

# OCR Religious Studies

## Revision Guide

### H573 1/2/3

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## How to Use this Guide

- Structure
- Analysis
- Evaluation
- Practise

## H573/1 Philosophy of Religion

Philosophical Language and Thought

- Ancient Philosophical Influences

The Philosophical Influences of Plato

- A. Understanding of Reality
- B. Theory of FORMs
- C. The Allegory of the Cave
- D. Evaluation

The Philosophical Influences of Aristotle

- A. Understanding of Reality
- B. Four Causes
- C. Prime Mover
- D. Evaluation

- Confusions to Avoid

- Key Quotes

- Suggested Reading

- Practise Exam Question

- Possible Future Questions

Soul, Mind and Body

- Key terms

- Specification

The Thinking of Plato and Aristotle

- A. Platonic Dualism
- B. Aristotelian Monism
- C. Evaluation

- Strengths of Platonic Dualism

- Weaknesses of Platonic Dualism

- Strengths of Aristotelian Monism

- Weaknesses of Aristotelian Monism

Metaphysics of Consciousness

- A. Substance Dualism

- B. Materialism

- C. Evaluation

- Confusions to Avoid

- Key Quotes

- Suggested Reading

- Practise Exam Question

- Possible Future Questions

## **Arguments for the Existence of God**

Arguments based on Experience

Key Terms

Specification

The Teleological Argument

A. Aquinas' Fifth Way

B. Paley's Teleological Argument

C. Evaluation

The Cosmological Argument

A. Aquinas' First, Second and Third Way

1. First Way, From Motion

2. Second Way, From Causality

3. Third Way, From Necessity and Contingency

B. Evaluation

Challenges to the Arguments from Observation

A. Hume's Challenge against the Teleological Argument

B. Hume's Challenge against the Cosmological Argument

C. The Challenge of Evolution

D. Evaluation

Confusions to Avoid

Key Quotes

Suggested Reading

Practise Exam Question

Possible Future Questions

Arguments Based On Reason

Key Terms

Specification

The Ontological Argument

A. Anselm's First & Second Version

B. Gaunilo's Response

C. Evaluation

Confusion to Avoid

Key Quotes

Suggested Reading

Practise Exam Question

Possible Future Questions

## **God and the World**

Religious Experience

Key Terms

Specification

The Nature and Influence of Religious Experience

A. Examples of Mystical Religious Experiences

Voice experiences

Visions Experiences

Corporate Religious Experiences

B. Conversion experiences

C. Conclusions of William James

#### D. Evaluation

Different ways in which Religious Experience can be understood

- A. Union with a great power
- B. Psychological affect
- C. Product of physiological effect
- D. Evaluation

Confusions to Avoid

Key Quotes

Suggested Reading

Practise Exam Question

Possible Future Questions

The Problem of Evil

Key Terms

Specification

The Problem of Evil and Suffering

- A. Logical Aspects of the Problem
- B. Evidential Aspects of the Problem

The Theodicies

A. Augustine's Theodicy

B. Hick's Theodicy

C. Evaluation

Confusion to Avoid

Key Quotes

Suggested Reading

Practise Exam Question

Possible Future Questions

#### **Nature of God**

Key Terms

Specification

Omnipotence

A. Evidence

B. Interpretations

Benevolence

A. Hell

B. Judgement

Omniscience

A. Unlimited Knowledge

B. Limited Knowledge

Eternity

A. Timeless

B. Four Dimensionalist Approach

C. Everlasting

Free Will

A. Boethius' Dilemma

B. Alternative Responses

Confusions to Avoid

Key Quotes

Suggested Reading  
Practise Exam Question  
Possible Future Questions

### **Classical Religious Language**

Key Terms  
Specification

#### The Apophatic Way

- A. Speaking with Certainty
- B. Moses Maimonides
- C. Teresa of Avila
- D. Evaluation

#### The Cataphatic Way

- A. The need for Analogy
- B. Analogy of Attribution
- C. Analogy of Proportionality
- D. Evaluation

#### Symbolism

- A. What are Signs and Symbols?
  - B. Paul Tillich on Signs and Symbols
  - C. The use of Symbols in Scripture and Religious Language
  - D. Evaluation
- Confusions to Avoid  
Key Quotes  
Suggested Reading  
Practise Exam Question  
Possible Future Questions

