

## Information for AQA Centres

The new specification for Edexcel GCE Religious Studies presents centres with a broadly familiar specification from the previous post Curriculum 2000 specification in Religious Studies which was launched for teaching in 2006. GCE2008 contains only one major change - coursework has been replaced by an examination unit. The only other changes made are adaptations of the mark distribution, whilst A2 Developments questions are now in two parts to be consistent with AS Foundations.

AQA Units	New Specification Reference	Guidance
Units 1 and 2 Introduction to Religious Studies	6RSO1 Foundations and 6RSO2 Investigations	<p>AQA candidates sit two papers which each have the same format, studying a maximum of one and a maximum of two areas. The Edexcel AS offers the opportunity to study up to four distinct areas examined by two very different papers</p> <p>6RSO1 Foundations requires candidates to write three answers on a minimum of two and a maximum of three areas. 6RSO2 Investigations requires candidates to write an extended essay in response to one question from a choice of three. 9 areas of study are available and candidates need not choose an area which they have also studied for Foundations</p>
Units A and B Religion and Ethics	6RSO1 Foundations Ethics and 6RSO2 Investigations	Utilitarianism and Situation Ethics offered by 6RSO1 ethics option; value of human life, abortion and euthanasia, created world and environment offered by 6RSO2 options in the Study of Ethics. Kantian ethics and Natural Moral Law are offered by A2 unit 6RSO3 Developments ethics option.
Unit C Philosophy of Religion	6RSO1 Foundations Philosophy of Religion and 6RSO2 Investigations	Cosmological Argument offered by 6RSO1 philosophy of religion option; psychology and religion offered by 6RSO2 options in the

		Study of Religion. Religious Experience and atheism offered by A2 unit 6RSO3
Unit D Religion, Philosophy and Science	6RSO1 Foundations Philosophy of Religion and 6RSO2 Investigations	Miracles and Design Argument offered by 6RSO1 philosophy of religion option; quantum mechanics and a religious world view and creation offered by 6RSO2 options in the Study of Religion, New Testament and Old Testament
Unit E The History of Christianity OR Religion, Art and the Media	6RSO1 Foundations Christianity and 6RSO2 Investigations	Reformation teaching about person and work of Jesus offered by 6RSO1 Christianity option; development of church up to and including reformation offered by 6RSO2 options in the Study of Christianity; religion, art and media offered by 6RSO2 options in the Study of Religion
Unit F Old Testament	6RSO2 Investigations	Religion and Science, suffering and the book of Job, the nature of God offered by 6RSO2 options in the Study of the Old Testament
Unit G New Testament	6RSO1 Foundations and 6RSO2 Investigations	Jesus' actions, teachings, parables and miracles offered by 6RSO1 and 6RSO2 options in New Testament. Arrest, trial, death, resurrection offered by A2 6RSO3 New Testament option.
Unit H Religion and Contemporary Society	6RSO2 Investigations	Topics in this unit offered by 6RSO2 options in the Study of Religion
Unit J: World Religions 1: Buddhism OR Hinduism OR Sikhism	6RSO1 Foundations and 6RSO2 Investigations	6RSO1 options in these specific religions offer a range of overlapping topics as well as a greater emphasis on other key beliefs and practices; 6RSO2 Study of World Religions offers scope for an investigation of ethical issues, inter-faith dialogue and standpoints about belief in God from the perspective of any these religions.



<p>Unit K: World Religions 2: Christianity OR Judaism OR Islam</p>	<p>6RSO1 Foundations and 6RSO2 Investigations</p>	<p>6RSO1 options in these specific religions offer a range of overlapping topics as well as a greater emphasis on other key beliefs and practices; 6RSO2 Study of World Religions offers scope for an investigation of ethical issues, inter-faith dialogue and standpoints about belief in God from the perspective of any these religions.</p>
<p>Unit L: Islam 2: The Life of the Prophet</p>	<p>6RSO1 Foundations</p>	<p>6RSO1 offers the Life and Work of Muhammad in the Islam option</p>
<p>Unit 3: Studies in Religion and Unit 4: Religion and Human Experience</p>	<p>6RSO3 Developments and 6RSO4 Implications</p>	<p>AQA candidates sit two papers. Unit 3 allows them to specialise in one area and to write two essays. For Unit 4 candidates write one extended essay from a choice of three topic areas within a preselected area.          The Edexcel A2 offers the opportunity to study up to four distinct areas examined by two very different papers</p> <p>6RSO3 Developments requires candidates to write three answers on a minimum of two and a maximum of three areas. 6RSO4 Implications requires candidates to respond to an extract from a range of passages studied from one of 9 areas of study are available Candidates need not study an area which they have also studied for Foundations. One two part question, the format of which does <b>not</b> change from year to year, is set. The extract set in the exam <b>will</b> change from year to year.</p>



