

Preparation for AS Level Religious Studies
Year 11 into Year 12 Summer Transition Work

As part of your AS qualification in Religious Studies, you have to follow a course and be examined on the topics of Philosophy, Ethics and New Testament Studies. For many of you, this will be a brand new area of study and, as such, you will have to be fully prepared to learn new specialist vocabulary and also use this with confidence in all of your work.

For your summer transition work, we are going to focus on the following area of the specification:

ETHICS

Task: Learning new vocabulary and phrases

Write the correct keyword alongside its definition. The keywords can be found at the bottom of page 2. You may need to use the web to help you.

	An ethical point of view which suggests that there may be certain moral rules that have no exceptions to them – either right/wrong, no ‘maybe’.
	Greek word meaning unconditional ‘love’ or love of Christians for one another.
	The ethics of advocating or acting for the protection and preservation of the environment and wildlife.
	The method of working out the sum total of pleasure and pain produced by an act.
	From the Greek for ‘pleasure’. Belief that pleasure is the highest good and that only pleasure has value in itself.
	Where the correctness of a moral act is decided not by reference to the motive of the person carrying it, but by its conformity to a moral rule.
	Includes those theories which state that there is a natural order to our world that should be followed.
	States that actions or behaviours are right in so far as they promote happiness or pleasure, wrong as they tend to produce unhappiness or pain.
	Accepts that certain acts are wrong or evil acts in themselves. However, it says that it might be the right thing to do, if there is a proportionate reason, to perform such acts.
	The belief that morality is relative to the society where it exists and that its criticism and evaluation are irrelevant.
	Ethical/religious idea that stresses the importance of acting according to the present situation, rather than relying on legalism and rules.
	Every situation is different. Therefore, absolute rules are inappropriate because they are too inflexible. The only ethical "rule" is to love. Love alone, because it has its own moral compass, can be trusted to know what to do in any situation.
	A requirement of our generation to manage the resource base such that the average quality of life that we ensure ourselves can potentially be shared by all future generations.
	An ethic that embodies the responsible planning and management of resources. The concepts of stewardship can be applied to the environment and nature, economics.
	Ethical theory that states that an action is right if it conforms to the ‘principle of utility’.

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Keywords: Write the correct keyword in the box next to the meaning...

Proportionalism	Hedonism	Situationalism	Agape
Conservation	Principle of Utility	Utilitarianism	Natural Moral Law
Sustainability	Relativism	Legalism	Stewardship
Hedonic Calculus	Absolute/Absolutism	Situation Ethics	

Task 2 – Research the following scholars.

Print off and complete the table below:

	James Lovelock	Arne Naess	J A T Robinson	Jeremy Bentham	John Stuart Mill	Joseph Fletcher
<i>When</i> were they alive? (i.e. dates)						
<i>Where</i> were they born/live their life?						
<i>How</i> did they communicate their ideas? (i.e. books they wrote)						
<i>Why</i> were they inspired to develop their theory? (i.e. social context in which they lived/people they were inspired by/ideas they were inspired by etc.)						
<i>What</i> were their key ideas?						

Task 3 – Read the chapter provided on **Utilitarianism** from the *AS Religious Studies* student textbook by S. Tyler and G. Reid and prepare to answer the following question in September:

'Explore the contribution made by Utilitarianism to moral decision making (8 marks).

Preparation for AS Level Religious Studies
Year 11 into Year 12 Summer Transition Work

PHILOSOPHY

Task: Learning new vocabulary and phrases

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	Proceeding from particular instances/ facts to a general conclusion. The premises supply strong evidence for a probable conclusion.
	Simple patterns of behaviour of objects, such as their behaviour in accordance with the laws of nature – for example, Newton’s laws.”
	Latin for ‘what comes after’. Refers to knowledge and truth claims based upon/derived from experience.
	Involving inferences from general principles. The process of reasoning from one or more statements to reach a logical conclusion.
	A proposition (statement which is true or false) supporting or helping to support a conclusion.
	Evidence that something is the case.
	Latin expression ‘from what comes earlier’. Refers to that which is ‘without/prior to experience’. Arguments based on definitions.
	A necessary being is a living, self-aware thing that must necessarily exist for all other things to exist/the author of the universe and the initial cause of all things material.
	Degree of confidence that a particular occurrence will take place.
	The part of a sentence or clause containing a verb and stating something about the subject i.e. God (subject) exists (predicate).
	Term meaning ‘similarity’ or ‘likeness’, used to make a comparison between two qualities e.g. how one human, one divine are similar.
	Latin meaning ‘from oneself’. Refers to the ability to have within oneself the grounds for one’s own existence/not dependent.
	A sequence of reasoning or justification which can never come to an end.
	Term used to describe a fact or event which depends (is contingent) upon another fact or event happening first.
	The belief in God as a perfect, personal being.

