



## Ethics & Philosophy GCSE

GCSE (Religious Studies)

9-1

OCR

Who is this course aimed at?

Designed to inspire, this is a modern and engaging option course that you can choose to take in year 10. The specification includes exciting content that explores relationships and families, peace and conflict, belief in God and non-religious belief. You will like the course if you have enjoyed Ethics & Philosophy in year 9 and enjoy learning about how people make decisions on moral issues, and developing your own opinions on major issues that are relevant in the 21st century. This course will encourage and develop knowledge, understanding and skills necessary to engage in debate and discussion about life in the modern pluralistic society. This includes developing an understanding of non-religious beliefs. The engaging and stimulating content will allow learners to demonstrate an understanding of two religions and apply this in philosophical and ethical contexts

How will I be assessed?

Learners will be encouraged to:

- develop the ability to construct well-argued, well-informed, balanced and structured written arguments, demonstrating their depth and breadth of understanding of the subject,
- reflect on and develop their own values, beliefs and attitudes in the light of what they have learnt and contribute to their preparation for adult life in a pluralistic society and global community,
- develop knowledge and understanding of religions and non-religious beliefs, such as atheism and humanism.

This course is divided into three units. There are no tiers, everyone sits the same papers.

Religion, philosophy and ethics in the modern world from a Christian perspective - exam (two hours)  
50% of GCSE

Beliefs, teachings and practices (Christianity) - exam (one hour)  
25% of GCSE

Beliefs, teachings and practices (Islam) - exam (one hour)  
25% of GCSE

The assessment objectives are:  
**AO1 skill - Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of course content which accounts for 50% overall**  
**AO2 skill - Analysis and evaluation of course content which accounts for 50% overall**

All examined units must be taken in the same examination series at the end of the course. In this course 5% of the marks will be used to credit the accuracy of the learners' spelling, punctuation, grammar and use of specialist terminology.

GCSE (9-1) are graded on the scale 9-1, where 9 is the highest

# Ethics & Philosophy GCSE

## Will I enjoy the course?

You are most likely to enjoy this course if you like forming and developing opinions on moral issues through debate, whilst considering religious and non-religious beliefs that form part of the contemporary society we live in. It will enhance your skills in communication, ICT, literacy, problem solving and awareness of moral issues. It will strengthen your ability to make moral judgements and evaluate different types of commitment in order to make positive and healthy choices.

## What will be expected of me?

You are expected to give 100% effort to every lesson and every piece of work you produce; take part and get involved with lessons and group activities; keep to deadlines so work does not build up and become a problem; catch up on any work you may miss; and ask for help as soon as you need it.

## What will I study?

### Religion, philosophy and ethics in the modern world from a Christian perspective J621/07

#### Religion and families

Relationships and families, religious teachings about the nature and purpose of families in the 21st century, sex, marriage, cohabitation and divorce. Issues related to the nature and purpose of families; roles of men and women; equality; gender prejudice and discrimination.

#### Religion, peace and conflict

Religion, peace and conflict; violence, war, pacifism, terrorism, just war theory, holy war; the role of religion and belief in 21st century conflict and peace making; the concepts of justice, forgiveness and reconciliation.

#### The existence of God, gods and the ultimate reality

The existence of God, gods and ultimate reality, and ways in which God, gods or ultimate reality might be understood; through revelation, visions, miracles or enlightenment.

#### Dialogue between religious and non-religious beliefs and attitudes

Dialogue within and between religions and non-religious beliefs; how those with religious and non-religious beliefs respond to critiques of their beliefs including the study of a range of attitudes towards those with different religious views – inclusivist, exclusivist and pluralist approaches.

#### Learners should be able to:

- to demonstrate their knowledge and understanding of Christianity
- to explore, analyse and evaluate the significance of issues concerned with the themes studied and to explore how Christianity influences individuals, communities and societies.
- to assess and evaluate the impact of different philosophical and ethical arguments on the modern world.
- to explain, analyse and evaluate topics in the theme from different perspectives within Christianity, in order to be able to offer reasoned and supported arguments in discussion.

