

Examination Board

AQA

Specific Course Requirements

6 grades in Double Science and a Level 6 in English Language and English Literature. A Level 6 in Mathematics is highly recommended.

Course Content

The course will teach students both philosophical ideas and how to analyse and evaluate complex ideas in a rational manner. In their first year, students will explore two crucial areas of Philosophy. The course will start by looking at Epistemology – the Theory of Knowledge. Using classical and contemporary texts students will learn how philosophers have understood the key issue of “What is Knowledge?” Students will then study moral philosophy investigation ethical theories. Major emphasis will be on Utilitarianism, Kantian and Aristotelian moral theories. The course will then look at the application of these theories to contemporary issues such as animal rights and immoral behaviour in “virtual” settings

These two modules form the foundations of philosophical thinking. Students will be trained in “thinking skills” and logic during this first part of the course and will understand the importance of ideas in World History. Students will be expected to develop the ability to think accurately and independently

In their second year, students will use their skills to evaluate theories in two areas central to human intellectual endeavour. Metaphysics of God and Metaphysics of Mind. The issues of the Nature and Existence of God will be treated objectively whilst providing students both skills and arguments with which to support Jewish approaches which they will find to be philosophically very robust. Studying Theories of Mind students will encounter classical theories of dualism and contemporary ideas around physicalism, materialism and behaviourism

How will I be assessed?

All assessment is by externally examined written papers.

There are 2 papers (3 hours each) at the end of the second year to obtain an ‘A’ Level qualification.

Each paper requires 10 answers

What could I do with a qualification in this subject?

Well... What do the comedians Steve Martin & Ricky Gervais, the film directors Wes Craven & Ethan Coen, the actress Susan Sarandon, Simpsons creator Matt Groening, billionaire financier George Soros and former President Bill Clinton all have in common? Yes! You guessed it, they all studied philosophy at university.

While there are few careers in philosophy directly linked to philosophy qualifications, those who study philosophy can learn incredibly valuable life skills to put to use in both their professional and personal lives. These skills of critical and logical thinking are hugely valued by employers and philosophy students are valued by, amongst others, prominent Law Firms, Banks, Businesses, Government Institutions and are ideal for those interested in Civil Service Faststream.

Sixth Form			
YG	Autumn Term	Spring Term	Summer Term
	Part 1; epistemology.	Part 2; Moral Philosophy	Moral Philosophy cont

Y12	What is Knowledge Perception and Realism Reason	Ethical Theories Applied Ethics	Meta Ethics Revision of parts 1&2.
Y13	Part 3; G-d Existence Attributes Religious Language	Part 4; Mind Theories of Mind Dualism Physicalism Functionalism	Revision 1, 2, 3 & 4 Extensions for 1, 2, 3,& 4