

Social Sciences

Philosophy and Ethics

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Subject Specific Entry Criteria

- Grade 5 in GCSE Philosophy and Ethics (if studied)
- Grade 5 in GCSE English.

Exam Board:

OCR

Units Studied:

- Philosophy of Religion
- Ethics and Development in Christian Thought

Course Information:

The course is divided into three papers which cover the breadths of human experience and tackles ancient questions about our existence and world around us. The first paper is Philosophy of Religion which allows us to question the idea of truth and ask questions about our existence, some of the topics on this paper are; the legacy of Plato and Aristotle, the problem of evil and arguments for and against the existence of God. The second paper is Ethics which studies the controversial topic of euthanasia, the modern day issues surrounding business ethics and ethical approaches of Immanuel Kant, Aquinas and Utilitarianism. The final paper is Development in Christian Thought, topics on this paper include a study of human nature, various beliefs about what happens when we die and the life of Dietrich Bonhoeffer (a church minister who smuggled Jews out of Nazi Germany and was involved in a failed plotted to kill Hitler).

Possible Career Paths:

The skills gained through Philosophy and Ethics prepare students for careers in law (you learn how to argue in this subject!), lecturing, research, politics (many politicians have studied some form of philosophy), civil service, police, journalism, social work and medicine (many medical courses like students to have studied the ethical issues surrounding medicine e.g. euthanasia) In 2015 two studies

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and

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into higher education both came to the same conclusion that studying Philosophy leads to higher earnings and stronger employability compared to other university degrees.

