

Eduqas Religious Studies Philosophical and Ethical Issues in the Modern World
Issues of Relationships

Area of Study			
Concepts			
Explain and apply the concept of adultery			
Explain and apply the concept of divorce			
Explain and apply the concept of cohabitation			
Explain and apply the concept of commitment			
Explain and apply the concept of contraception			
Explain and apply the concept of gender equality			
Explain and apply the concept of responsibilities			
Explain and apply the concept of roles			
Relationships			
Christian beliefs/attitudes/teachings about the nature/purpose of relationships in 21st century: families			
Christian beliefs/attitudes/teachings about the nature/purpose of relationships in 21st century: roles of women and men			
Christian beliefs/attitudes/teachings about the nature/purpose of relationships in 21st century: marriage outside religious tradition			
Christian beliefs/attitudes/teachings about the nature/purpose of relationships in 21st century: cohabitation			
The nature and purpose of marriage as expressed through Christian marriage ceremonies in Britain			
The nature and purpose of marriage as expressed through Mark 10:6-8 "one flesh"			
The nature and purpose of marriage as expressed through the CofE Synod (e.g. votes on gay marriage)			
Varying Christian attitudes towards adultery, divorce and annulment and separation and re-marriage.			
Interpretations of Matthew 19:8-9 (divorce for adultery), Mark 10:9 ("What God has joined, let no one separate")			
Sexual Relationships			
Christian teachings about the nature and purpose of sex			
Christian teachings about the use of contraception			
Interpretations of the Natural Law/Absolutist approach: Primary Precept - Reproduction; Secondary Precept - No contraception			
Diverse attitudes within and across Christian traditions towards same sex relationships			
Varied interpretations of Leviticus 20:13: "If a man has sex with a man it is detestable; they are to be put to death"			
Varied interpretations of 1 Timothy 1:8-10: "The law is for lawbreakers and rebels ... for those practising homosexuality"			
Issues of equality: gender prejudice and discrimination			
Diverse attitudes within Christianity toward the roles of women and men in worship and authority (Catholic/Orthodox/Anglican)			
Interpretations of 1 Timothy 2:11-12: "I do not let women teach men or have authority over them. Let them listen quietly."			
Interpretations of Galatians 3:27- 29: "Neither Jew nor Greek, slave nor free, male nor female, you are all one in Christ Jesus."			

Issues of Life and Death (must include non-religious perspective, i.e. Humanist/atheist)

Area of Study			
Concepts			
Explain and apply the concept of afterlife			
Explain and apply the concept of environmental sustainability			
Explain and apply the concept of euthanasia			
Explain and apply the concept of evolution			
Explain and apply the concept of abortion			
Explain and apply the concept of quality of life			
Explain and apply the concept of sanctity of life			
Explain and apply the concept of soul			
The World			
Diverse Christian beliefs, teachings and attitudes about the accounts of the origin of the universe: Genesis 1 and 2			
The relationship between Christian views and non-religious views of creation and the extent to which they conflict			
Stephen Hawking's view of the Big Bang			
Christian and non-religious beliefs/teachings/attitudes about dominion			
Christian and non-religious beliefs/teachings/attitudes about stewardship			
Christian and non-religious beliefs/teachings/attitudes about environmental responsibility			
Christian and non-religious beliefs/teachings/attitudes about sustainability			
Christian and non-religious beliefs/teachings/attitudes about global citizenship			
Genesis 1:28: "God said 'Be fruitful and increase in number ... Rule over the fish and the birds and over every living creature.'"			
Psalms 8:6: "You made them rulers over the works of your hands; you put everything under their feet"			
Humanists for a Better World' (campaign group)			
The origin and value of human life			
Diverse Christian beliefs, teachings and attitudes toward the origin and sanctity of human life			
Genesis 1:31: "God saw all that he had made, and it was very good."			
Jeremiah 1:7: "The Lord said '... You must go to everyone I send you to and say whatever I command you.'"			
Non-religious beliefs about evolution; Charles Darwin, Richard Dawkins			
Diverse Christian attitudes towards abortion			
Diverse Christian attitudes towards euthanasia			
Non-religious views on the importance of human and animal life; Peter Singer's views on 'speciesism'			
Humanist 'Dignity in Dying' Movement			
Beliefs about death and the afterlife			
Christian beliefs and teachings about life after death, including soul, judgement, heaven and hell			

