



# A-LEVEL PHILOSOPHY

## Why should I choose this subject to study at A Level?

You have been studying RE, Philosophy and Ethics or Humanities throughout your time at Ullswater Community College. Perhaps you enjoyed the discussion and debates on issues such as abortion, euthanasia, IVF, scientific discoveries, good and evil, war and animal rights and questions about the existence of God. The new A Level in Religion, Philosophy and Ethics is about inspiring you to explore the 'big questions' in life and will equip you with the skills to examine these areas in greater analytical depth. This will be particularly valuable to you whether you enter Further Education or the world of employment; examples of occupations that this qualification can lead to include: medicine, politics and law, therapy, business, management, journalism, police force, stock broking, retailing, social work, librarian, nursing, radio and TV, acting... to name a few, and don't forget teaching and religious leadership. You will develop your ability to analyse and assess philosophical writings and to reason, form your own judgements, express yourself coherently and contribute to the process of debate.

## What will I study?

- **AS Module 1: An introduction to the Study of Religion** - Religious figures and sacred texts; religious concepts; religious life; and religious practices.
- **AS Module 2a: An Introduction to Philosophy of Religion**- Cosmological arguments for the existence of God; teleological arguments for the existence of God; the non-existence of God - the problem of evil; and religious experience.
- **AS Module 2b: Religion and Ethics: An Introduction to Religion and Ethics**- Ethical language and thought, Aquinas' Natural Law, Fletcher's Situation Ethics and Utilitarianism.
- **A2 Module 3: Study of Religion** - Religious figures and sacred texts, significant historical development in religious thought, significant social development in religious thought and religious practices that shape religious identity.
- **A2 Module 4: Religion and Ethics** - Ethical language and thought, Kant's Moral Theory, contemporary developments in ethical theory and freewill and determinism.
- **A2 Module 5: Philosophy of Religion**- Ontological arguments for the existence of God, challenges to religious belief, religious experience and religious language.

## How will I be assessed?

You will be assessed throughout your two years of study by your teacher. There is no coursework. Your final assessment will be three exams in Year 13.

## Who can I talk to if I want to know more?

- Mr McCanny or Mrs McCanny (Heads of Department) will be able to give you information and guidance.