



Bolingbroke Academy

Sixth Form Bridging Project

Philosophy of Religion

Transitioning from Year 11 into Year 12



What is a “bridging project”?

The bridging work **MUST** be completed for each of your courses by the time you start your course. Your work will be assessed in September. The aims of the bridging project are:

- Check you are happy with the course content you will be studying for two years
- Prepare you for study at A-level
- Practice skills you will need to develop as an A-level student

A-Level Religious Studies will consist of two papers, covering a variety of concepts.

Paper 1: Philosophy of Religion and Ethics (3 Hours)

Paper 2: Study of religion and dialogues: Christianity (3 Hours)

The exam board is **AQA**.

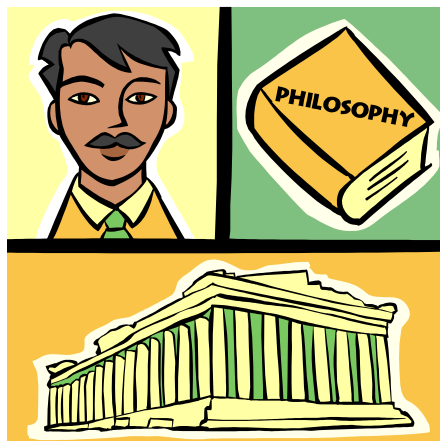
What do you need to do for September?

In order to succeed at A Level Religious Studies, you need to develop excellent organisation skills, especially now that all of the A Level exams are at the end of the course.

With that in mind, we have developed 3 tasks for you to complete before the main A Level teaching begins.

In addition, you should ensure you are ready for the year ahead by organising the following items:

- Essential text books
- Ring binder folder and coloured dividers
- Pencil case with a pen and a spare pen, highlighters and ruler
- Pad of lined paper



Task I- Investigation into the existence of God

As part of your Philosophy of Religion studies, you will have to read, investigate and critically analyse the work of various philosophers and scholars.

Choose a **theory** to investigate from:

- William Paley's Design Argument
- Anselm's Ontological Argument
- Thomas Aquinas' Third Way Argument

Success Criteria-

- Fill the next page with carefully selected information on your chosen theory
- Include when and where these ideas were founded
- The key beliefs and ideas
- Key information about the Philosophers behind them
- Criticisms that you can find of these theories
- Quotes, with analysis of the quote
- Use a variety of sources for your information



Task 2- Key Words

You must investigate the meaning of these keywords:

A priori

A posteriori

Contingent

Empiricism

Inductive Arguments

Deductive Arguments

Infinite Regress

Dualism

Necessary

Objective

Subjective

Transcendent

Cosmology

Ontology

Teleology

Task 3: Reading List

Choose a text, and complete the Reading Summary Sheet

- *An Introduction to the Philosophy of Religion*, Brian Davies (2003) *
- *Is There a God?* Richard Swinburne, (1996)
- *The Existence of God*, Richard Swinburne (1992)
- *The Mind of God*, Paul Davies (1993)
- *The Miracle of Theism*, J.L. Mackie (1982)
- *The Puzzle of God*, Peter Vardy (1995) *
- *An Intelligent Person's Guide to Ethics*, Mary Warnock (1999)
- *The Puzzle of Ethics*, Peter Vardy and Paul Grosch (1999) *
- *Utilitarianism*, J.S. Mill
- *Christian Theology; An Introduction*, Alistair McGrath (2006)*

* **Particularly recommended**

Further Reading

- *A Short Introduction to...*
(This is a very good and affordable series from Oxford University Press, there are loads to choose from but the best place to start would be...)
 - *Atheism*
 - *Christian Ethics*
 - *Ethics*
 - *The Bible*
 - *Christianity*
 - *Philosophy*
- *The God Delusion and The Blind Watchman*, Richard Dawkins
- *The Story of God*, Robert Winston
- *Think: A Compelling Introduction to Philosophy*, Simon Blackburn

Reading Summary Sheet

Date:	Topic:
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Title of book/journal:	Editor/author:
Title of chapter/article:	Page numbers:

Summary of main points

Key words	Key scholars
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Counter arguments

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My thoughts

Questions

Links to other topics / ideas units
