

Year 11: AQA Religious Studies GCSE Specification A

2 Exam Papers: 1hr 45 minutes each

Paper 1: Christianity Beliefs / Christianity Practices / Islam Beliefs / Islam Practices (Date TBC)

Paper 2: Theme A / Theme B / Theme D / Theme E (Date TBC)

1 hr 45 minutes to complete:

4 X 1 mark questions – Multiple Choice

4 x 2 mark questions – 2 bullet points or simple sentences

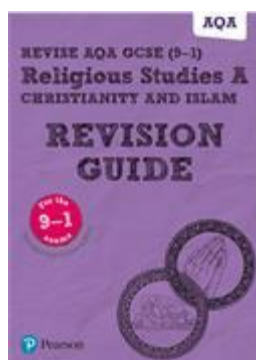
4 X 4 mark questions – 2 points with explanations

4 x 5 mark questions – 2 explained points with religious teaching

4 X 12 mark questions – Evaluative essay – 3 or 4 'PEEEL' paragraphs – 1 justified conclusion

Revision books:

Revise AQA GCSE (9-1) Religious Studies A Christianity and Islam Revision Guide
£5.99 on Amazon



Revision Websites:

<https://www.bbc.com/bitesize/topics/z6bw2hv>

<https://www.bbc.com/bitesize/topics/zdprkqt>

<https://www.thestudentroom.co.uk/gcse/subjects/religious-studies/>

These topics have been covered during lessons in school.

These topics have been covered during remote learning at home.

These topics are still left to teach

Overview of Course Content: PAPER 1

Key Beliefs: Christianity

The nature of God:

God's qualities

Suffering

The Holy Trinity

Creation: Genesis – John the Gospel

The after-life – Heaven / Hell – Catholics only: Purgatory

Jesus Christ & Salvation

Incarnation -Jesus as the Son of God

Crucifixion, Resurrection and Ascension & Atonement

Sin, including original sin

Salvation, including law, grace and Spirit

Practices: Christianity

Different forms of worship - liturgical, non-liturgical and informal, including the use of the Bible

Prayer - the Lord's Prayer, set prayers and informal prayer.

The role and meaning of the sacraments: Baptism – Eucharist -

Pilgrimage – Lourdes + Iona

Celebrations - Christmas and Easter

Role of Church in community: Food Banks – Street pastors – Charity work

The place of mission, evangelism and Church growth.

The importance of the worldwide Church including: working for reconciliation – responding to persecution – Christian Aid and/or Tearfund

Key Beliefs: Islam

Six articles of faith in Sunni Islam and five roots of Usul ad-Din in Shi'a Islam, including key similarities and differences.

Tawhid (the Oneness of God), Qur'an Surah 112.

The nature of God: God's qualities - God's relationship with the world: immanence and transcendence.

Angels, their nature and role, including Jibril and Mika'il.

Predestination vs Free Will linked to Day of Judgement.

Akhirah (life after death)

Authority: Quran – Scrolls of Abraham – Prophets – Mosque

Risalah (Prophethood) roles + importance of Adam, Ibrahim and Muhammad.

The imamate in Shi'a Islam: its role and significance.

Practices Islam:

Five Pillars of Sunni Islam & the Ten Obligatory Acts of Shi'a Islam

Shahadah: declaration of faith and its place in Muslim practice.

Salah - times, directions, ablution (wudu), movements (rak'ahs) and recitations - in the home - mosque and elsewhere; Friday prayer: Jummah; key differences in the practice of salah in Sunni and Shi'a Islam

Sawm: fasting during the month of Ramadan

Zakah: the role and significance of giving alms including origins

Hajj: pilgrimage to Makkah including origins - actions pilgrims perform at sites

Jihad: greater and lesser jihad

Festivals: Id-ul-Adha, Id-ul-Fitr, Ashura.

Overview of Course Content: PAPER 2

Theme A: Relationships + Families

Sex – Contraception – Family Planning – Adultery – Sex before marriage

Sexuality – Heterosexual + Homosexual relationships – Polygamous relationship

Nature and purpose of marriage – Divorce – Remarriage

Family types – cohabitation - extended - nuclear – same-sex

Family Roles: procreation – protection

Gender equality – prejudice – discrimination – family + workplace examples

Theme B: Religion & Life

Controversial Issues: Abortion – Euthanasia – Animal Experimentation

Origins and value of the universe & human life - relationship between scientific views and religious views.

Protecting the world - , stewardship, dominion, responsibility, awe and wonder.

Use and abuse of the environment, including the use of natural resources, pollution.

Use and abuse of animals, including: animal experimentation, food.

Sanctity of life - Quality of life

Death and the afterlife - their impact on beliefs about the value of human life

Theme D: Religion, peace and conflict

Violence – violent protest

terrorism – war – holy war – just war

Pacifism – peace -

justice- forgiveness – reconciliation

Reasons for war - including greed, self-defence, religion and retaliation

Weapons of mass destruction - Nuclear weapons - nuclear deterrence.

Victims of war including the work of one present day religious organisation.

Theme E: Religion, crime and punishment

Types of punishment: Corporal - Death penalty – Prison - Community Service

Good and evil intentions/ actions

Causes of crime - poverty – upbringing - mental illness – addiction - greed – hate - opposition to an unjust law.

Types of crime - hate crimes – crimes against person – property – state

Aims of punishment- retribution –deterrence - reformation.

Forgiveness.

Full specification: <https://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/religious-studies/gcse/religious-studies-a-8062>

