Key Stage 5 - Philosophy, Religion and Ethics Curriculum

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Careers | Building understanding of world views and philosophical and ethical approaches gives an understanding of how society functions. Leading to careers in the public sector, HR, Social policy design, law, environmental work, International development, working with NGO’s etc. home work related tasks will be set at the end of every cycle that link to careers. |
|  | A level Year 1 | A level Year 2 |
|  | Knowledge and skills | Enrichment and Cross curricular links | Knowledge and skills | Enrichment and Cross curricular links |
| Cycle 1 |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Intro to courseWhat is philosophy? | Intro to courseWhat is natural law? |
| Plato and reality | The teleos/ultimate end |
| Plato and the Forms | The four tiers of law |
| The Cave Analogy | The precepts |
| Intro Aristotle | Real and apparent goods |
| The Four causes | The doctrine of double effect and discussing natural law |
| Aristotle’s Prime Mover | Completion of discussion on natural law |
| Plato/Aristotle comparison & evaluation | End of topic assessment |
| End of topic assessment | Intro to situation ethics |
| Scholars/Chomsky/Descartes/Hume | A teleological Christian ethic |
| Aristotle’s understanding of reality | Agape |
| Plato’s understanding of reality | The six propositions |
| Intro to soul, mind & body | Conscience |

 | Debating societyLawPsychology |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| The person of Jesus Christ | Gender and theology |
| Knowledge of God’s existence | Gender and society |
| Religious pluralism and theology | Challenge of secularism |
| Religious pluralism and society | Christian moral principles |
| Christian moral action | Liberation theology and Marx |
|  |  |
|  |  |
|  |  |

 | Debating societySociology and Psychology |
| Cycle 2 |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Aristotle & the soul/ Plato & the soul | Discussing Situation Ethics |
| Materialism | Ethical judgement and agape |
| Materialist critiques of dualism – responses to these critiques | Discussion on agape and the rejection of absolutes |
| ‘Soul’ as metaphor or a reality | Discussion on agape and the rejection of absolutes |
| Revision/recap soul, mind & body | End of topic assessment |
| Arguments based on observation – the Teleological Argument | Intro Kantian Ethics |
| Teleological argument contd. - critiques | Kant’s moral teaching |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Cosmological argument | The hypothetical imperative |
| Cosmological argument | The formula for the categorical imperative |
|  | The three postulates |
| The ontological argument | Discussing Kantian ethics |
| The ontological argument | Discussing Kantian ethics |

 | Debating societyPsychology |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| The nature and attributes of God | An Intro to Meta – ethical theories |
| The nature and attributes of God | Naturalism |
| Religious language – What is religious lang. and the apophatic way or negativa | Intuitionism – GE Moore |
| The via positiva | Intuitionism - Pritchard |
| Ramsey models and qualifiers | Intuitionism - Ross |
| Symbolism to talk about God/Tillich | Emotivism – A J AyerIntuitionism - Stevenson |
| Discussing rel lang | Evaluation of meta ethics |
| 20th Century perspectives on Rel LangThe challenge from logical positivism | Conscience - Intro |
| Wittgensteins’ views | Aquinas |
| The factual quality of rel. lang in the falsification debates (Flew) | Aquinas |
| Hare’s response | Freud’s psychological approach to conscience |

 | Debating societySociology |
| Cycle 3 |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Religious Experience | An Intro to utilitarianism |
|  | Bentham and utilitarianism |
| Problem of evil | Mill’s utilitarianism |
|  | Preference utilitarianism |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Introduction – Developments in Christian ThoughtThe person of Jesus Christ | End of topic assessmentThe sanctity of life/quality of life |
|  | Non-religious views of euthanasia/personhood |
| Christian moral principles | Voluntary euthanasia |
|  | Non-voluntary euthanasia |
| Christian moral action | Case study – Simon’s choice |
|  | Applying ethical theories to euthanasia including situation ethics |
|  | Medical intervention Vs non interventionEnd of topic assessment |

 | Debating society |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Basil Mitchell, the parable of the partisan | Freud’s psychological approach to conscience |
| Is rel lang meaningless | Comparing Aquinas and Freud |
| Overview of debate – Flew, Hare, Mitchell, Aquinas, Wittgenstein | An Intro to sexual ethics |
| Overview of debate – Flew, Hare, Mitchell, Aquinas, Wittgenstein | Secular thinking on sexual ethics - Mill |
| An Intro to sexual ethics | Application of sexual ethical theories – Natural law |
|  |  |
| Premarital and extra marital  | Application of sexual ethical theories – Situation ethics |
| Premarital and extra marital – Christian views | Application of sexual ethical theories - Kant |
| Homosexuality - CofE | Application of sexual ethical theories - Utilitarianism |
| Homosexuality- Catholic | Half term |
| Changing Christian moral thought on homosexuality | Discussing sexual ethics – beliefs and practices and relevance today |
|  | Discussing sexual ethics – private vs public ideas of norms and associated legislation |
|  | Discussing sexual ethics – are the theories useful |

* Revision of all topic areas, as agreed with students.
* This will be based upon the strengths of students in particular topics and will be specific to them.

Revision plans will be agreed and shared focus of revision in lesson will be on exam skills and in particular essay writing. | Debating society |