### **Twentieth Century Perspectives on Religious Language**

Key Terms  
Specification

#### Logical Positivism

- A. The Principle of Verification
- B. Ayer's Variations of the Principle of Verification

#### Wittgenstein's Language Games

- A. Language as a Form of Life
- B. Meaningful not Cognitive

#### Falsification Symposium

- A. Falsification
  - B. Bliks
  - C. Falsification Parables
- Confusions to Avoid  
Key Quotes  
Suggested Reading  
Practise Exam Question  
Possible Future Questions

## **OCR Ethics H573/2**

### **Introduction to Ethics**

Key Terms

Structure of Thought

Normative Ethics - Analysis

Asks the question: "what ought I to do?"

Meta-ethics

Applied Ethics

Deontological

Teleological

Four Questions to Ask of Ethical Theories

Key Quotes - Norms

### **Natural Law**

Key Terms

Structure of Thought

Aquinas' Argument - Analysis

Primary Precepts

The Four Laws

Secondary Precepts

Phronesis

Apparent Goods

Two Goods in Conflict

Confusions - Natural Law

Possible Exam Questions

Practise Exam Question

Key Quotes - Natural Law

### **Kantian Ethics**

Background

Key Terms

Structure of thought

Analysis - Deontological

Autonomy

Good Will

Duty

Categorical Imperative (C.I.)

C.I. 1 The Formula of Law

C.I. 2 Formula of Ends

C.I. 3 Formula of Autonomy

Summum Bonum

Three Postulates

Confusions - Kant

Possible Exam Questions

Practise Exam Question

Key Quotes - Kant

### **Bentham's Act Utilitarianism**

Background

- Key Terms
- Background
- Structure of Thought
- Analysis - Motivation
- Hedonic Calculus
- Quantitative Pleasure
- Pleasure Machines
  - Key Quotes - Bentham
- Mill's Rule Utilitarianism**
  - Background
  - Key Terms
  - Analysis - Weak Rule Utilitarianism
    - Structure of Thought
  - Mill & Bentham
  - Mill on Happiness
  - Higher and Lower Pleasures
  - Rules
  - Justice
  - Act or Rule?
    - Confusions - Mill
    - Possible Exam Questions
    - Practise Exam Question
    - Key Quotes - Mill
- Situation Ethics - Christian Relativism**
  - Background
  - Introduction
  - Analysis - Origins in the New Testament
  - Four Working Principles
  - Six Fundamental Principles
  - Conscience
    - Confusions
    - Possible Exam Questions
    - Practise Exam Question
    - Key Quotes - Situation Ethics
- Euthanasia**
  - Background
  - Definitions
  - Active or Passive
  - Analysis - Legal Position
  - Sanctity of Life - Bible
  - Sanctity of Life - Ethical Theories
  - Quality of Life - Situation Ethics
  - Autonomy
  - Evaluation - Arguments Against Euthanasia
    - Possible Exam Questions
    - Practise Exam Question
    - Key Quotes

## **Business Ethics**

Background

Key Terms

Analysis - Issues

Stake-holders

Codes - Kant's Duty

Cost/Benefit

Externalities

Rights

Individuals

Evaluation - Future Generations

Globalisation

Possible Exam Questions

Practise Exam Question

Key Quotes

## **Meta-Ethics**

Background

Specification

Key Terms

Analysis - Cognitive or Non-Cognitive

Structure of Thought

The Naturalistic Fallacy

The Open Question

Moore's Intuitionism

Evaluation of Intuitionism

Utilitarian Naturalists

Ayer's Emotivism ("Expressivism")