Unit 3A: Religion and Ethics	6RSO1 Foundations, 6RSO2 Investigations, 6RSO3 Developments	Virtue Ethics offered by 6RSO3 option in ethics, sexual behaviour (ethics) by 6RSO1 option in ethics, science and technology offered by 6RSO2 options in the Study of Religion or the Study of Ethics
Unit 3B: Philosophy of Religion	6RSO1 Foundations 6RSO3 Developments	Ontological Argument, Religious Language and Body, Soul and Personal Identity offered by 6RSO3 Philosophy of Religion option; the problem of evil offered by 6RSO1 Philosophy of Religion option. Some consideration of Religious Language is also offered on 6RSO4 Implications Philosophy of Religion option.
Unit 3C: The History of Christianity OR Religion and Art	6RSO2 Investigations	Some areas of study in these units available in 6RSO2 Investigations options in the Study of Christianity and the Study of Religions.
Unit 3D: Old Testament	6RSO2 Investigations	Religion and Science, suffering and the book of Job, the nature of God offered by 6RSO2 options in the Study of the Old Testament
Unit 3E: New Testament (the Fourth Gospel)	6RSO1 Foundations and 6RSO3 Developments	Topics in the study of the Fourth Gospel are offered in 6RSO1 and 6RSO3 New Testament options. Issues in the death and resurrection of Jesus are also offered in 6RSO4 Implications.
Unit 3F: Religion and Contemporary Society	6RSO1, 6RSO2, 6RSO3, 6RSO4	Elements of all the options in Unit 3F can be found across all the Edexcel AS and A2 units in Philosophy of Religion, Ethics and the Study of Religions.
Unit 3G: World Religions 1: Buddhism OR Hinduism OR Sikhism	6RSO1, 6RSO2, 6RSO3, 6RSO4	Elements of all the options in Unit 3G can be found across all the Edexcel AS and A2 units in the individual world religions and the Study of World Religions.
Unit 3H: World Religions 2: Christianity OR Judaism OR Islam	6RSO1, 6RSO2, 6RSO3, 6RSO4	Elements of all the options in Unit 3H can be found across all the Edexcel AS and A2 units in the individual world religions and the Study of World Religions.



Unit 4: RST4A	6RSO3 Developments	Topics available for study on this paper are offered on 6RSO3 Developments Philosophy of Religion option. Some consideration of Religious Experience is also offered on 6RSO4 Implications Philosophy of Religion option.
Unit 4: RST4B	6RSO2 Investigations	Some match with topics in 6RSO2 options.
Unit 4: RST4C	6RSO2 Investigations, 6RSO4 Implications	Some match with topics in 6RSO2 and 6RSO4 options



## Information for OCR Centres

The new specification for Edexcel GCE Religious Studies presents centres with a broadly familiar specification from the previous post Curriculum 2000 specification in Religious Studies which was launched for teaching in 2006. GCE2008 contains only one major change - coursework has been replaced by an examination unit. The only other changes made are adaptations of the mark distribution, whilst A2 Developments questions are now in two parts to be consistent with AS Foundations.

OCR Units	New Specification Reference	Deleted content
Unit 3.1 G571 Philosophy of Religion	6RSO1 Foundations and 6RSO2 Investigations	Cosmological and Teleological Arguments, the problem of evil offered by 6RSO1 Foundations Philosophy of  Religion option; challenges to religious belief (Freud) and religion and science - offered by 6RSO2 Investigations The Study of Religion options.
Unit 3.2 G572 Religious Ethics	6RSO1 Foundations and 6RSO2 Investigations, 6RSO3 Developments	Ethical theories, including Utilitarianism, offered in 6RSO1 Foundations Ethics options; Natural Moral Law and Kantian ethics specifically offered by 6RSO3 Developments Ethics options. War and Peace offered by 6RSO1 Foundations Ethics options; issues in medical ethics offered by 6RSO2 Investigations, the Study of Ethics options.
Unit 3.3 G573 Jewish Scriptures	6RSO2 Investigations	Issues regarding the nature of God and a specific study of Job and suffering offered by 6RSO2 The Study of the Old Testament options
Unit 3.4 G574 New Testament	6RSO1 Foundations, 6RSO2 Investigations, 6RSO3 Developments, 6RSO4 Implications	New Testament options at all these levels offered for Luke's Gospel and the Fourth Gospel.

<p>Unit 3.5 G575 Developments in Christian Theology</p>	<p>6RSO1 Foundations, 6RSO2 Investigations</p>	<p>Christian beliefs about God (including Liberation Theology) and the person of Christ offered by 6RSO1 Foundations and 6RSO3 Developments Christianity options, a range of areas of study in Christian belief and practice offered by 6RSO2 Investigations a Study of Christianity.</p>
<p>Unit 3.6 G576 Buddhism</p>	<p>6RSO1 Foundations, 6RSO2 Investigations, 6RSO3 Developments.</p>	<p>The life of the Buddha, the Three Refuges offered By 6RSO1 Foundations Buddhism options. In general 6RSO1 options in the world religions offer a range of overlapping topics as well as a greater emphasis on other key beliefs and practices 6RSO2 Study of World Religions offers scope for an investigation of ethical issues, inter-faith dialogue and standpoints about belief in God from the perspective of any these religions. The three marks of existence offered by 6RSO3 Developments Buddhism options.</p>
<p>Unit 3.7 G577 Hinduism</p>	<p>6RSO1 Foundations, 6RSO2 Investigations, 6RSO3 Developments</p>	<p>In general 6RSO1 options in the world religions offer a range of overlapping topics as well as a greater emphasis on other key beliefs and practices 6RSO2 Study of World Religions offers scope for an investigation of ethical issues, inter-faith dialogue and standpoints about belief in God from the perspective of any these religions. Indus Valley culture and Aryran influence, Vedic belief and practice, the deities offered by 6RSO1 Foundations Buddhism options; atman etc offered by 6RSO3 Developments Buddhism options</p>