Keywords: Write the correct keyword in the box next to the meaning...

A Priori	Proof	Infinite regress	Regularity/ regularities of succession
Premise	Analogy	Deism	Deductive
Aseity	Necessary existence	Probability	Contingent
Inductive	Predicate	A Posteriori	

Preparation for AS Level Religious Studies
Year 11 into Year 12 Summer Transition Work

Task 2 – Research the following scholars.

Print off and complete the table below:

	St Thomas Aquinas	William Paley	Frederick Tennant	David Hume	William Lane Craig	Frederick Copleston
<i>When</i> were they alive? (i.e. dates)						
<i>Where</i> were they born/live their life?						
<i>How</i> did they communicate their ideas? (i.e. books they wrote)						
<i>Why</i> were they inspired to develop their theory? (i.e. social context in which they lived/people they were inspired by/ideas they were inspired by etc.)						
<i>What</i> were their key ideas?						

Task 3 – Read the chapter provided on **Design** from the *AS Religious Studies* student textbook by S. Tyler and G. Reid and prepare to answer the following question in September:

Explore the key concepts of the Design argument (9 marks).

Preparation for AS Level Religious Studies
Year 11 into Year 12 Summer Transition Work

NEW TESTAMENT STUDIES

Task: Learning new vocabulary and phrases

Write the correct keyword alongside its definition. The keywords can be found at the bottom of page 2. You may need to use the web to help you.

	The second section of the Christian Bible, written originally in Greek and recording the life and teachings of Jesus and his earliest followers. It includes the four Gospels, the Acts of the Apostles, twenty-one letters by St Paul and others and the book of Revelation.
	The record of Jesus' life and teachings in the first four books of the New Testament. The four Gospels are attributed to Matthew, Mark, Luke and John. All give an account of the ministry, crucifixion, and resurrection of Jesus. Origin: Latin <i>evangelium</i> , 'good news' Greek <i>euangelion</i> 'good news'
	The word, 'synoptic' means 'with one eye'. The gospels of Matthew, Mark, and Luke are referred to as the Synoptic Gospels because they include many of the same stories, often in a similar sequence and in similar wording.
	A Greek title by which Christians refer to Jesus, meaning 'the anointed one.'
	The promised deliverer of the Jewish nation prophesied in the Hebrew Bible. It is a Hebrew word, which means 'the anointed one'.
	One of the three monotheistic faiths alongside Christianity and Islam. The religion that Jesus was born into and followed.
	A religious group very influential in Jewish society at the time of Jesus. They were considered the teachers of the Laws of Moses.
	A religious group which consisted mainly of the more important priests in the Temple in Jerusalem. They were extremely conservative in every area of life.
	A group of people (similar to a guerrilla movement) who became most involved in the direct action against the Roman Empire. They believed that they could have no master but God and that the Romans must be driven out of Palestine at all costs.
	A sect of Judaism mostly associated with the Qumran community and with the Dead Sea Scrolls.
	The dispersal of the Jews beyond Palestine, which took place in around 70 CE. The dispersion or spread of any people from their original homeland.
	A vast geographical area, covering most of western Europe and Palestine which the Romans controlled and had power over.
	A geographical area on the east coast of the Mediterranean sea. Hugely influential area in terms of ports / agriculture / access to land to the east. At the time of the New Testament, it was under Roman occupation.
	A culture, originally begun in Greece and under Alexander the Great it grew and became a far reaching civilization in which people shared common ideas. In Alexander's time, this was shown in Greek customs; religion, philosophy and language were adopted by many people.
	This philosophical thinking was based on the belief that there are two worlds; the world of the spirit, where God is, which is pure and holy and the world of matter, where we are, which is evil and corrupted. These people believed that people had a divine 'spark' embedded in their nature

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	– the soul.
	An influential branch of philosophy. Formed by Zeno and based on the idea that both the world and its people ultimately depend on just one principle: Reason. That people should live in harmony with each other and use their conscience.
	A philosophical group which traced its origins to Epicurus. They adopted a different way of life and for them a good life consisted of ‘pleasure’. This means things like friendship and peace of mind.

Keywords: Write the correct keyword in the box next to the meaning...

Hellenism	Judaism	Roman Empire	The Essenes	New Testament
Diaspora	Gospel(s)	The Synoptic Gospels	‘Christ’	‘Messiah’
The Epicureans	Palestine (in terms of 1 st Century AD / CE)		The Pharisees	The Sadducees
The Zealots	Gnosticism (the Gnostics – ‘silent G’)		Stoicism (the Stoics)	

Good luck and enjoy! You must bring your completed work to the first lesson in September. You will not be able to participate in the lesson without it.