### Beliefs, teachings and practices (Christianity) - J625/01

- Concept of God as a Trinity of persons, Biblical accounts of Creation, the problem of evil and suffering and a loving and righteous God, Jesus Christ, the importance to Christians of: the incarnation, the crucifixion, the resurrection, the ascension, the concept of salvation and eschatological beliefs and teachings.
- Worships, sacraments, prayer, the role and importance of pilgrimages and celebrations, the role of the church in the local community and living practices, mission and the role of the church in the wider world.

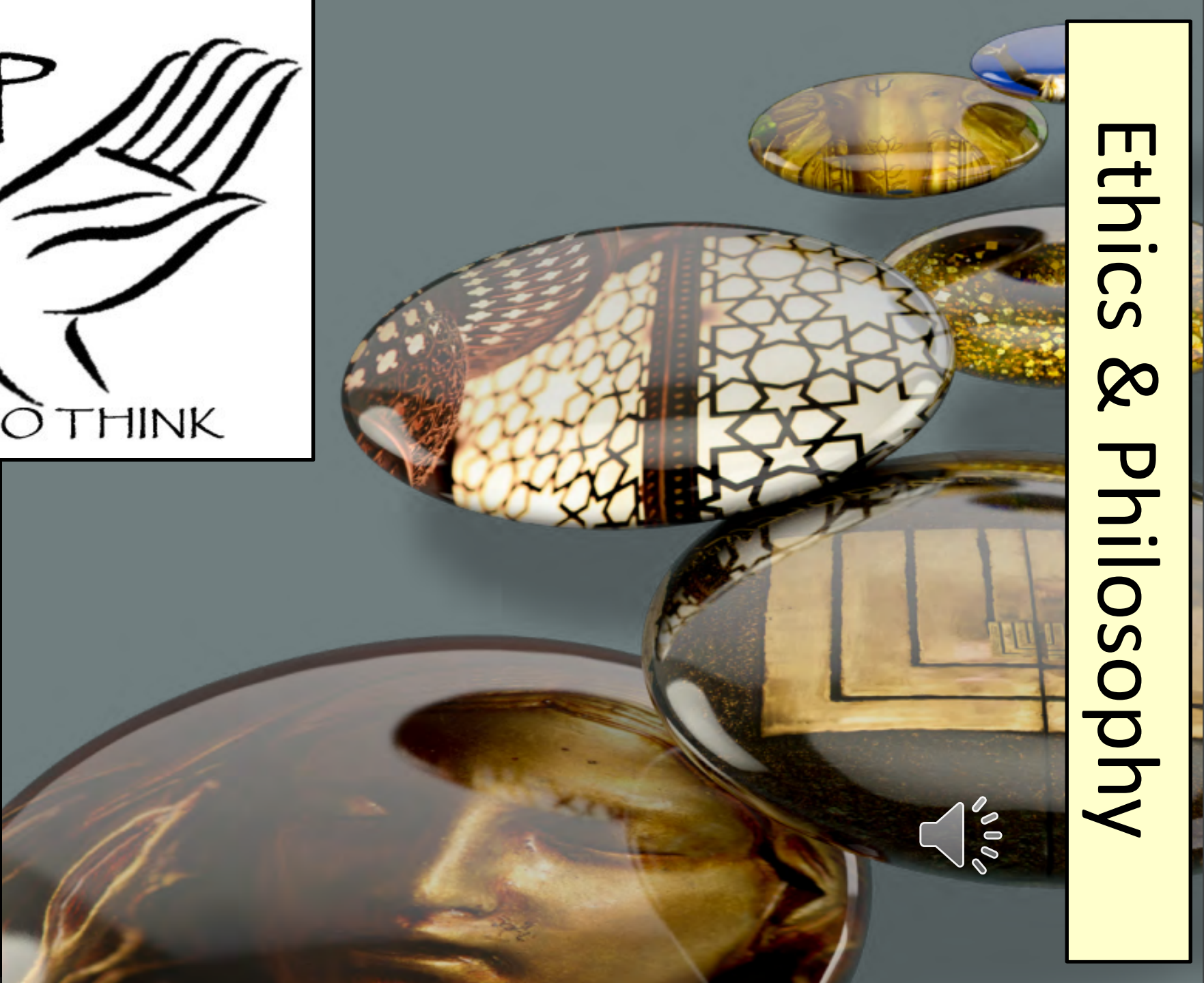
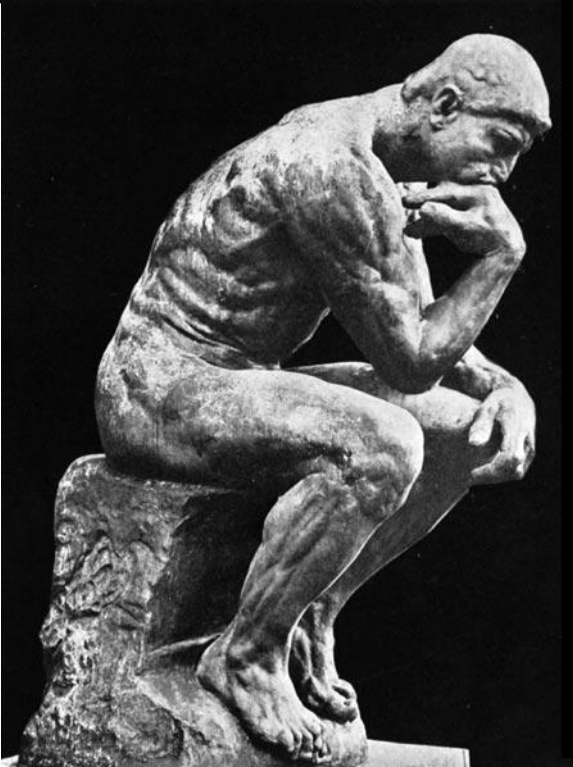
### Beliefs, teachings and practices (Islam) - J625/03

