AQA GCSE Religious Studies (9-1)

A tried and trusted approach to the new specifications from an expert author team

Series Editor
Cynthia Bartlett

Student Books for this course have been approved by AQA.
AQA GCSE Religious Studies provides detailed coverage of the 2016 Religious Studies specifications and has been written by a team of experienced and well-qualified teachers of Religious Studies who recognise the importance of good quality resources, including immediate accessibility to appropriate texts, case studies and examples. We are aware of the requirements for topics which have not previously been included in specifications and have developed books which will enable teachers to feel confident in addressing these new areas.

This new course has been designed to be accessible across the ability range, with plenty of illustrations, to assist students in their studies. We have been careful to include different kinds of activities and study tips which will help students reflect on beliefs, teachings and moral and philosophical issues. There are also detailed pages on assessment which will help teachers and students understand how the specification will be assessed and which will help give confidence in answering some new forms of assessment.

The team has worked in a wide range of schools and has been involved in teacher inset, curriculum and examination specification development on a local and national level. We understand the importance of the contribution which Religious Studies makes to the school curriculum and its significance in promoting knowledge, understanding, respect for diversity and good citizenship. We are also aware of the need to develop the skills of students in selecting information, explaining significance, justifying opinion and being able to appreciate more than one point of view.

The team and I are passionate about Religious Studies and we trust that these resources will enable you to approach the new specifications with confidence, ready to inspire and excite students as they learn.

Best wishes,

Cynthia Bartlett and team

Series Editor
This new course, edited by experienced examiner Cynthia Bartlett, offers coverage of the AQA specifications and includes resources for both specifications A and B.

Student Books for this course have been approved by AQA.

- **Detailed coverage of six faiths** for specification A, plus bespoke Student Books for specification B and St Mark’s Gospel
- Specification A books offer detailed coverage of the study of religions, and also themes through the perspective of that religion

### Course structure

#### Specification A

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Faith</th>
<th>Student Book</th>
<th>Kerboodle Book</th>
<th>Revision Guide</th>
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<tr>
<td>Buddhism</td>
<td>978 019 837032 1</td>
<td>978 019 837052 9</td>
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**Kerboodle resources complementing the Christianity Student Book offer differentiated revision and exam support**


#### Specification B

**Written in consultation with the Catholic Education Service**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Faith</th>
<th>Student Book</th>
<th>Kerboodle Book</th>
<th>Revised Guide</th>
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<tr>
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<td>Catholic Christianity</td>
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<td>Catholic Christianity with Islam and Judaism</td>
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<td>978 019 841270 0</td>
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The Oxford Teacher Handbook for GCSE Islam

- **See page 7 for more information**

**Specifications A and B**

- The Oxford Teacher Handbook for GCSE Islam
  - 978 019 837047 5
  - Spring 2017
  - This topic book has not been entered into the AQA approval process.
If asked to define the word ‘church’, many answer that the church is a gathering of Christian people. The root meaning of ‘church’ is not ‘church’ but ‘church’ and ‘church’ are both words derived from the Greek word ‘church’, which means ‘meeting of Christians’. The Church as a building provides a location where Christians from the area can come together for worship, prayer, and community. The role of the Church is not confined to the building. Throughout history, the Church has played a significant role in society, providing education, healthcare, and social services. For example, Mission Circuit is a community hub with an 'Oasis Project', which provides support and resources to the local community, including food banks and other services.

Activities

1. What does the Church believe?
2. What are the functions of the Church?
3. How does the Church relate to the community?

Checklists, samples answer activities and practice questions run throughout the book, offering revision checklists, samples answer activities and practice questions to develop students' understanding.

Expert author team with extensive examining experience, led by Cynthia Bartlett:
Marianne Fleming
Mary Horsley
Kevin James
Francis Loftus
Peter Smith
Peter Wallace
David Worden
Nagapriya

Learning objectives are clearly stated so students know the key points to be covered.

Case studies show religions as they are practised today.

