

Philosophy (AQA)

ABOUT THE COURSE

Students will consider the big questions, such as: "What is knowledge?" and "What do good, bad, right and wrong really mean?" Students at A-level will also explore further questions including: "Is the concept of God incoherent?" and "What is mind?"

The A Level consists of two separate units:

Paper 1: Epistemology and moral philosophy

(3 hour exam, 50% of final mark)

Paper 2: The metaphysics of God and the metaphysics of mind

(3 hour exam, 50% of final mark)

COURSE CONTENT

A-level philosophy comprises four topic areas: Epistemology, Moral philosophy, the Metaphysics of God and the Metaphysics of mind.

Students are required to demonstrate knowledge and understanding of the content, including through the use of philosophical analysis (conceptual analysis and argument analysis).

They must also be able to analyse and evaluate the philosophical arguments within the subject content to form reasoned judgements.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

A Level Philosophy is a challenging and abstract subject that requires significant independent reading and research. Students will be expected to make notes on theories and their relative strengths and weaknesses while also comparing with work from other scholars.

This extended writing style suggests that students who gain at least a B grade in GCSE English alongside a B in either History, Religious Studies or Geography will have the greatest opportunity at success.

WHERE CAN A LEVEL PHILOSOPHY TAKE ME?

- Taking Philosophy A Level would help to open the doors to the most prestigious universities due to the challenging nature of the course. Philosophy allows students to demonstrate research, reasoning and extended writing skills, all of which are desirable to Universities.
- Many students who have taken A Level History have gone into professions such as; law, psychology, teaching & lecturing, business management & training, civil service and marketing.
- The study of Philosophy goes well with other A Level subjects such as English (Literature and Language), History, Sociology and Psychology.

Do you?

Enjoy debating abstract concepts such as morality and ethics?

Have a keen interest in how and why people choose their actions?

Enjoy the challenges of examining differing viewpoints?

If so, choose A Level Philosophy!

“Never let your sense of morals prevent you from doing what is right.”

Isaac Asimov

