

RELIGIOUS STUDIES PPE2 REVISION LIST

What paper/papers will I be sitting?

- Christian Practices
- Buddhist Practices
- 2 X Thematic topics (Human rights and Religion and Life)

CHRISTIAN PRACTICES

Worship and festivals

- Different forms of worship and their significance:
 - liturgical, non-liturgical and informal, including the use of the Bible
 - private worship.
- Prayer and its significance, including the Lord's Prayer, set prayers and informal prayer.
- The role and meaning of the sacraments:
 - the meaning of sacrament
 - the sacrament of baptism and its significance for Christians; infant and believers' baptism; different beliefs about infant baptism
 - the sacrament of Holy Communion/Eucharist and its significance for Christians, including different ways in which it is celebrated and different interpretations of its meaning.
- The role and importance of pilgrimage and celebrations including:
 - two contrasting examples of Christian pilgrimage: Lourdes and Iona
 - the celebrations of Christmas and Easter, including their importance for Christians in Great Britain today.

The role of the church in the local and worldwide community

- The role of the Church in the local community, including food banks and street pastors.
- The place of mission, evangelism and Church growth.
- The importance of the worldwide Church including:
 - working for reconciliation
 - how Christian churches respond to persecution
 - the work of **one** of the following: Catholic Agency For Overseas Development (CAFOD), Christian Aid, Tearfund.

BUDDHIST PRACTICES

Worship and festivals

- The nature, use and importance of Buddhist places of worship including temples, shrines, monasteries (viharas), halls for meditation or learning (gompas) and their key features including Buddha rupa, artefacts and offerings.
- Puja, the significance and role of puja/devotional ritual in the home and in the temple, including chanting, both as a devotional practice and as an aid to mental concentration, mantra recitation, use of malas.
- Meditation, the different aims, significance and methods of meditation:
 - Samatha (concentration and tranquillity) including mindfulness of breathing
 - Vipassana (insight) including zazen
 - the visualisation of Buddhas and Bodhisattvas.
- The practice and significance of different ceremonies and rituals associated with death and mourning in Theravada communities and in Japan and Tibet.
- Festivals and retreats and their importance to Buddhists in Great Britain today, including the celebrations, origins and significance of:
 - Wesak
 - Parinirvana Day.

Buddhist ethics

- Ethical teaching:
 - kamma (karma) and rebirth
 - compassion (karuna)
 - loving kindness (metta).
- The five moral precepts:
- The six perfections in the Mahayanan tradition

RELIGION AND LIFE

The origins and value of the universe

- The origins of the universe, including:
 - religious teachings about the origins of the universe, and different interpretations of these
 - the relationship between scientific views, such as the Big Bang theory, and religious views.
- The value of the world and the duty of human beings to protect it, including religious teaching about stewardship, dominion, responsibility, awe and wonder.
- The use and abuse of the environment, including the use of natural resources, pollution.
- The use and abuse of animals, including:
 - animal experimentation
 - the use of animals for food.

The origins and value of human life

- The origins of life, including:
 - religious teachings about the origins of human life, and different interpretations of these
 - the relationship between scientific views, such as evolution, and religious views.
- The concepts of sanctity of life and the quality of life.
- Abortion, including situations when the mother's life is at risk.
- Ethical arguments related to abortion, including those based on the sanctity of life and quality of life.
- Euthanasia.
- Beliefs about death and an afterlife, and their impact on beliefs about the value of human life.

Human rights

- Prejudice and discrimination in religion and belief, including the status and treatment within religion of women and homosexuals.
- Issues of equality, freedom of religion and belief including freedom of religious expression.
- Human rights and the responsibilities that come with rights, including the responsibility to respect the rights of others.
- Social justice.
- Racial prejudice and discrimination.
- Ethical arguments related to racial discrimination (including positive discrimination), including those based on the ideals of equality and justice.

Wealth and poverty

- Wealth, including:
 - the right attitude to wealth
 - the uses of wealth.
- The responsibilities of wealth, including the duty to tackle poverty and its causes.
- Exploitation of the poor including issues relating to:
 - fair pay
 - excessive interest on loans
 - people-trafficking.
- The responsibilities of those living in poverty to help themselves overcome the difficulties they face.
- Charity, including issues related to giving money to the poor.