

Studies of Religion II

2 units for each of Preliminary and HSC
 Board Developed Course
 Exclusions: Studies of Religion I

Course Description

Studies of Religion II promotes an understanding and critical awareness of the nature and significance of religion and the influence of beliefs systems and religious traditions on individuals and within society.

Preliminary Course

Nature of Religion and Beliefs

- The nature of religion and beliefs including Australian Aboriginal beliefs and spiritualities, as a distinctive response to the human search for meaning in life.

Three Religious Traditions Studies from:

Buddhism, Christianity, Hinduism, Islam, Judaism

- Origins
- Principal beliefs
- Sacred texts and writings
- Core ethical teachings
- Personal devotion/expression of faith/observance.

Religions of Ancient Origin

- The response to the human search for ultimate meaning in two religions of ancient origin from:
 - Aztec or Inca or Mayan
 - Celtic
 - Nordic
 - Shinto
 - Taoism
 - an Indigenous religion from outside Australia

Religion in Australia pre-1945

- The arrival, establishment and development of religious traditions in Australia prior to 1945.

HSC Course

Religion and Belief Systems in Australia post-1945

- Religious expression in Australia's multi-cultural and multi-faith society since 1945, including an appreciation of Aboriginal spiritualities and their contribution to an understanding of religious beliefs and religious expression in Australia today.

Three Religious Tradition Depth Studies from:

Buddhism, Christianity, Hinduism, Islam, Judaism

- Significant people and ideas
- A religious traditions ethical teachings about bioethics or environmental ethics or sexual ethics
- Significant practices in the life of adherents.

Religion and Peace

- The distinctive response of religious traditions to the issue of peace.

Religion and Non-Religion

- The human search for meaning through new religious expression, Non-religious worldviews and the difference between Religious and Non-Religious worldviews