

Suggested Outline Framework for Unit 1:  
Religion and Philosophical Themes

## **Buddhism**



## Suggested Outline Framework for Unit 1: Religion and Philosophical Themes

### Buddhism

Unit 1 comprises 50% of the GCSE qualification. Therefore the scheme of learning proposed below is intended **only as a guide** based on approximately three hours of RS per fortnight over in an academic year. The total number of lessons in this scheme is fifty-five based on one hour per lesson. The recommendation is that the **whole** of the course is **always** taught.

Assessment should be formative **and** engaging. Where possible, try and use the same or similar format to the final examination. Always share mark schemes with students. Ideally this should be towards the end of the unit so that they have had time to assimilate and engage in the work first.

The Moral Maze on Radio 4 is an excellent resource for those who are interested as is The Infinite Monkey Cage (also on Radio 4). Both are available as podcasts thus making it easier to select relevant episodes.

**Part B: Theme 2: Issues of Good and Evil (lessons 1 - 7 including assessment for the *whole* of Part B)**

Lesson	Area of Study	Specific Content	Concepts	Resources	Possible Learning Activities
1	Crime and punishment	Beliefs and attitudes about the causes of crime and the aims of punishment	Conscience; justice	<a href="https://www.truetube.co.uk/film/freedom-vs-responsibility;">https://www.truetube.co.uk/film/freedom-vs-responsibility;</a> <a href="https://www.truetube.co.uk/film/greater-plan;">https://www.truetube.co.uk/film/greater-plan;</a> <a href="http://buddhism.about.com/od/basicbuddhistteachings/a/evil.htm;">http://buddhism.about.com/od/basicbuddhistteachings/a/evil.htm;</a> <a href="http://www.bbc.co.uk/religion/religions/buddhism/beliefs/fournobletruths_1.shtml;">http://www.bbc.co.uk/religion/religions/buddhism/beliefs/fournobletruths_1.shtml;</a> Refer to: <b>conscience, ahimsa, karuna, samsara, Eightfold Path, Five Precepts</b> <a href="http://www.clear-vision.org/Schools/Students/Ages-15-16/living-the-buddhist-life/ahimsa-and-precepts.aspx">http://www.clear-vision.org/Schools/Students/Ages-15-16/living-the-buddhist-life/ahimsa-and-precepts.aspx</a> - ahimsa	What is 'wrong'? Discuss relative and absolute morality
2	Crime and punishment	Treatment of criminals; work of prison reformers and prison chaplains	Good/evil; justice	<a href="http://angulimala.org.uk/">http://angulimala.org.uk/;</a> <a href="http://howardleague.org/">http://howardleague.org/;</a> <a href="http://www.communitychaplaincy.org.uk/partners.html">http://www.communitychaplaincy.org.uk/partners.html;</a> There is also a document called 'Faith and pastoral care for prisoners – Ministry of Justice' that can be downloaded. It covers all faiths. <a href="http://www.karmapa.org/karma-kagyu/lives/milarepa/">http://www.karmapa.org/karma-kagyu/lives/milarepa/</a> - the story of Milarepa	How does a belief in karma and reincarnation change attitudes to crime and punishment?
3	Crime and punishment	The death penalty	Free will; suffering	<a href="http://www.bbc.co.uk/religion/religions/buddhism/buddhistethics/capitalpunishment.shtml">http://www.bbc.co.uk/religion/religions/buddhism/buddhistethics/capitalpunishment.shtml</a> - reference <b>The Middle Path, Five Precepts, karuna, ahimsa, metta</b>	Debate the death penalty.
4	Forgiveness	Peace and conflict	Morality; pacifism; conscience	<a href="http://www.clear-vision.org/Schools/Students/Ages-15-16/living-the-buddhist-life/metta-and-karuna.aspx">http://www.clear-vision.org/Schools/Students/Ages-15-16/living-the-buddhist-life/metta-and-karuna.aspx;</a> Refer to the Buddha and Angulimala;	If Buddhism can be regarded as a way of life as opposed

				<a href="http://www.bbc.co.uk/religion/religions/buddhism/buddhistethics/war.s.html">http://www.bbc.co.uk/religion/religions/buddhism/buddhistethics/war.s.html</a> ; <a href="http://www.centeronconscience.org/49-words-publication/246-buddhism.html">http://www.centeronconscience.org/49-words-publication/246-buddhism.html</a> ; <a href="https://richarddawkins.net/2013/03/can-atheists-qualify-as-conscientious-objectors/">https://richarddawkins.net/2013/03/can-atheists-qualify-as-conscientious-objectors/</a>	<p>to a religion how does its pacifism differ from that of an atheist?          Compare and contrast the two links here on the subject</p>
5	Forgiveness	Buddhist teaching about forgiveness	Forgiveness	<a href="http://edition.cnn.com/2013/01/18/world/asia/aung-san-suu-kyi-fast-facts/">http://edition.cnn.com/2013/01/18/world/asia/aung-san-suu-kyi-fast-facts/</a> ; <a href="http://www.bbc.co.uk/newsround/18530475">http://www.bbc.co.uk/newsround/18530475</a> ; <a href="http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/world-asia-pacific-11685977">http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/world-asia-pacific-11685977</a> ; <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jFSE6BfBksY">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jFSE6BfBksY</a> ; Aung San Suu Kyi – Buddhist and female role model	<p>Case study of Aung San Suu Kyi; link ahimsa to her reaction to those who imprisoned her</p>
6	Good, Evil and Suffering	Philosophical perspective on the origin of evil	Good/evil; suffering; free will	Dhammapada 12:165; <a href="http://www.newworldencyclopedia.org/entry/Mara">http://www.newworldencyclopedia.org/entry/Mara</a> ; Refer to video on the life of the Buddha – see lesson 1 (Issues of Good and Evil); <a href="http://buddhism.about.com/od/basicbuddhistteachings/a/attachment.htm">http://buddhism.about.com/od/basicbuddhistteachings/a/attachment.htm</a> ; <a href="http://www.bbc.co.uk/religion/religions/buddhism/beliefs/fournobletruths_1.shtml">http://www.bbc.co.uk/religion/religions/buddhism/beliefs/fournobletruths_1.shtml</a> - see The Second Noble Truth; <a href="http://www.101zenstories.org/101-zen-stories-table-of-contents/">http://www.101zenstories.org/101-zen-stories-table-of-contents/</a> ;	<p>Compare and contrast the different perspectives on the origin of evil; links between karma, ‘unskillful’ acts and suffering</p>

				<a href="https://thebuddhistcentre.com/text/ethics">https://thebuddhistcentre.com/text/ethics</a> - 'unskillful' acts	
<b>7</b>	Assessment			Buddhism is very different to Western religions. How do people in Britain adapt an Eastern religion to a very different culture from the one(s) in which Buddhism evolved? The use of yoga could be a good example to explore.	