

Unit 3a

A Study of Religion - Christianity-
Further AO1 Resources
(in addition to the Guidance for
Teaching document)

WJEC A level

Unit 3a: A Study of Religion - Christianity– Further AO1 Resources (in addition to the Guidance for Teaching document)

Specification:

Theme 1: Religious figures and sacred texts (part 2)

(a) The Bible as a source of wisdom and authority

How the Christian biblical canon was established. Diverse views on the Bible as the word of God: different understandings of inspiration (the objective view of inspiration; the subjective view of inspiration; John Calvin's doctrine of accommodation).

Guidance for Teaching

In this section, candidates should have a basic understanding as to how the Christian biblical canon was established. They should show an awareness of the fact that the canon was assembled over several centuries and contains writings of a number of authors. They should be familiar with different understandings of the term Word of God and the diversity of perspectives concerning the status of Biblical authority within Christian communities. Candidates should possess an awareness of theological categories of divine inspiration (2 Timothy 3:16-17 might a useful passage to use although this is not listed in the specification and therefore not compulsory) – the objective and subjective views of inspiration. Calvin's doctrine of accommodation should be studied, with candidates encouraged to reflect upon its implications for Christian accounts of divine revelation.

Useful resources

If you want a quick overview to the subject that is board-specific, simply start with the WJEC Lesson (the first bullet point in the 'Digital resources' section). This has ideas and suggested activities for students. The first YouTube video listed in the 'YouTube help' section below has a very simple but accurate introduction to the subject of Biblical canon formation. See the second bullet point within 'Digital resources' for a detailed explanation as to different ways on how the Bible can function as 'Word of God' for Christians. In terms of delving into the AO2 issues for this section, you may wish to refer to the Illuminate textbook; however, both different ways Christians approach inspiration in some of the resources below are excellent examples. In particular, see the last bullet point on digital resources (from bible-researcher.com) for the classic statement on conservative approaches to 'objective' inspiration and Bart Ehrman in the debate video (second video in the 'Youtube help' resources section) for an almost opposite approach.

Books:

In addition to the WJEC/WJEC textbook, Christianity: Religious Studies for A Level Year 2 & A2 (Gregory A. Barker), ISBN: 9781911208365, pp. 6-25, the following textbooks are helpful:

- Alister E. McGrath, Christian Theology: An Introduction Fifth Edition (London: Wiley Blackwell, 2011), ISBN:9781444335149, p.12-13; p.126-9.
- Catechism of the Catholic Church: Popular and Definitive Edition (London: Bloomsbury, 2014), ISBN:978-1548215996, see Article 3: Sacred Scripture p.28-35.
- Raymond E. Brown and Raymond F. Collins 'Canonicity' and Raymond F. Collins, 'Inspiration' in Raymond E. Brown, Joseph A. Fitzmeyer, and Roland E. Murphy eds. The New Jerome Biblical Commentary, ISBN:9780225665888, (New York: Simon & Schuster, 2007 [1989]).
- There are many fine, academic Introductions to Christianity/Bible which contain sections on Bible and Canon. Where these are from an academic publisher (Oxford, Routledge, etc., you may find these to be very helpful resources).

Digital resources:

