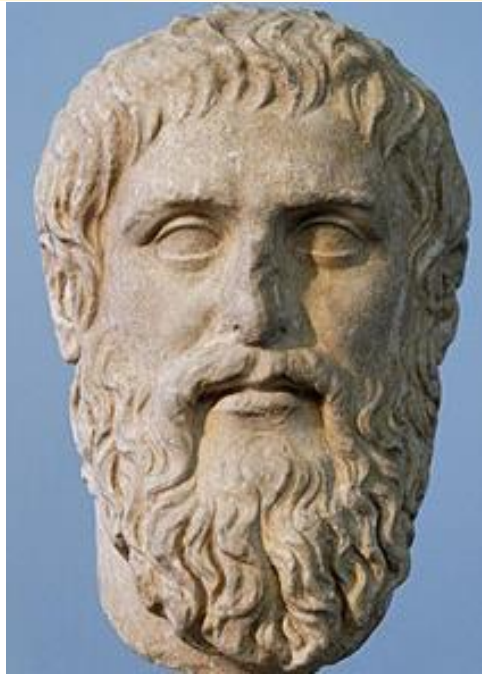


Ethics and Philosophy at GCSE

The Basics:

- We investigate beliefs of both religious and *secular* communities in the UK and around the world.
- We look at *WHY* people act the way they do
- We aim to become experts at being analytical, reasoning and argumentative.



What does the course cover?

We learn about the beliefs and practices of 2 main world religions (Islam and Christianity).

We then investigate ethical and philosophical 'themes'.

GCSE
RELIGIOUS STUDIES A
Paper 2A



Specimen Morning Time allowed: 1 hour 45 minutes

Materials

- For this paper you must have:
- an AQA answer booklet.

Instructions

- Use black ink or black ball-point pen.
- Write the information required on the front of your answer booklet. The examining body for this paper is AQA. The paper reference is 8062/2A.
- Do all rough work in the answer booklet. Cross through any work that you do not want to be marked.
- Choose **four** themes.
- Answer all questions on those four themes you have chosen.

Information

- The maximum mark for this paper is 96 plus 3 marks for spelling, punctuation and grammar.
- The marks for questions are shown in brackets.
- Spelling, punctuation and grammar (SPaG) will be assessed in the 12-mark question. The marks for SPaG are shown below the mark allocation for each question. The best of these marks will be included in your total for the paper.

Which of the following philosophers proposed the Design Argument? [1]

- Aquinas

- Augustine

- Paley

Give two of the five pillars of Islam [2]

Explain two similar attitudes towards gender equality in modern society [4]

Explain two contrasting approaches to Capital Punishment [5]

'The use of Weapons of Mass Destruction can never be justified'. [12]

You are assessed by 2 Exams
(1hr45 mins each) at the end of
Y11 based on your basic knowledge
AND how well you can
debate/argue your point.



What does the EP course cover?

