#### Who won this debate?

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=e8MzPmkNsgU>

**Search on Youtube:** Debate: Atheist vs Christian (Christopher Hitchens vs William Lane Craig)



Watch the debate between these two heavy weight thinkers. The debate is detailed and goes over a range of complex arguments. Your job is to decide who wins and why!

1. Take notes in the form of a mindmap (attached or make your own) as this allows you to add and link ideas logically as you watch.
2. Once you have watched the whole debate chose one argument from each speaker that you thought was their strongest and explain why.

## Task 3

#### *Does God exist?*



- Write an essay on the topic: Does God exists?
- Make sure you include religious and philosophical arguments for and against as well as your own answer to the question. Again structure: intro, discussion & conclusion.
- Minimum length 1 ½ pages typed or 2 pages hand written.
- Research and discuss one of the following arguments in your essay: the teleological argument, the cosmological argument or the ontological argument.



Craig's arguments

What was Craigs best argument and why?



Hitchens' arguments

What was Hitchens' best argument and why?