WOODSIDE HIGH

OPTIONS SUBJECTS

Religious Studies GCSE

HEAD OF DEPARTMENT

Ms R.McDonald

EXAM BOARD

AQA

BREAKDOWN OF MARKS

Two written exams: 1 hour 45 minutes
96 marks, plus 6 marks (SPaG)

Paper 1: The study of religions: beliefs, teachings and practices
Christianity and Islam

Paper 2: Thematic studies - Themes A,B, D and E

Each paper has a common structure of two five-part questions of 1, 2, 4, 5 and 12 marks.

Each religion is marked out of 48.

SKILLS

You will need to demonstrate knowledge and understanding of religion and beliefs including:

Beliefs, practices and sources of authority
Influence on individuals, communities and similarities and differences within and/or between religions and beliefs.

You will need to be able to analyse and evaluate aspects of religion and belief, including their significance and influence.

VITAL INFORMATION

You will need to be able to refer to religious scripture and/or sacred texts where appropriate. This requires you to revise quotes and teachings to improve your skills in recalling this knowledge
You will need to be able to write extended writing responses in timed conditions.
You will need to be able to explore religious issues and debates outlined in the course

CURRICULUM CONTENT

The study of religions: beliefs, teachings and practices

Christianity:
Studying the beliefs, teachings and practices of Christianity and their basis in Christian sources of wisdom and authority.
This will include; the nature of God, Jesus Christ and salvation, different forms of worship and their significance and The role of the church in the local and worldwide community

Islam:
Studying the beliefs, teachings and practices of Islam and their basis in Islamic sources of wisdom and authority.
This will include; the six articles of faith in Sunni Islam and five roots of Usul ad-Din in Shi'a Islam, including key similarities and differences, Five Pillars of Sunni Islam and the Ten Obligatory Acts of Shi'a Islam (students should study the Five Pillars and jihad in both Sunni and Shi'a Islam and the additional duties of Shi'a Islam).

Thematic studies: (Christian and Muslim attitudes towards the content covered in each theme)
Theme A: Relationships and families. Including religious attitudes towards contraception and divorce
Theme B: Religion and life. Including religious attitudes towards Abortion and Animal experimentation.
Theme D: Religion, peace and conflict. Including religious attitudes towards war and violence
Theme E: Religion, crime and punishment. Including religious attitudes towards forgiveness

CURRICULUM & CAREER PROGRESSION

NEXT STEPS

Religious studies offers the opportunity for further study at A' level and beyond. You can study religious studies at A level and it combines well with:

English, History Psychology, Philosophy and Sociology.

There are also a range of smaller qualifications available and modules within vocational and other qualifications

CAREERS

Advice worker
Archivist / Charity fundraiser
Chaplain / Counsellor
Civil Service administrator
Community development worker
International aid/development worker
Mediator
Newspaper journalist
Police officer
Youth worker / teacher