

Suggested Outline Framework for Unit 1:
Religion and Philosophical Themes

Christianity



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Unit 1 comprises 50% of the GCSE qualification. Therefore the scheme of learning proposed below is intended **only as a guide** based on approximately three hours of RS per fortnight over an academic year. The total number of lessons in this scheme is fifty-five based on one hour per lesson. The recommendation is that the **whole** of the course is **always** taught.

Assessment should be formative **and** engaging. Where possible, try and use the same or similar format to the final examination. Always share mark schemes with students. Ideally this should be towards the end of the unit so that they have had time to assimilate and engage in the work first.

The Moral Maze on Radio 4 is an excellent resource for those who are interested, as is The Infinite Monkey Cage (also on Radio 4). Both are available as podcasts thus making it easier to select relevant episodes.

Part B: Theme 1: Issues of Life and Death (lessons 1 - 8)

Lesson	Area of Study	Specific Content	Concepts	Resources	Possible Learning Activities
1	The world	Diverse Christian teachings about the origin of the universe and the relationship between Christian and non-religious views of creation	Evolution	<p>Georges Lemaître – the Belgian cosmologist, mathematician and Catholic priest who worked on big bang theory before it was called that: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sH4miOx3vFE; https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VuyYGVDCdN0&t=579s</p> <p>(This is the whole video of Hawking’s ‘Did God Create the Universe?’)</p> <p>Two great photos to get students to comment on: http://blogs.futura-sciences.com/e-luminet/2016/03/13/cosmogenesis-1-from-myth-to-myth/ (the link is for the photo of a young Lemaître with Einstein but the site itself is interesting – a French astrophysicist come poet) http://www.thefamouspeople.com/profiles/images/georges-lematre-2.jpg</p>	Compare and contrast the scientific view with the story in Genesis 1 and 2; where does Lemaître fit in?
2	The world	Christian beliefs, teachings and attitudes about dominion, stewardship, environmental responsibility,	Environmental responsibility	<p>Genesis 1:28 and Psalm 8:6; Explain and debate the differences between: The biblical account; Big-Bang theory</p> <p>‘Blind’ versus ‘Planned’ Evolution – see Dawkins and Hawking above</p>	Tie in Christian Aid, global citizenship and Genesis 1:28 and Psalm 8:6;

		sustainability and global citizenship			
3	The world	Non-religious views on the creation of the universe, stewardship, social and community responsibility	Evolution; environmental responsibility	<p>https://humanism.org.uk/about/h4bw/;</p> <p>Charles Darwin – his journey on the Beagle (Richard Dawkins) – in this link Dawkins debates with Ken Ham (it is long and other videos are available): https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6qnOIhLZTpg</p> <p>Also look at the work of Alfred Russel Wallace: http://www.famousscientists.org/alfred-russel-wallace/ (A good Welsh perspective)</p>	Compare and contrast Humanist and Christian views; Why did Darwin take so long to publish his findings? Compare and contrast Christian and non-religious viewpoints
4	The origin and value of human life	Diverse Christian beliefs, teachings and attitudes toward the sanctity of human life	Sanctity of life	<p>Genesis 1 and 2 - compare the different versions of Creation and how important humans appear to be; focus on Genesis 1:31 and Jeremiah 1:5</p> <p>http://resources.edugas.co.uk/Pages/ResourceSingle.aspx?rId=678</p>	
5	The origin and value of human life	Diverse Christian views on abortion and euthanasia	Quality of life; sanctity of life; abortion; euthanasia	Case study: Catholic and Church in Wales views on beginning and end of life issues; Welsh laws regarding organ donation and Christian responses to it	Compare and contrast the views of the Catholic Church and the

					Church in Wales
6	The origin and value of human life	Non-religious views on quality of life over sanctity of life	Quality of life; sanctity of life	Abortion and euthanasia – Peter Singer ‘speciesism’ http://www.bbc.co.uk/ethics/animals/rights/speciesism.shtml	Define situationist/ relativist and then compare to doctrinal/ absolutist views
7	The origin and value of human life	Dignity in dying; right to choose,	Euthanasia; abortion; quality of life; sanctity of life	<p>Debate on abortion/euthanasia; compare UK laws on euthanasia to those of Belgium: http://www.patientsrightscouncil.org/site/belgium/</p> <p>http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-3491951/Belgian-lawmakers-vote-world-s-death-demand-law-mean-no-doctor-stop-patient-wants-die.html</p> <p>https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eo8Hn0DEcpw</p> <p>http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/world-europe-37335846</p> <p>http://www.nhs.uk/conditions/Euthanasiaandassistedsuicide/Pages/Introduction.aspx</p> <p>http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/uknews/law-and-order/9480227/Tony-Nicklinson-breaks-down-as-High-Court-rejects-his-right-to-die-plea.html</p> <p>http://www.dignityindying.org.uk/</p> <p>Donald Trump on abortion: https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/wonk/wp/2016/11/15/what-abortion-could-look-like-in-an-america-without-roe-v-wade/</p>	Debate on abortion; refer back to situational/ absolutist views

				A very touching and intriguing story: http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/health-38012267	
8	Beliefs about death and the afterlife	Christian beliefs and teachings about life after death	Soul; afterlife	The Simpsons episode where Bart whilst in church sells his soul is a good place to start a discussion;	Analysis of biblical passages: John 11:24-27, 1 Corinthians 15:42-44