John 11:24-27: "Jesus said 'I am the resurrection and the life. The one who believes in me will live, even though they die'"			
1 Corinthians 15: 42-44: "The body ... is perishable, it is raised imperishable...it is sown a natural body, it is raised a spiritual body."			
Diverse Christian beliefs about the afterlife			
How Christian funerals in Britain reflect beliefs about the afterlife			
How Humanist funerals in Britain reflect beliefs about the afterlife			

Issues of Good and Evil

Area of Study			
Concepts			
Explain and apply the concept of good			
Explain and apply the concept of evil			
Explain and apply the concept of forgiveness			
Explain and apply the concept of free will			
Explain and apply the concept of justice			
Explain and apply the concept of morality			
Explain and apply the concept of punishment			
Explain and apply the concept of sin			
Explain and apply the concept of suffering			
Crime and Punishment			
What makes an act 'wrong'?			
Religious and ethical responses: relative and absolute morality			
Religious and ethical responses: conscience			
Religious and ethical responses: virtues			
Religious and ethical responses: sin			
Beliefs and attitudes about the causes of crime and the aims of punishment: justice			
Beliefs and attitudes about the causes of crime and the aims of punishment: retribution			
Beliefs and attitudes about the causes of crime and the aims of punishment: deterrence			
Beliefs and attitudes about the causes of crime and the aims of punishment: reformation			
The treatment of criminals and the work of prison reformers and prison chaplains			
Varied Conservative and Liberal Christian responses to the Death Penalty			
Interpretations of Christian teaching: Exodus 20:13: "You shall not murder"			
Interpretations of Christian teaching: Matthew 5:38-39: "Turn the other cheek"			
Interpretations of Christian teaching: Matthew 5: 43-47: "Love your enemies"			
Forgiveness			
Christian teachings about forgiveness			
Interpretations of Christian teaching: Matthew 18: 21-22: "Forgive 70 x 7"			
Interpretations of Christian teaching: Matthew 6: 14-15: "Forgive others as God forgives you"			
Examples of forgiveness arising from personal beliefs.			
Good, Evil and Suffering			
Philosophical perspectives on the origin of evil: Original Sin (free will)			
Philosophical perspectives on the origin of evil: 'soul-making' (Irenaeus and John Hick)			
Philosophical challenges posed by belief in God, free will and the existence of evil and suffering			

Issues of Human Rights

Area of Study			
Concepts			
Explain and apply the concept of censorship			
Explain and apply the concept of discrimination			
Explain and apply the concept of extremism			
Explain and apply the concept of human rights			
Explain and apply the concept of personal conviction			
Explain and apply the concept of prejudice			
Explain and apply the concept of relative poverty			
Explain and apply the concept of absolute poverty			
Explain and apply the concept of social justice			
Human Rights and Social Justice			
Christian beliefs/teachings/attitudes toward the dignity of human life: Genesis 1:26-27: "in God's image"			
Christian practices to promote human rights including equality: agape in action			
An example of conflict between personal conviction and the laws of a country			
Censorship			
Freedom of religious expression			
Religious extremism			
Prejudice and Discrimination			
Christian beliefs/teachings/attitudes towards prejudice/discrimination: Galatians 3:27-29: "Neither Jew nor Greek..."			
Christian beliefs/teachings/attitudes towards racism, including Martin Luther King's teachings on equality			
Issues of Wealth and Poverty			
Ethical considerations about acquisition and use of wealth: Luke 16:19-31: The Rich Man and Lazarus			
The actions and attitudes of Christian charities in 21st century Britain whose aim is to alleviate poverty: Christian Aid			