



**GCE A LEVEL
RELIGIOUS STUDIES
A120PB**

Summer 2022 examinations

Component 1	Option B: A Study of Islam	Thursday, 09 June 2022
Component 2	Philosophy of Religion	Tuesday, 14 June 2022
Component 3	Religion and Ethics	Tuesday, 21 June 2022

Advance Information

General information for students and teachers

This advance information provides the focus of the content of the summer 2022 examination papers.

It does not apply to any other examination series.

It is intended to support revision.

It may be used at any time from the date of release.

It must not be taken into the examination.

Subject information for students and teachers

A guidance document on advance information has been produced by The Joint Council for Qualifications (JCQ) on behalf of all awarding organisations. It can be found [here](#).

This advance information covers Component 1, Component 2 and Component 3.

The following areas of content are suggested as key areas of focus for revision and final preparation, in relation to the Summer 2022 examinations.

The aim should still be to cover all specification content in teaching and learning.

The information below identifies the main subject topic areas used as the primary focus of the summer 2022 assessments. Students' responses to individual questions should draw upon other areas of specification content where relevant, and credit will be given for this.

Component 1 Option B: A Study of Islam	
Section A:	questions in this section will be taken from Theme 4: Religious practices that shape religious identity, which consists of the following six sub-themes:
Theme 4A:	The role of the masjid (mosque) in Islam
Theme 4B:	The role of festivals in shaping religious identity, with reference to Ashura
Theme 4C:	The role of festivals in shaping religious identity, with reference to Ramadan and Id-ul-Fitr
Theme 4D:	Diversity within Islam – Beliefs and practices distinctive of Shi'a Islam
Theme 4E:	Islam and change – the development and influence on religious belief and practice within Islam of Sufi philosophical thought about the nature of God and religious experience
Theme 4F:	Ethical debate about crime and punishment (including arguments posed by scholars from within and outside the Islamic tradition)
Section B:	questions from this section will be taken from any three of the following six sub-themes:
Theme 1E:	The role of shari'a and its importance for Muslims
Theme 1F:	Muslim understandings of jihad:
Theme 2A:	The concept of Allah – tawhid (oneness) and shahadah (bearing witness)
Theme 2B:	Muslim beliefs about nabi (prophets), rasul (messenger), nadir (warner) and risalah (the message)
Theme 3B:	The relationship between religion and society: respect and recognition and the ways that religious traditions view other religions and non-religious worldviews and their truth claims. The challenges to Islam from scientific views about the origins of the universe
Theme 3C:	The relationship between religion and society: respect and recognition and the ways that religious traditions view other religions and non-religious worldviews and their truth claims. Islamic attitudes towards pluralism

Component 2: Philosophy of Religion	
Section A:	questions in this section will be taken from Theme 4: Religious language
Theme 4A:	Inherent problems of religious language
Theme 4B:	Religious language as cognitive (traditional religious view), but meaningless (Logical Positivists' view)
Theme 4C:	Religious language as non-cognitive and analogical
Theme 4D:	Religious language as non-cognitive and symbolic
Theme 4E:	Religious language as non-cognitive and mythical
Theme 4F:	Religious language as a language game
Section B:	questions from this section will be taken from any three of the following six sub-themes:
Theme 1D:	Deductive arguments – origins of the ontological argument
Theme 1E:	Deductive arguments – developments of the ontological argument
Theme 2D:	Religious belief as a product of the human mind – Sigmund Freud
Theme 2E:	Religious belief as a product of the human mind – Carl Jung
Theme 3E:	Miracles the definitions of
Theme 3F:	A comparative study of two key scholars from within and outside the Christian tradition and their contrasting views on the possibility of miracles

Component 3: Religion and Ethics	
Section A:	questions in this section will be taken from Theme 1: Ethical Thought
Theme 1A:	Divine Command Theory
Theme 1B:	Virtue Theory
Theme 1C:	Ethical Egoism
Theme 1D:	Meta-ethical approaches – Naturalism
Theme 1E:	Meta-ethical approaches – Intuitionism
Theme 1F:	Meta-ethical approaches – Emotivism
Section B:	questions from this section will be taken from any three of the following six sub-themes:
Theme 2A:	St Thomas Aquinas' Natural Law – laws and precepts as the basis of morality
Theme 2C:	Aquinas' Natural Law – application of the theory
Theme 3E:	John Stuart Mill's development of Utilitarianism – types of pleasure, the harm principle and the use of rules
Theme 3F:	Bentham's Act Utilitarianism and Mill's Rule Utilitarianism – application of the theory
Theme 4B:	Concepts of determinism
Theme 4C:	The implications of predestination / determinism

End of advance information