Unit 3.8 G578 Islam	6RSO1 Foundations, 6RSO2 Investigations, 6RSO3 Developments	In general 6RSO1 options in the world religions offer a range of overlapping topics as well as a greater emphasis on other key beliefs and practices 6RSO2 Study of World Religions offers scope for an investigation of ethical issues, inter-faith dialogue and standpoints about belief in God from the perspective of any these religions. Background and origins, the significance of Mohammed, the Five Pillars offered by 6RSO1 Foundations Islam options. Beliefs about the Qur'an offered by 6RSO3 Developments Islam options.
Unit 3.9 G579 Judaism		In general 6RSO1 and 6RSO3 options in the world religions offer a range of overlapping topics as well as a greater emphasis on other key beliefs and practices 6RSO2 Study of World Religions offers scope for an investigation of ethical issues, inter-faith dialogue and standpoints about belief in God from the perspective of any these religions. Tenakh and Talmud offered by 6RSO1 Foundations Judaism options.
Unit 3.10 G581 Philosophy of Religion	6RSO1 Foundations, 6RSO2 Investigations, 6RSO3 Developments, 6RSO4 Implications.	Miracles offered by 6RSO1 Foundations. Experience and religion, life after death offered by 6RSO2 Investigations, the Study of Philosophy of Religion options, and by 6RSO3 Developments Philosophy options; Religious Language offered by 6RSO3 Developments and 6RSO4 Implications Philosophy options
Unit 3.11 G382 Religious Ethics	6RSO3 Developments	Meta ethics offered by 6RSO3 Developments Ethics options



Unit 3.12 G383 Jewish Scriptures	6RSO2 Investigations	Issues regarding the nature of God offered by 6RSO2 The Study of the Old Testament options
Unit 3.13 G384 New Testament	6RSO1 Foundations, 6RSO2 Investigations, 6RSO3 Developments	Parables offered by 6RSO1 Foundations New Testament options; miracles offered by 6RSO1 Foundations New Testament options and 6RSO2 the Study of the New Testament; Kingdom of God offered by 6RSO3 Developments.
Unit 3.14 G385 Developments in Christian Theology	6RSO2 Investigations	Feminist theology offered by 6RSO2 Investigations a Study of Christianity options. Religious Pluralism offered by 6RSO2 Investigations a Study of World Religions.
Unit 3.25 G386 Buddhism	6RSO1 Foundations, 6RSO2 Investigations, 6RSO3 Developments	In general 6RSO1 and 6RSO3 options in the world religions offer a range of overlapping topics as well as a greater emphasis on other key beliefs and practices. 6RSO2 Study of World Religions offers scope for an investigation of ethical issues, inter-faith dialogue and standpoints about belief in God from the perspective of any these religions. Meditation offered by 6RSO1 Foundations, Buddhism options, and 6RSO2 Investigations, the Study of the Philosophy of Religion options; Pali canon, Pure Land and Zen offered by 6RSO3 Developments Buddhism options
Unit 3.26 G387 Hinduism	6RSO1 Foundations, 6RSO2 Investigations, 6RSO3 Developments	In general 6RSO1 and 6RSO3 options in the world religions offer a range of overlapping topics as well as a greater emphasis on other key beliefs and practices. 6RSO2 Study of World Religions offers scope for an investigation of ethical issues, inter-faith dialogue and standpoints about belief in God from the perspective of any these religions.



		Yoga is offered by 6RSO1 Foundations Hinduism options; liberation, Baghavat Gita, M K Gandhi covered by 6RSO3 Developments Hinduism options.
Unit 3.27 G388 Islam	6RSO1 Foundations, 6RSO2 Investigations, 6RSO3 Developments.	In general 6RSO1 and 6RSO3 options in the world religions offer a range of overlapping topics as well as a greater emphasis on other key beliefs and practices. 6RSO2 Study of World Religions offers scope for an investigation of ethical issues, inter-faith dialogue and standpoints about belief in God from the perspective of any these religions. Key beliefs offered by 6RSO1 Foundations and 6RSO3 Developments Islam options; Sufism offered by 6RSO3 Developments Islam options
Unit 3.29 G389 Judaism	6RSO1 Foundations, 6RSO2 Investigations, 6RSO3 Developments.	In general 6RSO1 and 6RSO3 options in the world religions offer a range of overlapping topics as well as a greater emphasis on other key beliefs and practices. 6RSO2 Study of World Religions offers scope for an investigation of ethical issues, inter-faith dialogue and standpoints about belief in God from the perspective of any these religions. Holocaust and Zionism and the state of Israel offered by 6RSO3 Developments Judaism options.