Evaluation - Ayer

Absolutism & Relativism

C.L. Stevenson's Emotivism

R.M.Hare's Prescriptivism

Evaluation - Prescriptivism

The Legacy of David Hume

Key Confusions to Avoid

Possible Future Questions

Practise Exam Question

Key Quotes - Meta-ethics

Suggested Reading

## **Conscience**

Issues

Specification

Analysis - The Psychology of Conscience: Freud

Background

Key Terms

Structure of Thought

Freudian Revolution

Ego



Id

Superego

Guilt

Oedipus Complex

Evaluating Freud - Weaknesses

Strengths

Key Quotes - Freud

Evaluation - Psychological Approaches

A Theology of Conscience - Aquinas

Key Terms

Structure of Thought - Aquinas

Vincible and Invincible Ignorance

Evaluation - Aquinas

Joseph Butler - Innate Conscience Guided by Reason

Evaluation - Butler

Authoritarian Conscience - Eric Fromm

The Humanistic Conscience

Key Confusions

Possible Future Exam Questions

Practise Exam Question

Key Quotes - Conscience

Suggested Reading

## **Sexual Ethics**

Issues Surrounding Sexual Ethics

Structure of Thought

Analysis - Sex & Evolution

Kinsey & the Sexual Revolution

Christian Views on Sex

Natural law

Catholic Teaching Today

Evaluation - Catholic View

Situation Ethics - Christian Relativism

Evaluation - Situation Ethics (Christian Relativism)

Homosexual Acts - a Test Case

Kant on Sex

Evaluation of Kant

Utilitarianism - Balancing the Positive and the Negative

Evaluation - Mill

Preference Utilitarianism

Key Confusions

Possible Future Exam Questions

Practise Exam Question

Key Quotes - Sexual Ethics

Suggested Reading

## **H573/3 Christian Thought**

### **Augustine - Human Nature**

Background & Influences

Key Terms

Structure of Thought

Human Relationships Pre and Post-Fall

Pre-Fall

Post-Fall

Original Sin - Effects on the Human Will & Society

Augustine and Pelagius

Human Selfishness & Free Will

Lack of Stability & Corruption in Human Societies

God's Grace

Possible Exam Questions

Practise Question

Key Quotes

### **Death and the Afterlife**

Background & Influences

Key Terms

Structure of Thought

Christian Teaching on Heaven, Hell and Purgatory

Ideas about the Kingdom Taught by Jesus

Problems

Eschatological Teaching

Hell - Different Ideas

Purgatory

Dante's Vision

Catholic Teaching on Purgatory

Hick - The Intermediary State

Heaven

Election - Who Will Be Saved?

Limited Election

Unlimited Election

Universalist Belief

Predestination

Election and Predestination

Single and Double Predestination

Calvin

Thomas Aquinas and Catholicism

Parable of Sheep & Goats (Matthew 25)

Possible Exam Questions

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Key Quotes

### **Knowledge of God**

Background & Influences

Key Terms

## Structure of Thought

Natural Knowledge of God's Existence as an Innate Sense of the Divine

Sensus Divinitatis

Innate Knowledge

Sense of Beauty & Moral Goodness

Human Intellectual Ability to Reflect on & Recognise God's Existence

Natural Knowledge in the Order of Creation

Purpose

Revealed Knowledge of God's Existence

The Fall and Human Finiteness

Faith

Grace

Revealed Knowledge of God's Existence in Jesus Christ

Consider: can God be known by non-Christians?

The Bible and the Life of the Church

Q. What is the Barth/Brunner Debate?

Three disagreements with Brunner's interpretation of Calvin:

Possible Exam Questions

Practise Essay Question

Key Quotes

## **Person of Jesus Christ**

Background & Influences

Key Terms

Structure of Thought

Jesus of History and the Christ of Faith

1. E.P. Sanders

2. Rudolph Bultmann

3. Black Messiah - James Cone

Jesus Christ's Authority as Son of God

1. Son of God and Messiah (Mark 6:47-52; John 9:1-41)

2. Christology from Above

3. Christology from Below

4. Did Jesus Think He Was Son of God?

5. Miracles do not necessarily indicate Jesus' Divinity

6. Birth and Incarnation

Some Heretical Views

Miracles as Signs of Salvation

1. Redemption and Creation Miracles

2. Resurrection as Miracle

3. Doubting Thomas

Jesus as Moral Teacher

1. The Living Word (John 1)

2. Jesus' Moral Teaching

3. Forgiveness and Repentance

4. Personal Responsibility

Jesus as Liberator

Some Key Authors

Liberator of the Marginalised

Possible Exam Questions

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Key Quotes

### **Christian Moral Principles**

Background and Influences

Key Terms

Structure of Thought

Different Approaches to a Christian Moral Reading of the Bible

Hermeneutic (Interpretation) Factors

Propositional & Non-Propositional Revelation

The Bible as Sole Authority for Ethics

Literalism - Is It Realistic?