- <http://cpd.download.wjec.co.uk/wjec/wave2-from2016/religious-studies/gce/english/gce-rs-cpd-autumn2017.zip> Note: this link is for ALL CPD training resources from 2017; go to the Christianity booklet and you will find a lesson laid out for you on 'Canon.'
- <http://www.reonline.org.uk/knowning/what-re/atheism/the-bible-and-the-word-of-god/> This is an excellent source which discusses four different ways that the Bible can be considered 'Word of God' for Christians.
- <http://memory-alpha.wikia.com/wiki/Canon> You can use this site to show how the term 'canon' is relevant to film and TV fans!
- <https://www.gotquestions.org/canon-Bible.html> a quick overview of canon formation from a conservative Christian point of view.
- <https://bible.org/seriespage/5-bible-inspired-revelation-god> This evangelical Christian site provides a view of objective inspiration along with a thoughtful interpretation of II Timothy 3:16.
- <https://spaces.hightail.com/space/8DFR9DULec/files/fi-4ef61e93-3a0f-45bb-9d06-db99a48f69ee/fv-739bc2af-64a3-4560-b8dc-e2871f016b20/A%20level%20Theme%201A%20Bible%20authority.pdf> This powerpoint from the University of Chester contains some helpful quotations.
- <https://ehrmanblog.org/should-we-change-the-canon-of-scripture-for-members/> a provocative question about changing the Biblical canon.
- <https://archive.org/details/BartEhrman-TheHistoryOfTheBibleTheMakingOfTheNewTestamentCanon> Lectures on the history of the Bible (focusing on the New Testament) by Bart Ehrman
- <https://www.theopedia.com/divine-accommodation> Some helpful quotes on accommodation.
- <https://calvinistinternational.com/2015/02/04/theories-accommodation-theology-john-calvin/> This article is useful for introducing Calvin's view of accommodation – though it goes on in some detail about modern variations on this doctrine.
- <http://www.tarsus.ie/resources/Bible/CofE-on-Scripture.pdf> The view of Scripture taken by the Church of England.

- <https://www.christianitytoday.com/history/issues/issue-28/367-athanasius-defines-new-testament.html> Article preview on the closing of the Canon for Christianity.
- <http://www.bible-researcher.com/chicago1.html> This is the landmark conservative statement on Biblical inspiration which is an excellent example of an objective approach to Biblical inspiration.

YouTube help

- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6k-C3Kse17I> – Simple and effective introduction to the development of the Bible.
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qP7RrCfDkO4> - This is a debate between a liberal and a conservative scholar on the reliability of the Gospels. Go to 30.45 to see Bart Ehrman's 20 minute position statement where he insists that the Bible contains mistakes. Note: this is also good for Theme 1A: Redaction Criticism.

Specification:

Theme 1: Religious figures and sacred texts (part 2)

(b) The early church (in Acts of the Apostles)

Its message and format: the kerygmata as presented by C. H. Dodd, with reference to Acts 2:14-39; 3:12-26. The challenges to the kerygmata (with reference to the historical value of the speeches in Acts and the work of Rudolf Bultmann). The adapting of the Christian message to suit the audience.

Guidance for Teaching

Within this section, candidates should be introduced to the notion of kerygmata (proclamation) in the scholarly work of C. H. Dodd and Rudolf Bultmann. They should possess an understanding of Bultmann's distinction between Jesus' message concerning the Kingdom of God and the proclamation of the early Church about Jesus. A grasp of the central themes of Acts 2:14-39; 3:12-26 is also required, including Jesus' Sonship, his sacrificial death and his ascension to heaven. Candidates should be familiar with Dodd's contention that Christian proclamation found in the Gospel is a unique genre (neither biography, history nor theology) but containing elements of all of these. They should also have a basic understanding of the cultural context of Peter's proclamation in Acts. There should be an awareness both of the Jewish and the non-Jewish setting of the proclamation and how the Christian message was adapted to suit the different audiences.

Useful resources

If you want a quick overview to the subject that is board-specific, simply start with the WJEC/WJEC Lesson (the first two bullet points 'Digital resources'). This includes activities for students. The next two bullet points in the same section contain a very helpful introduction to AO2 issues. A number of online resources for both Bultmann and Dodd are also listed below. Keep in mind that these have been summarized in the Illuminate textbook along with key quotations. Teachers who wish to go further with Bultmann will want to read his book *Jesus Christ and Mythology*; and those who wish to go deeper with Dodd will want to read his *The Apostolic Preaching and Its Developments* (a link to an online version of this book is given just below in the final bullet point in 'Digital resources').

Books:

In addition to the WJEC/WJEC textbook, *Christianity: Religious Studies for A Level Year 2 & A2* (Gregory A. Barker), ISBN: 9781911208365, pp. 24-36, the following textbooks are helpful:

- Alister E. McGrath, *Christian Theology: An Introduction* Fifth Edition (London: Wiley Blackwell, 2011), see 452 for Dodd; 305-6 and 452-3 for Bultmann.
- There are many fine journal articles debating the historical value of the book of Acts, however these are too advanced for many students; students are encouraged to focus on the material presented on pp. 26-27 of the Illuminate textbook.
- James F. Kay, "Bultmann, Rudolph" in Adrian Hastings, Alistair Mason and Hugh Pyper eds. *The Oxford Companion to Christian Thought* (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2000), pp. 83-84.

