



Department:	RPE	
Year 8 Course summary:		
<p>Advancing in the field of thought...</p> <p><b>CSI Jerusalem:</b> Students ask the question “Who is to blame for the death of Jesus?” and find their own answers after a critical engagement with both the historical and the scriptural evidence.</p> <p><b>Buddhist Philosophy:</b> All too often seen as alien by many young people, Buddhism offers a very different approach to understanding our place in the world. This topic enables students to appreciate Buddhist Ethics and Metaphysics.</p> <p><b>The God debate:</b> A favourite of many students. This topic allows students to grapple with some challenging philosophy of religion including the classical arguments for God’s existence. They also study the challenges to religious claims that come from science and from the Problem of Evil.</p> <p><b>Skills:</b> Students develop a range of critical thinking skills, in particular students are encouraged to evaluate arguments to assess which reasons are most persuasive. This is developed in conjunction with essay writing skills.</p>		
Assessments:		
Michaelmas	Lent	Summer
<i>CSI Jerusalem:</i> the write up	The Alms Bowl (Buddhist Philosophy)	Summer Exam
Key vocabulary:		
Archaeology, Blasphemy, Carbon Dating, Constantine, Crucifixion, Garden of Gethsemane, Golgotha, Gospels, Herod, Judea, Pontius Pilate, Resurrection, Romans, Sanhedrin, Shroud of Turin. Alms bowl, Anatta, Anicca, Buddhist, Dharma, Dukka, Eightfold path, Enlightenment, Four Noble Truths, Nirvana, Precepts, Siddhartha Gautama.	Agnostic, Atheist, Big Bang, Cosmological Revolution, Design argument, First Cause argument, Evolution, Miracles, Moral argument, Original Sin, Problem of Evil, Religious Experience, Suffering, Theist, Theodicy.	