

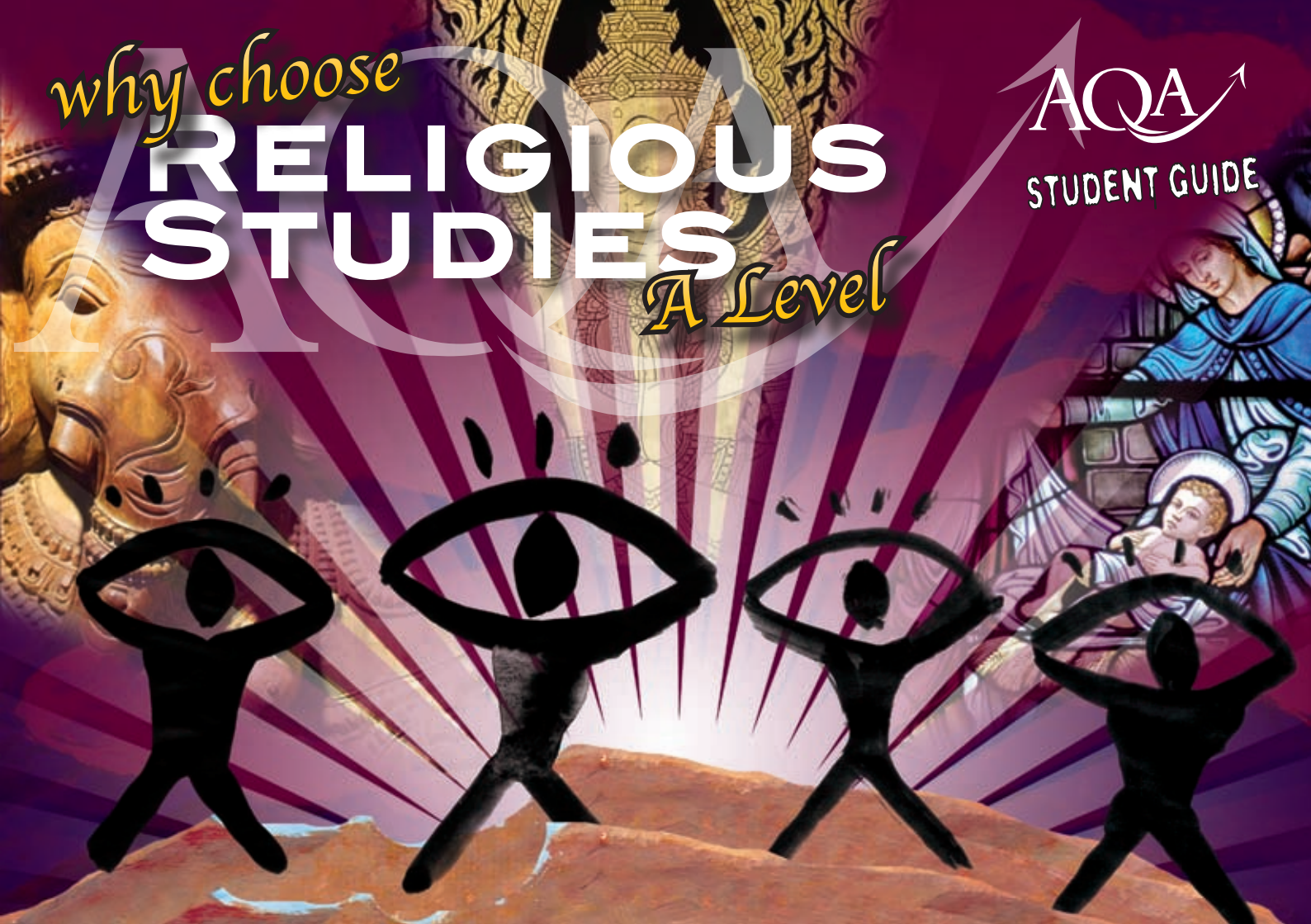
why choose

RELIGIOUS STUDIES

A Level

AQA

STUDENT GUIDE



Religion, philosophy and ethics

Ever since humankind started to think, religion has been a fundamental part of our development. As people look into the vastness of space or witness the miracle of birth, they contemplate the meaning of life and their own mortality. It has always been this way.

In the 21st century, religion still addresses the same eternal human questions about life and death, values and relationships, right and wrong.



It's for you

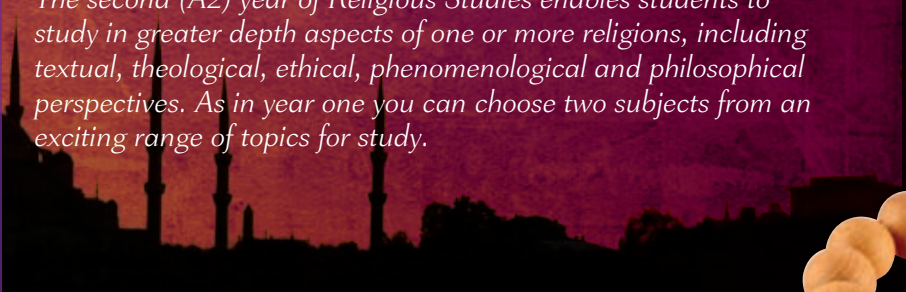
Religious Studies is an inclusive subject, designed for people of any faith... and people who have no faith. It is not necessary to have taken Religious Studies at GCSE, although students who have a GCSE will find that the AS/A Level builds on their knowledge, understanding and skills. All that is required is a desire to find out more about religion and its role in society.



Your key learning topics

In the first year (AS) two topics are studied from a total of eleven available. These topics include areas that are exciting and diverse such as ethics, philosophy, religion and art, religion and contemporary society, aspects of Christianity and the world's religions.

The second (A2) year of Religious Studies enables students to study in greater depth aspects of one or more religions, including textual, theological, ethical, phenomenological and philosophical perspectives. As in year one you can choose two subjects from an exciting range of topics for study.



On your marks ...

In the first year, you'll take two papers in the areas of study chosen. Each exam lasts 1 hour 15 minutes. Students are required to answer two essay questions from a choice of four in each exam.

In year two, each exam lasts for 1 hour 30 minutes. In the Unit 3 exam, students answer two essay questions from a choice of four, and in the Unit 4 exam, students answer one question from a choice of two on the topic chosen.

Where will success take me?

The skills that you will learn in Religious Studies will be useful to you in any number of careers; teaching, youth work, journalism, civil service or government to name a few. If you're thinking of a career in law or medicine then a Religious Studies A Level is looked upon favourably for undergraduate courses too.



What skills will I learn?

You will develop the skills of investigation, analysis, interpretation, evaluation, communication and debate.

This course encourages students to:

- develop their interest in a study of religion and its relation to the wider world
- adopt an enquiring, critical and reflective approach to the study of religion
- reflect on and develop their own values, opinions and attitudes.





Will it fit in my life?

Religious Studies is one of the fastest growing subjects. This is partly because it is compatible with, and has a similar skills base to, subjects such as English, History, Sociology, Philosophy and Government and Politics. It is also a good partner course for not only the subjects mentioned, but also for Archaeology, Classical Civilisation and History of Art.



Can't wait to get started?

Your tutor and career adviser will be the best people to help you decide whether this course is the right choice for you. They will be as passionate as you to find the best subject to develop your talents!

For more info, visit:

www.aqa.org.uk/qual/gce/religious_studies_new.php



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