Chapter content is summarised to aid revision.

A full practice question in each chapter to test students.

A range of activities consolidate knowledge and develop research skills.

Sample answer activity to help students develop the skills to tackle the new 12 mark question.

Sample checklist activity – the 12 mark question

1. What are a church's functions?
2. Explain why the Church is important today.
3. What is the role of a church community hub?
**Revised Content**

**1 Beliefs and teachings**

1.1 The nature of God

**RECAP**

Different branches of Christianity...

**APPLY**

Steps towards God's love...

**REVIEW**

The problem of evil and suffering...

**SUCCEED**

Content is condensed and presented visually to aid retention

**Includes useful exam tips throughout**

**Practice exam questions are included for each topic, along with mark schemes**

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**Revision Guides for Specification A**

New Oxford AQA GCSE Religious Studies Revision Guides have been developed by a trusted team of experts to offer step-by-step strategies to prepare students for exam success.

- **Recap** key content with concise points and clear diagrams
- **Apply** knowledge with targeted revision activities that rehearse essential exam skills
- **Review** progress with exam practice for all AQA question types, complete with answers, annotated sample answers, and guidance for improving exam techniques

These Revision Guides can be used alongside the Student Books or as a standalone resource for independent revision.

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**Exam practice**

Test the 1 mark question

1. Which one of the following is the idea that God became human in Jesus?
   - A  Omniscient
   - B  All-powerful
   - C  Resurrection
   - D  Omniscient and all-powerful

Test the 5 mark question

8. Explain two Christian beliefs about salvation.
   - Refer to sacred writings or another source of Christian belief and teaching in your answer.
   - Add a reference to sacred writings or another source of Christian belief and teaching.

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**TIP**

You only need to make one explanation or reference to a religious teaching or quotation.

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**Essential information:**

- Christianity is the main religion in Great Britain.
- Christianity has three main traditions: Orthodox, Protestant, and Catholic.
- Even though Christianity has different denominations, they all share the same belief in God.

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**Exam practice**

Test the 1 mark question

1. Which one of the following is the idea that God became human in Jesus?
   - A  Omniscient
   - B  All-powerful
   - C  Resurrection
   - D  Omniscient and all-powerful

---

**TIP**

For example, Christians who are suffering persecution for their beliefs today is that it helps Christians who are suffering to have hope. Christians today is that they believe that the crucifixion was a sacrifice Jesus chose to make for them. Christians today is that it helps Christians who are suffering to have hope.

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**TIP**

A second Christian belief about salvation is that it is gained by following Jesus' teachings, such as the Golden Rule ('love your neighbour') and 'bear fruit'.

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**TIP**

In the 12 mark exam answer, using the essential information...

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**TIP**

Write the response a Christian would make to someone asking...

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**TIP**

In the 12 mark exam answer, using the essential information...

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**TIP**

For example, Christians who are suffering persecution for their beliefs today is that it helps Christians who are suffering to have hope. Christians today is that they believe that the crucifixion was a sacrifice Jesus chose to make for them. Christians today is that it helps Christians who are suffering to have hope.
Perfect for front of class teaching and independent learning

Christianity Kerboodle: Exam Practice and Revision is the digital companion to the Christianity Student Book. It’s intuitive to use, customizable, and can be accessed online at any time and anywhere. Packed with plenty of exam practice and preparation, this is the perfect resource to help reassure your students they will have everything covered for the new specification.

Differentiated worksheets and a range of exam practice activities provide opportunities to practice and test every question type across all topics.

A variety of revision resources including revision videos and summaries to recap and reinforce learning.

Please note that this resource was not entered in the AQA approval process.

Book your free in-school demonstration

To arrange a free in-school demonstration, contact your local Educational Consultant directly using www.oxfordsecondary.co.uk/repfinder.
Also available...

Kerboodle Books – An online version of each Student Book with an added bank of tools for students to truly personalize the book.

Kerboodle Books have been approved by AQA.