- Core beliefs, Prophet hood, sources of wisdom, Angels and eschatological beliefs,
- the importance of practices, public acts of worship, private acts of worship, Hajj, Zakah, Sawm, festivals and special days and Jihad.

#### Learners should be able to:

- demonstrate knowledge and understanding of religious practices and their importance for individuals, communities and societies
- analyse, evaluate and discuss the issues surrounding religious practices
- reference any relevant sources of wisdom and authority, including scripture and/or sacred texts where appropriate
- consider significant common and divergent views about religious practices
- consider the issues raised for practising a religion in Great Britain which is a diverse religious and nonreligious society.

# GCSE Religious Studies



# Ethics & Philosophy

# Why study Religious Studies?

Religious Studies enables you to consider real life issues affecting you and the people around you from a range of religious and non-religious viewpoints.

You will get to have your say and learn about what really matters in the world. Religious Studies provides you with important life skills and offers opportunities in further education and a wide variety of careers.

In the future, it could take you towards careers including the police, counselling, social work, nursing, youth work, teaching or philosophy – in fact, in any career that requires an understanding of people.

It doesn't mean you have to be a priest! It offers you experiences and skills that can be applied to many different jobs, and life in general.

<https://www.truetube.co.uk/film/arun-my-future-my-career-my-re>

*Watch This Video!*



# Why study Religious Studies?

Religious Studies provides you with an opportunity to immerse yourself in other cultures, gain a deeper understanding of the world and learn how to consider different perspectives.

Furthermore, it empowers you to explore tough academic questions, to construct complex arguments, and gain a new perspective on human behaviour.

<https://www.truetube.co.uk/film/mo-my-future-my-career-my-re>

*Watch This Video!*



So how can you do well in this subject?