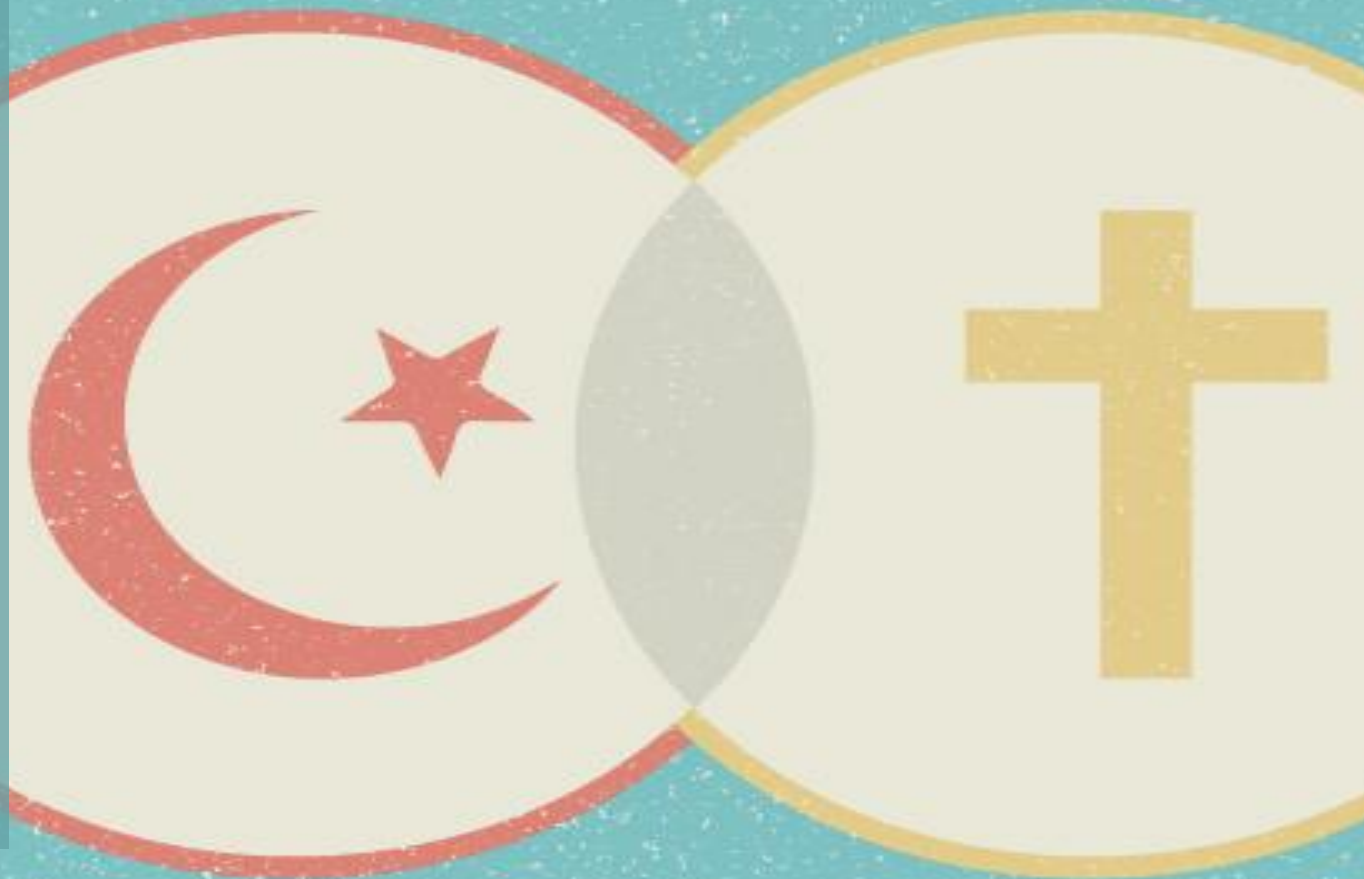
We investigate the beliefs and practices of two major world religions – Christianity and Islam

How did Islam start?

Why is it such a popular religion?

Who was Muhammad and why is he so revered?

How does something like Ramadan affect the beliefs and actions of a Muslim?



Is Christianity today the same as when it started out 2000 years ago?

What is the difference between a conservative and a liberal Christian?

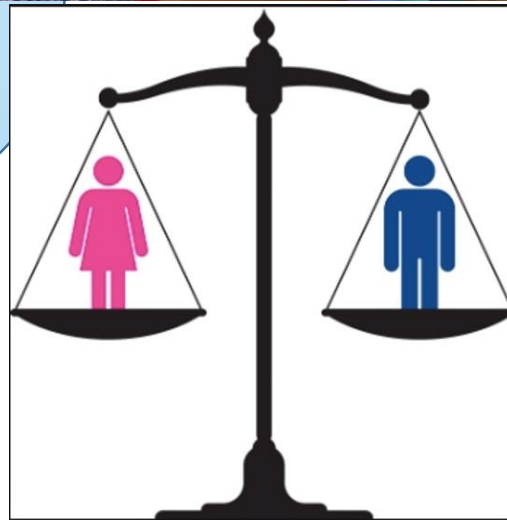
Was Jesus a political rebel more than a religious leader?



What does the EP course cover?

Theme A – Families + Relationships

How have attitudes towards marriage, gender equality and same-sex relationships changed?



Theme B – Matters of Life and Death

Can we justify allowing Euthanasia, late term abortions or animal experimentation?



What does the EP course cover?