Christianity Kerboodle: Exam Practice and Revision contains:

- Exam paper walkthrough
- Master your skills presentation
- Revision videos
- Revision summary maps
- Fully differentiated worksheets
- Auto-marked multiple choice tests
- Skills-building activities for all the different question types
- Practice questions and mark schemes
- Markbook to track student progress
Part 1: Catholic Christianity

1. Creation

1.1. Michelangelo’s Creation of Adam

The significance of this painting is that it focuses on the human’s attention on how depictions of humanity in the image of God.

How does Creation of Adam reflect Catholic beliefs and teachings?

- In this painting, Adam is shown as a perfect man, full of strength and potential. This reflects what is taught in Genesis: that God made everything “very good” (Genesis 1:31). Adam is shown in the ideal man, but not fully alone. Adam’s unattainable aim is without doubt the image of God, but his fingers are still here, waiting for God’s life force to strengthen them.

- This painting represents the moment when God calls Adam into life. Michelangelo is showing that Adam departs on God for his life. God is powerful yet ancient. The white hair and beard reflect age but the body of God is still muscular. God looks much older than Adam. This evokes the idea that man is made in the image of God, though this is not as clear as the body of the God is muscular. God and Adam are depicted as nearly the same size, suggesting that humanity is as close to God as possible.

- The design of Adam and God reaching out to each other reflects the longing for a time when humanity had God and Man. It is not just a simple a meaning of life, it is the building up of a harmonious love and appreciation of each other.

Key terms

- **Creation**: the act by which God made Adam come to life. Michelangelo is showing that Adam depends on God for his life.
- **Creator**: the one who makes things and bring things about. Michelangelo reflects Catholic beliefs about God as Creator, and the creation of humanity in the image of God.
- **Creation of Adam**: a painting by Michelangelo depicting the moment when God makes Adam come to life. Michelangelo’s Creation of Adam, painted on the ceiling of the Sistine Chapel in Rome, is one of the best-known examples of this type of painting.

Study tip

Research activity

This painting is one of the most famous works of art in Western culture. It is not just a simple meaning of life, but it is a profound statement about humanity and appreciation of each other.

Key terms define and explain important concepts and religious terminology

Assessment guidance

• Includes a range of activity types and study tips to develop students’ understanding

Assessment guidance runs throughout the book, offering revision checklists, sample answer activities and practice questions

Learning objectives are clearly stated so students know the key points to be covered

Specification B

Written for the 2016 AQA specification B, this Student Book offers rigorous expert support for teaching Catholic Christianity with Islam and Judaism.

- This title has been granted an imprimatur by the Catholic Church
- Thorough support from experts covering the study of Catholic Christianity, Islam, Judaism and thematic studies
- Chapters clearly set out objectives and topic summaries, helping students understand what they need to know
- Includes a range of activity types and study tips to develop students’ understanding
- Assessment guidance runs throughout the book, offering revision checklists, sample answer activities and practice questions

Part 1: Catholic Christianity

1. Creation

1.1. Michelangelo’s Creation of Adam

Objectives

- Understand the meaning and significance of Michelangelo’s Creation of Adam.
- Appreciate how this painting reflects Catholic beliefs about God as Creator, and the creation of humanity in the image of God.

Key terms

- **Creation of Adam**: a painting by Michelangelo depicting the moment when God makes Adam come to life.

Controversial aspects of this painting

Paintings are limited in what they can depict, and it can be difficult to present religious ideas in a meaningful way. Here are a few of the ways in which this painting does not reflect Catholic beliefs.

- Some people do not like the idea of the eternal God being shown as a young man. This is an attempt to convey the greatness and majesty of God.
- Others do not like the idea of the eternal God being shown as an old man. This is an attempt to convey the greatness and majesty of God.
- Some people do not like the idea of the eternal God being shown as an old man. This is an attempt to convey the greatness and majesty of God.

Activities

1. Create a timeline of events leading up to the Creation of Adam. Include the names of the people involved and the dates of their births and deaths.
2. Research the significance of Michelangelo’s Creation of Adam, and write a short essay about its importance.