Firstly, get involved. Take an active part in the learning and have your say.

Be open to other points of view and ready to listen to what everyone has to say.

Develop your writing skills so that you can explain accurately and argue convincingly.

Work hard to achieve your full potential.

And finally, listen to advice and feedback given on how to improve your grade and act upon it.

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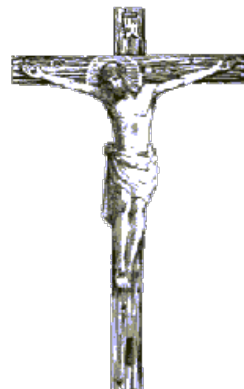
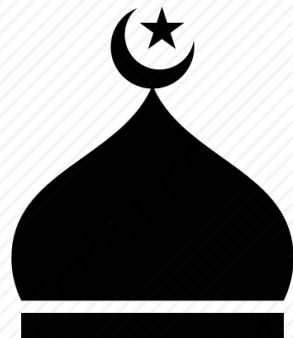
# Component 1

In component 1 you study key concepts within Christianity and Islam in order to develop knowledge and understanding of the religions' beliefs, teachings and practices. As part of the study, you will recognise and consider the existence and importance of common and divergent views within these religions' traditions, in the way beliefs, teachings and practices are understood and expressed.

You will acquire knowledge and understanding of sources of authority and wisdom that underpin and connect teachings, beliefs and practices.

You will explore how these religions influence individuals, communities and societies.

You will also develop your ability to explain, analyse and evaluate topics, in order to offer reasoned and supported arguments in discussions about key issues within these religions.



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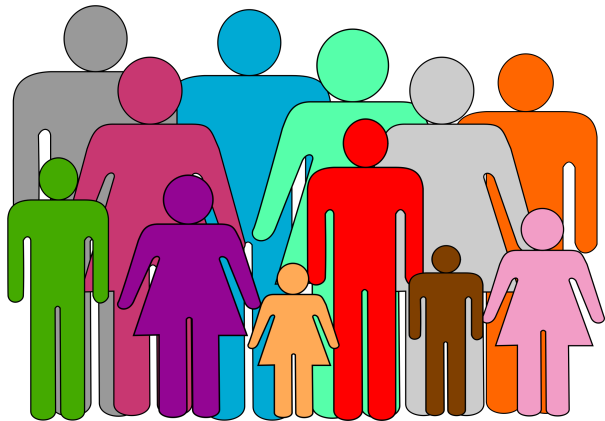
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# Component 2

In component 2 you will study four philosophy and ethics in the modern world themes from a Christian and secular viewpoint.

**Theme 1: Relationships and families;** religious teachings about the nature and purpose of families in the 21st century, sex, marriage, cohabitation and divorce. Issues related to the nature and purpose of families; roles of men and women; equality; gender prejudice and discrimination.

**Theme 2: The existence of God, gods and ultimate reality;** the ways in which God, gods or ultimate reality might be understood; through revelation, visions, miracles or Enlightenment.



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# Component 2

**Theme 3. Religion, peace and conflict;** violence, war, pacifism, terrorism, just war theory, holy war; the role of religion and belief in 21st century conflict and peace making; the concepts of justice, forgiveness and reconciliation.

**Theme 4; Dialogue within and between religions and non-religious beliefs;** how those with religious and non-religious beliefs respond to critiques of their beliefs including the study of a range of attitudes towards those with different religious views – inclusivist, exclusivist and pluralist approaches.