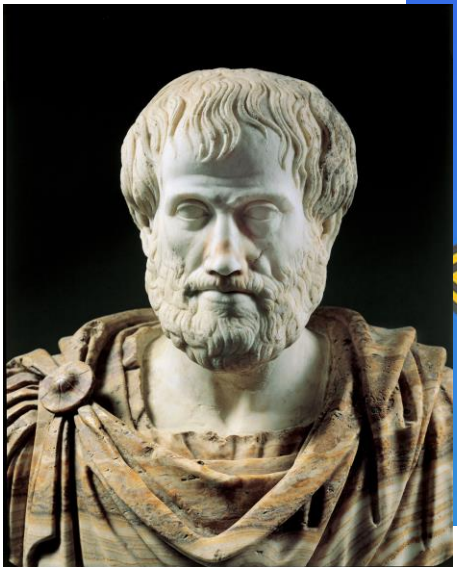
Theme C – Philosophical

Arguments

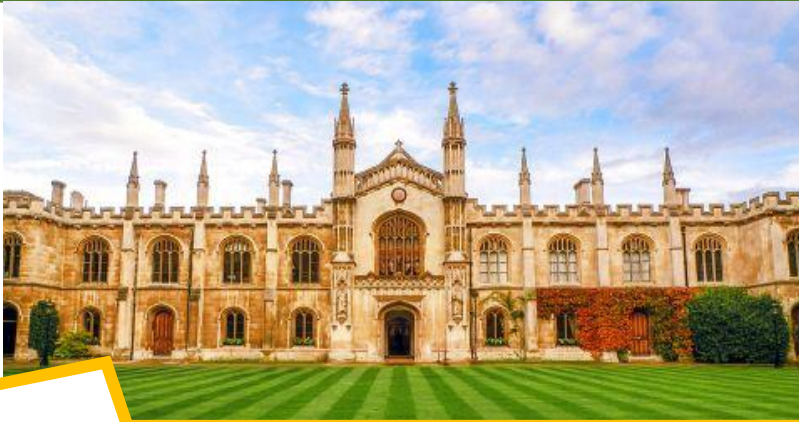
Is there a life after death?
Can we *prove* God exists?
If God exists, then why
would he allow evil and
suffering?

Themes D + E = Crime and Punishment, War and Peace

Why do people commit
crime or go to war? What is
pacifism and the Just War
Theory? How do people
work to overcome conflicts
and create a better society?



Why is EP a *useful* GCSE to have?



It gives you key skills that are useful at GCSE, A level and University.

For example:

- Being able to create balanced, persuasive and expertly reasoned arguments.
- Being confident in debates and being able to 'hold your own'.
- Ensures you are up to date on current events.
- Supports other 'English based' subjects.

It can help you understand and have access to a LOT of jobs because it helps you understand *people* and why society is the way it is!

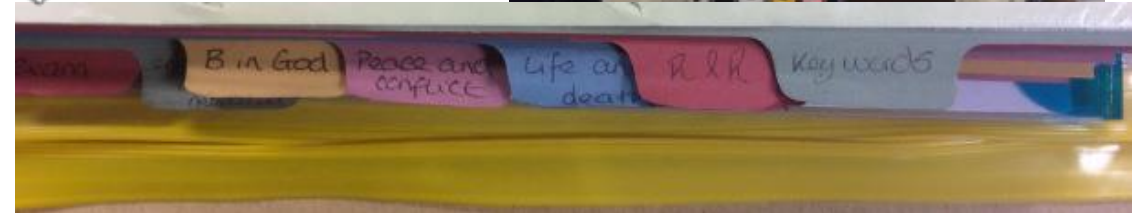
For example it could help with jobs in:

- ✓ Journalism
- ✓ Law
- ✓ Medicine
- ✓ Teaching
- ✓ Social Work
- ✓ Police/Armed forces.
- ✓ Politics
- ✓ Youth and communities work
- ✓ Charity work
- ✓ Research for TV/Film



What does a good EP GCSE student look like?

- ✓ Enthusiastic
- ✓ Inquisitive
- ✓ Empathetic
- ✓ Respectful
- ✓ Organised
- ✓ Resilient
- ✓ Committed to hard work - lots of writing to be done!



Ethics and Philosophy at GCSE

If you would like any further information about the GCSE course, ask your EP teacher in the next few lessons, or contact Miss Adair!

