

STUDIES OF RELIGION – 2 UNIT

Religion has been and is an integral part of human experience and a component of every culture. An appreciation of society is enhanced by an understanding of religion, its influence on human behaviour and interaction within culture.

The Stage 6 Studies of Religion syllabus acknowledges religion as a distinctive answer to the human need for meaning in life. An understanding of religion provides a perspective for the human view of reality and deals with daily living as well as with the ultimate source, meaning and goal of life. Religion is generally characterised by a worldview that recognises a supernatural dimension – belief in divinity or powers beyond the human and/or dwelling within the human.

The Studies of Religion syllabus acknowledges that there are many ways of studying religion. It investigates the significance of the role of religion in society and, in particular, within Australian society. It recognises and appreciates the place and importance of Aboriginal belief systems and spiritualities in Australia. This syllabus enables students who live in a multifaith and multicultural society to progress from a broad understanding of religious traditions to specific studies within these traditions. The syllabus provides a focus on religious expression in Australia and, also, investigates religion's place within the global community.

The syllabus is designed for students in all schools and ensures students study more than one religious tradition. The course enables students to come to an understanding that each religious tradition has its own integrity and contributes to a well-ordered society. It endeavours to assist in the provision of a context within which schools have the opportunity to foster students' academic, affective and spiritual development.

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.

Course Structure

Preliminary

SOR I	Duration (indicative hours)	SOR II	Duration (indicative hours)
Nature of Religion and Beliefs	16	Nature of Religion and Beliefs	16
Religious Tradition Study 1	22	Religious Tradition Study 1	22
Religious Tradition Study 2	22	Religious Tradition Study 2	22
		Religious Tradition Study 3	22
		Religions of Ancient Origin	22
		Religion in Australia pre-1945	16
Total	60 hours	Total	120 hours

HSC

SOR I	Duration (indicative hours)	SOR II	Duration (indicative hours)
Religion and Belief Systems in Australia post-1945	16	Religion and Belief Systems in Australia post-1945	16
Religious Tradition Depth Study 1	22	Religious Tradition Depth Study 1	22
Religious Tradition Depth Study 2	22	Religious Tradition Depth Study 2	22
		Religious Tradition Depth Study 3	22
		Religion and Peace	22
		Religion and Non-Religion	16
Total	60 hours	Total	120 hours