

Studies of Religion 1

COURSE DETAILS

Hours	120 hours
Type	Board Developed Course
Duration	2 years
Unit Value	1-unit Year 11 1-unit Year 12
HSC Exam	Yes
ATAR	Yes
Exclusions	Studies of Religion II
RECOGNITION	HSC Qualification

COURSE DESCRIPTION

Studies of Religion promotes an awareness, understanding and application of the nature of religion and the influence of religious traditions, beliefs and practices on individuals and society, with an emphasis on the Australian context. Studies of Religion emphasises the development of skills of analysis, independent research, collaboration and effective communication. These skills empower students to become critically reflective life-long learners. There is a focus on religious expression in Australia's multicultural and multi-faith society since 1945, as well as an appreciation of Aboriginal spiritualities and their contribution to an understanding of religious beliefs and religious expression in Australia today.

Students will also develop a comprehensive view of religious traditions as living religious systems that link directly with the life of adherents. Elements of a religious tradition raised in the Year 11 course are covered in greater depth in Year 12 study. In a Religious Tradition Depth Study, the particular focus is on the ways in which a religious tradition, as an integrated belief system, provides a distinctive answer to the enduring questions of human existence. The Studies of Religion I course has less content material in both the Year 11 and Year 12 courses than the Studies of Religion II course.

AIMS

The aim of the Studies of Religion course is to promote an understanding and critical awareness of the nature and significance of religion and the influence of belief systems and religious traditions on individuals and within society.

Year 11 COURSE OUTCOMES (from NESAs)

P1	describes the characteristics of religion and belief systems
P2	identifies the influence of religion and belief systems on individuals and society
P3	investigates religious traditions and belief systems
P4	examines significant aspects of religious traditions
P5	describes the influence of religious traditions in the life of adherents
P6	selects and uses relevant information about religion from a variety of sources
P7	undertakes effective research about religion, making appropriate use of time and resources
P8	uses appropriate terminology related to religion and belief systems
P9	effectively communicates information, ideas and issues using appropriate written, oral and graphic forms

TOPICS COVERED

Year 11 Course

- Nature of Religion & Beliefs
- Religious Tradition Study 1 - Christianity
- Religious Tradition Study 2 – one of the following: Buddhism, Hinduism, Islam and Judaism.

Year 12 Course

- Religion and Belief Systems in Australia post-1945
- Religious Tradition Depth Study 1
- Religious Tradition Depth Study 2

ASSESSMENT

Assessment strategies may include:

- Internal Assessment – Written reports, research tasks, oral tasks, analytical written responses, source-based analysis, and written examination.
- External Assessment – 1 and 1/2 hr Written HSC Examination on all Year 12 Course topics

POTENTIAL CAREERS / REASONS TO CHOOSE COURSE

- Students should select Studies of Religion if they are: seeking an ATAR
Religiously literate and are good communicators
- Excellent at writing both short and extended response answers.
- Competent essay writers.
- Competent in their language skills, highly proficient in reading comprehension, and are able to analyse source material.
- Wishing to learn more about other religious traditions and are able to think about religion holistically and objectively.
- Able to work independently and interdependently in class