Digital resources:

- http://resource.download.wjec.co.uk.s3-eu-west-1.amazonaws.com/vtc/2016-17/16-17_2-19_eng/kerygmata-ao1.html The board has produced this exercise which gives students essential AO1 Knowledge on Dodd and Bultmann for this section.
- http://resource.download.wjec.co.uk.s3-eu-west-1.amazonaws.com/vtc/2016-17/16-17_2-19/pdf_eng/wjec/3a-kerygmata-AO1-handout.pdf This handout corresponds to this resource above, providing answers and key information to students on Dodd and Bultmann.
- http://resource.download.wjec.co.uk.s3-eu-west-1.amazonaws.com/vtc/2016-17/16-17_2-19_eng/kerygmata-ao2.html This presentation of arguments surrounding Dodd and Bultmann's ideas will sharpen students' AO2 skills.
- http://resource.download.wjec.co.uk.s3-eu-west-1.amazonaws.com/vtc/2016-17/16-17_2-19/pdf_eng/wjec/4a-kerygmata-AO2-handout.pdf This handout corresponds to the AO2 handout above, providing answers and key arguments pertaining to Dodd and Bultmann.
- http://resource.download.wjec.co.uk.s3.amazonaws.com/vtc/2015-16/15-16_37/pdf/eng/theme01/unit02/03-bultmann-view-resurrection.pdf This resource from the board on Bultmann was designed for the resurrection section of the specification but can be useful in understanding the background of his approach to the Kerygmata.
- http://resource.download.wjec.co.uk.s3.amazonaws.com/vtc/2015-16/15-16_37/pdf/eng/theme01/unit02/2-8-resurrection-is-a-myth.pdf This resource from the board on Bultmann was designed for the resurrection section of the specification but contains a relevant quote from Bultmann which can be applied to the Kerygma.
- http://resource.download.wjec.co.uk.s3.amazonaws.com/vtc/2015-16/15-16_37/pdf/eng/theme01/unit02/2-9-mcgrath-on-bultmann-and-historical-fact.pdf This quote by McGrath on Bultmann can be used to critique Bultmann on this area of the spec.
- <https://www.britannica.com/biography/Rudolf-Bultmann> Brief introduction to Rudolph Bultmann.
- http://people.bu.edu/wwildman/bce/mwt_themes_760_bultmann.htm Online resource for Rudolph Bultmann.
- <http://yba.llgc.org.uk/en/s6-DODD-HAR-1884.html> Excellent general introduction to C. H. Dodd.
- <https://postbarthian.com/2012/10/15/the-apostolic-preaching-and-its-developments-by-c-h-dodd/> This links to most of the text of C. H. Dodd's, The Apostolic Preaching and its Developments.

YouTube help

- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=brHQS6zQVw> A French professor speaks about the main ideas of Rudolph Bultmann. You can start the video at 2.08.
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=djLiNbO9vm4> Good introduction to the life and thought of Rudolph Bultmann.
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CHMuLabkkIM> This is a solid introduction to the concept of 'realized eschatology'.

Specification:

Theme 1: Religious figures and sacred texts

(c) Two views of Jesus (Crossan and Wright)

A comparison of the work of two key scholars, including their views of Jesus with reference to their different methods of studying Jesus: John Dominic Crossan and N. T. Wright.

Crossan: Jesus the social revolutionary; using apocryphal gospels; seeing Jesus as a product of his time; what the words of Jesus would have meant in Jesus' time.

Wright: Jesus the true Messiah; critical realism; texts as 'the articulation of worldviews'; seeks to find the best explanation for the traditions found in the Gospels.