Contradictions

Bible Church & Reason

Ethical Heteronomy - Roman Catholicism

Thomas Aquinas' Natural Law

Magisterium - Roman Catholic

Veritatis Splendor (Splendour of Truth)

Liberation Theology

Conscience & Tradition

Stanley Hauerwas

Criticisms of the Bible, Faith & Reason

Agape Love is All

Autonomous

Applied to Euthanasia

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Key Quotes

### **Christian Moral Action**

Background & Influences

Key Terms

Structure of Thought

Duty to God & the State

Responsibility to the State

Obedience, Leadership & Doing God's Will

Justification for Civil Disobedience

Civil Disobedience - Examples

Church - Community & Discipline

The Confessing Church

Finkenwalde

The Cost of Discipleship

Bonhoeffer's teaching on Ethics as action

Costly Grace

Sacrifice & Suffering

Solidarity

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Key Quotes

### **Religious Pluralism and Theology**

Background

Specification

Key Terms

Structure of Thought

Christian Teaching on Exclusivism

Christian Teaching on Inclusivism

Christian Teaching on Pluralism

Challenges to Pluralism

Supporting Hick

Opposing Hick

How Was Hick Influenced by Kant?

Confusions to Avoid

Possible Exam Questions

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Key Quotes

Suggested Reading

### **Religious Pluralism and Society**

Background

Specification

Key Terms

Structure of Thought

The Development of Multi-Faith Societies

Example - Migration

Responses to Inter-faith Dialogue

David Ford: The Future of Christian Theology

Catholic Church - Redemptoris Missio (Mission of the Redeemer)

Church of England - Sharing the Gospel of Salvation

The Scriptural Reasoning Movement

Cambridge Inter-faith Forum

Confusions to Avoid

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Key Quotes

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### **The Challenge of Secularism**

Background

Specification

Key Terms

Structure of Thought

The Rise of Secularism and Secularisation

Important Aims to Understand

Difficulty in Defining Secularism

Sigmund Freud

Supported by Hume

- Wish Fulfilment
- Challenges to Freud
- Richard Dawkins - Programmatic Secularism
  - Example- Philomena Lee
- Responses to Dawkins - Alister McGrath
  - The Dawkins Delusion
- Secular Humanism - Christian Belief is Personal
  - Two Types of Secularism
- Education and Schools
  - Government and State
- Objections to the Secularisation Model
  - Key Confusions to Avoid
  - Possible Exam Questions
  - Practise Exam Question
  - Key Quotes
  - Suggested Reading
- Liberation Theology and Marx**
  - Background
  - Specification
  - Key Terms
  - Structure of Thought
- Marx's Teaching on Alienation and Exploitation
  - What does this look like?
- Leonardo Boff's Three Mediations
- Liberation Theology's Use of Marx and Social Sin
- Liberation Theology's Teaching on "Preferential Option for the Poor"
  - Confusions to Avoid
  - Possible Exam Questions
  - Practise Exam Question
  - Key Quotes
  - Suggested Reading
- Gender and Society**
  - Background
  - Key Terms
  - Specification
- Gender – Essentialist or Existentialist
- Exploitation and Power (Michael Foucault)
- Gender as a Fluid Concept – Judith Butler (Gender Trouble 1990)
- Gender and Women's Liberation
- The Changing idea of Family
- Christian views on Gender Roles
  - Augustine on Gender Roles
  - Aquinas on Gender Roles
  - Luther (1483-1536) on Gender Roles
- Christian Views on Social Changes
- Christian Teaching – the Bible
  - Ephesians 5:22-33

Christian Teaching - Roman Catholic Mulieris Dignitatem (MD)

Possible Exam Questions

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Key Quotes

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## **Gender and Theology**

Background

Specification

Key terms

Structure of Thought - Ruether

Hermeneutics of Suspicion

Ruether's Hermeneutic

Ruether's God-Concept

Can a Male Saviour Save?

The New Age and the Eschatological Community

Criticisms of Ruether

Background - Mary Daly

Structure of Thought - Mary Daly

The Myths that Bolster Patriarchy

The Patriarchal God

Myth of the Feminine

The Scapegoat Christ

A Fall into the Sacred

Gyn/Ecology

Criticisms of Daly

Confusions to Avoid

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Key Quotes

Suggested Reading

## **Appendix of Technical Terms**

### **About the Authors**

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