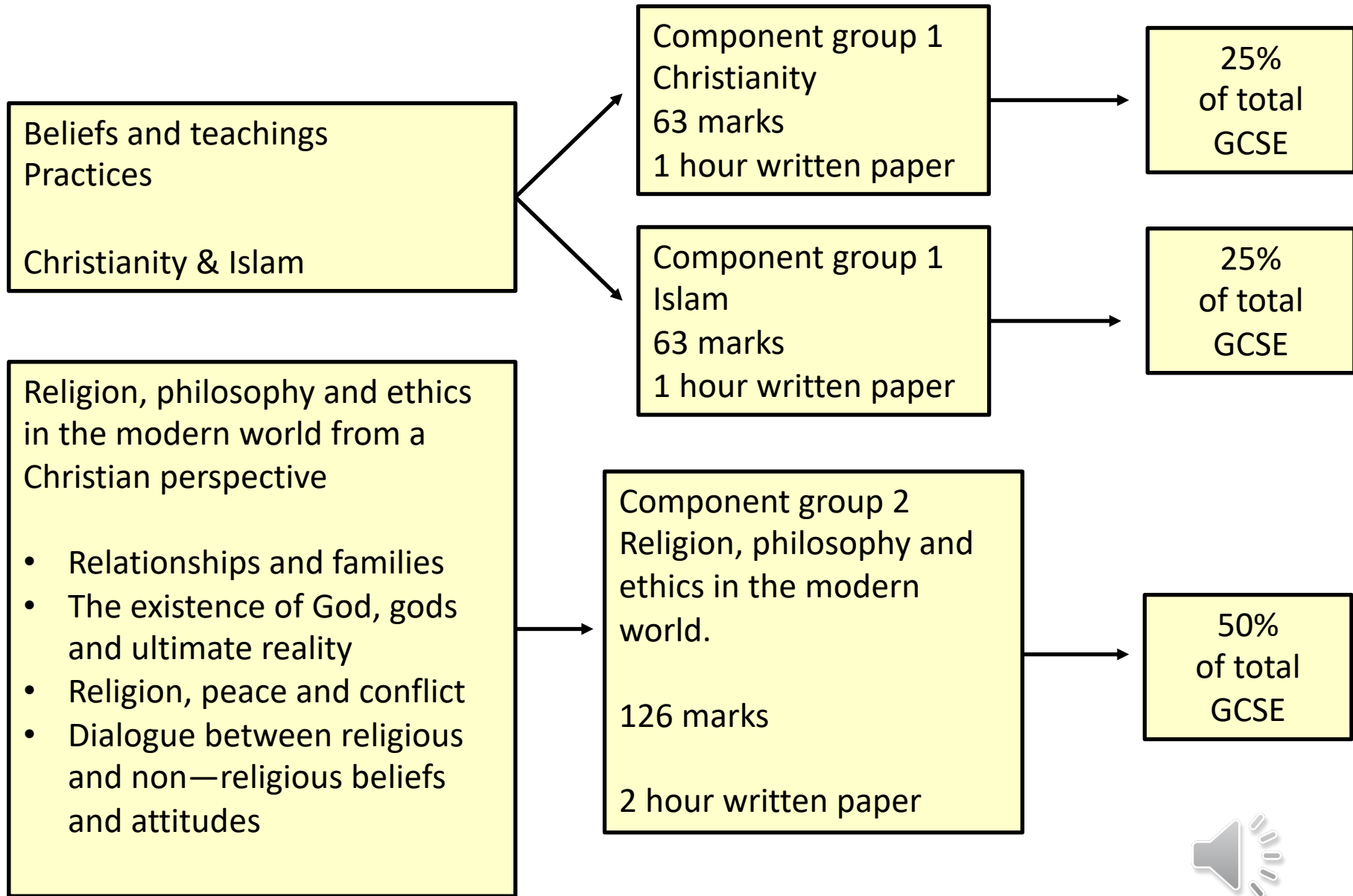
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# Course overview



# Course overview

We look forward to welcoming you to study Ethics and Philosophy;  
Religious Studies GCSE in September.

If you have any questions, then please do ask a member of the EP  
department, your teacher or e-mail the Subject Lead for EP at:  
[sally.laurilla@ringwood.hants.sch.uk](mailto:sally.laurilla@ringwood.hants.sch.uk)

**You Don't Need  
to be RELIGIOUS  
to study RELIGION**