Research activity

This painting is one of the most famous works of art in Western culture. It is not just a simple meaning of life, but it is a profound statement about humanity and appreciation of each other.

Key terms define and explain important concepts and religious terminology

Includes a range of activities to help embed knowledge and develop research and discussion skills

For Catholic schools

Includes Islam and Judaism

For more information, visit our website: www.oxfordsecondary.co.uk

GCSE RS for AQA: Catholic Christianity Student Book

To learn about God’s involvement and what this term Means, see pages 14-15.
Apply knowledge with targeted revision activities that rehearse essential exam skills.

Review progress with exam practice for all AQA question types, complete with answers, annotated sample answers, and guidance for improving exam technique.

Tips feature expert advice on exam technique and getting the most from your revision.

For specifications A and B

St Mark’s Gospel Student Book

St Mark’s Gospel Student Book can be used with both specifications A and B to cover the study of St Mark’s Gospel.

Written by expert author, Francis Loftus, this book offers detailed coverage of the set texts and their significance for early followers of Jesus and for 21st century Christians.

Contains clear objectives and summaries as well as a range of activities and study tips.

Assessment guidance is included to help prepare students for the exam.
This unique teacher handbook is written by a team of experienced teachers and experts on Islam and is designed to help cover everything you need to know about teaching Islam as a second religion for the 2016 GCSE specifications.

- **Subject boosters**, based on the prescribed content in the annexe of the 2016 GCSE criteria, offer you expert knowledge on beliefs, teachings and practices, and Muslim perspectives on themes and issues.

- **Practical ideas** and **ready-made worksheets** help you bring the teaching and learning of Islam to life in the classroom sensitively and effectively.

- **Tailored to mirror exam board specifications**, with specific support for each exam board.

The Oxford Teacher Handbook for GCSE Islam

Includes specification support and guidance

For use with all specifications

Looks at the difference between Sunni and Shi'a beliefs and practices

Ready-made photocopiable worksheets for lesson ideas

Subject booster section to help you teach Islam with confidence
The only KS3 RE course presenting faiths lived through real families

Oxford A Level Religious Studies for OCR

Christianity, Philosophy and Ethics resources from Libby Ahluwalia and Robert Bowie
Exam Question Types

**GCSE Religious Studies**: Know your Exam Question Types

Each question in the exam will be split into five parts, worth 1, 2, 4, 5 and 12 marks.

1. **The 1 mark question**
   - These questions test knowledge and understanding.
   - They are usually multiple-choice questions with four answers to choose from.

2. **The 2 mark question**
   - These questions test knowledge and understanding.
   - They are usually a multiple-choice question with four answers to choose from. It will usually include the command words:
   
   - For all Specifications
   - Specification A
   - Specification B
   - Specification A and B
   - For all Specifications

3. **The 4 mark question**
   - These questions test knowledge and understanding.
   - They could be a top level answer that explain how religious teaching is.

4. **The 5 mark question**
   - These questions test knowledge and understanding.
   - They could ask you to develop it by a religious leader, for example the Pope or the Dalai Lama.

5. **The 12 mark question**
   - This question tests analytical and evaluative skills.
   - It could ask you to give reasoned arguments to support a different point of view.

For a more detailed guide to your exam question types see our NEW! AQA GCSE Revision Guides

**AQA GCSE Religious Studies: Know your Exam Question Types**

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<tr>
<th>Title</th>
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<td>AQA GCSE Religious Studies: Christianity Student Book</td>
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<td>978 019 842281 5</td>
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<td>AQA GCSE Religious Studies: Buddhism Student Book</td>
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<td>AQA GCSE Religious Studies: Christianity and Buddhism Revision Guide</td>
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How to get in touch

Web oxfordsecondary.co.uk/aqa-gcse-rs

Email secondary.enquiries@oup.com

Tel. +44 (0)1536 452768

@OxEdRE

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