

**OXFORD CAMBRIDGE AND RSA EXAMINATIONS**

**Advanced GCE**

**RELIGIOUS STUDIES**

**2795**

Connections in Religious Studies (Routes B, G, H, N, R, V)

Wednesday **29 JUNE 2005** Afternoon 1 hour 30 minutes

Candidates answer on the separate answer paper.

Additional materials:

8 page Answer paper

**TIME** 1 hour 30 minutes

**INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES**

- Write your name, Centre number and candidate number in the spaces provided on the answer paper/answer booklet.
- Answer **two** questions, both chosen from the Route for which you have been prepared.
- Write your answers, in blue or black ink, on the separate answer paper provided.
- If you use more than one sheet of paper, fasten the sheets together.
- Write the number of each question attempted in the grid on the front of the answer booklet.
- Read each question carefully and make sure you know what you have to do before starting your answer.

**INFORMATION FOR CANDIDATES**

- Each question carries 60 marks.
- The total number of marks for this paper is 120.
- You will be awarded marks for the quality of your written communication in both answers.

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**This question paper consists of 3 printed pages and 1 blank page.**

Answer **two** questions, both chosen from the Route for which you have been prepared.

**Route B – Philosophy of Religion with Jewish Scriptures**

- 1 Compare and contrast the theodicy of Augustine with the approach to suffering in the book of Job.
- 2 ‘Some of the Jewish Scriptures can only be understood if they are defined as myth.’ Discuss with reference to the texts you have studied.
- 3 ‘To question one word of the Jewish Scriptures is to deny their authority as sacred texts.’ Discuss.

**Route G – Philosophy of Religion with Judaism**

- 4 ‘The Holocaust provides the most compelling argument against the existence of G-d.’ Discuss.
- 5 ‘Judaism teaches that G-d is revealed to a whole people, not just to individuals.’ Discuss.
- 6 ‘For Jewish life, the authority of the Torah must be accepted as absolute.’ Discuss.

**Route H – Religious Ethics with Jewish Scriptures**

- 7 ‘The Jewish Scriptures have nothing useful to say about modern ethical dilemmas.’ Discuss.
- 8 To what extent can Judaism be said to allow people to exercise free will in making moral choices?
- 9 Compare and contrast the Jewish concept of the Law and Kant’s Categorical Imperative.

**Route N – Religious Ethics with Judaism**

- 10 Compare and contrast Jewish ethics with the ethics of Kant.
- 11 ‘Jewish teachings about sexual ethics are not appropriate for the twenty-first century.’ Discuss.
- 12 Assess critically the implications of ethical monotheism for the nature and role of conscience.

**Route R – Jewish Scriptures with Judaism**

- 13 ‘Zionism is a political movement which has no real basis in the Jewish Scriptures.’ Discuss.
- 14 ‘To question the absolute authority of the Jewish Scriptures is to undermine the whole basis of the faith.’ Discuss.
- 15 ‘A study of post-Holocaust theology suggests that Judaism has learnt little since the writing of the book of Job.’ Discuss.

**Route V – Islam with Judaism**

- 16 ‘The relationship between G-d and the Jews is more personal than that between Allah and the Muslims.’ Discuss.
- 17 Compare and contrast the Jewish concept of Holy War and the Muslim understanding of Lesser Jihad.
- 18 ‘In both Islam and Judaism, divisions are merely about culture and not about belief.’ Discuss.

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