Southend High School for Girls
Sixth FORM

Course outline

Head of Department:
Mrs H Rider

Minimum entry requirements:
Grade 6 in English Language.
If RS is taken at GCSE student must have minimum grade 6

Religious Studies

What will you study in Year 12?

Philosophy of Religion:
- Ancient influences – Plato & Aristotle
- Teleological, Cosmological and Ontological arguments
- Religious Experience
- The nature of God
- The problem of evil

Religion and ethics:
- Natural Moral Law
- Kantian ethics
- Euthanasia
- Utilitarianism
- Business ethics

Developments in Christian Thought:
- Augustine's teaching on human nature
- Death and the afterlife
- Jesus
- Knowledge of God's existence
- Christian moral principles
- Christian moral action
- The challenge of secularism

What will you study in Year 13?

Philosophy of Religion:
- Mind, body and soul
- Religious language

Religion and ethics:
- Conscience
- Meta ethics
- Sexual ethics
- Situation ethics

Developments in Christian Thought:
- Religious pluralism and theology
- Religious pluralism and society
- Gender and society
- Gender and theology
- Liberation theology and Marx

How will you be assessed during the course?

In school:

There will be regular practise exam style essay questions to complete in class, these are graded according to the marking criteria just as they are in the final examination.

There are occasional retrieval and key term style tests.

There will be a folder review at the end of every topic which will be RAG rated (red/amber/green).

OCR External Examinations at the end of year 13:

- Paper 1 Philosophy of religion (120 marks, 2 hours)
- Paper 2 Religion and ethics (120 marks, 2 hours)
- Paper 3 Developments in Christian thought (120 marks, 2 hours)

Where could this course lead?

Religious Studies links very well to a wide range of subjects; most commonly law, politics, sociology, psychology, history, education and English. The transferable skills are highly desirable in both an academic sense as it is a "facilitating" (preferred) subject by Russell Group Universities but equally popular in the apprenticeship and career sector linking to fields such as law, journalism, politics, charity, social care, business, international relations and much more. It develops skills such as critical thinking, analysis, evaluation, essay writing, debating, ethical reasoning, independent learning, tolerance and understanding word views.

Students wishing to read Law are particularly encouraged to take Religious Studies for one of their choices.

Further information

Students are expected to read beyond subject material covered in lessons, they will be guided by their teacher in doing so.

You are invited to apply for a subject captaincy role with the department.

The department offer a conference trip which includes lectures conducted by leading academic experts.

OCR website: www.ocr.org.uk/qualifications/as-and-a-level/religious-studies-h173-h573-from-2016/