

Religious, Moral and Philosophical Studies (RMPS) Higher



Course Description

World Religion

Candidates develop in-depth knowledge and understanding of the impact and significance of religion today. They study key beliefs and practices of one of the world's six major religions and the contribution these make to the lives of followers.

Morality and Belief

Candidates develop skills to evaluate and express detailed, reasoned and well-structured views about contemporary moral questions and responses. They develop in-depth knowledge and understanding of contemporary moral questions, and religious and non-religious responses to these. Candidates study religious viewpoints from one of the world's six major religions.

Religious and Philosophical Questions

Candidates develop skills to critically analyse religious and philosophical questions and responses. They study religious viewpoints from one of the world's six major religions.

Assessment

Component	Marks	Duration
Question Paper 1	60	2 hours 15 minutes
Question Paper 2	20	45 minutes
Assignment	30	1 hour 30 minutes

Future Pathways

Higher RMPS would be excellent preparation for a degree level course in Theology or Philosophy. As well as the obvious career/vocation pathways (priest, monk, nun, academic, teacher), RMPS also equips candidates with a range of transferrable skills (e.g., analysing and evaluating arguments) as well as the knowledge and understanding of possible answers to profound human questions: *Is there a God? Why do we suffer? Is there life after death? Why be moral? What is the meaning of life?*

A qualification in RMPS would also complement other areas of study. The course contains direct or indirect links to other subject areas, such as:

- Science (origins of the universe and human beings)
- Medicine (ethics of embryo research, abortion, organ donation, euthanasia)
- Law (natural law, divine command theory, ten commandments)
- History (historicity of the gospels and the Church)
- Psychology (morality, free will, philosophy of mind)