Guidance for Teaching

The final section within this theme introduces candidates to the work of John Dominic Crossan and N.T. Wright and their respective views of Jesus. While both are historians, Crossan and Wright differ on the conclusions they draw from the New Testament sources. Crossan presents Jesus as the social revolutionary and draws on contemporary Jewish authors like Josephus. He sees Palestine at the time of Jesus as being a period of social turmoil and protest and Jesus is depicted as a social and political reformer. Crossan uses apocryphal gospels and sees Jesus as a product of his time, interpreting the words of Jesus in terms of what they would have meant in Jesus' time. In contrast, Wright presents Jesus as the true Messiah. Candidates should be introduced to Wright's historical defence of traditional Christian beliefs about Jesus and his emphasis on the Jewish context of Jesus. Wright's method for historical research is called critical realism. While it is not possible to have unmediated access to historical reality we are not confined to our own experiences. It is possible to have provisional knowledge of the past through texts and traditions, but these perspectives are always mediated via particular worldviews (perspectives which make sense of the world). Candidates should understand Wright's method as rejecting a false choice between subjectivity and objectivity, seeking to find the best explanation for the traditions found in the Gospels. This topic should build on the work undertaken in section 1B. A helpful source book that examines the approaches of both Crossan and Wright is *The Jesus Debate: Modern historians investigate the life of Christ* by Mark Allan Powell (Lion), ISBN-13: 978-0745950136, 1999 (Chapters 5 and 9).

Useful resources

Fortunately you can access all of the key issues in this subtheme through video interviews of both Crossan and Wright – and there are even videos of these two debating with one another! (see the 'Youtube Help' resources). One very accessible way for students to 'get into' this area is to read the magazine and newspaper interviews of these thinkers (see 'Resources for Teaching – Digital resources'). It isn't difficult to find those critical of each of these thinkers to assist with AO2 issues. For instance, see the video by Bishop Barron on Crossan (5th bullet point below under 'YouTube Help'). Interestingly there is an abundance of criticism of N. T. Wright by conservative Christians who take the Bible literally – these can be accessed by simply typing in 'N.T Wright Criticism' into your search bar. For an academic critique of Wright see the final bullet point in the 'Digital resources'.

Books:

In addition to the WJEC/WJEC textbook, Christianity: Religious Studies for A Level Year 2 & A2 (Gregory A. Barker), ISBN:9781911208365, pp. 37-49, the following textbooks are helpful:

- Crossan, John Dominic (2010, or older edition) - The Historical Jesus: The Life of a Mediterranean Jewish Peasant, HarperCollins, ISBN:0061978213
- Crossan, John Dominic (2009) - Jesus: A Revolutionary Biography, HarperCollins, ISBN:006180035X
- Wright, N. T. (2013, or older edition) - The New Testament and the People of God, SPCK, ISBN:0281066213
- Wright, N. T. (2003) - The Resurrection of the Son of God, SPCK, ISBN:0281055505

Digital resources:

- <http://edition.cnn.com/2011/LIVING/02/27/Jesus.scholar/index.html> Journalistic introduction to the life and work of J. D. Crossan.
- https://www.ucobserver.org/faith/2011/07/john_crossan/ Interview with J. D. Crossan.
- https://www.thestar.com/life/2011/03/25/10minute_interview_will_the_real_jesus_please_stand_up.html Another interesting interview with J. D. Crossan.
- <https://www.britannica.com/biography/John-Dominic-Crossan> Introduction to J. D. Crossan's work.
- <https://www.johndominiccrossan.com/Jesus%20A%20Revolutionary%20Biography.htm> Excerpt from Crossan's Jesus: A Revolutionary Biography.
- <https://www.johndominiccrossan.com/The%20Birth%20of%20Christianity.htm> Excerpt of Crossan's book: The Birth of Christianity.
- <http://ntwrightpage.com/2016/07/12/the-historical-jesus-and-christian-theology/> N T Wright on the historical Jesus.
- <https://christianhistoryinstitute.org/magazine/article/interview-galilean-rabbi-or-universal-lord> Interview with N T Wright.
- <https://www.christianitytoday.com/ct/2014/april/surprised-by-n-t-wright.html> Introduction to N T Wright.
- <http://ntwrightpage.com/2016/07/12/jesus-and-the-identity-of-god/> N T Wright on 'Jesus and the Identity of God'.
- <https://ordinand.wordpress.com/2008/05/22/nt-wright-and-critical-realism-part-1/> Summary of Wright's 'Critical Realism'.
- <http://www.thetablet.co.uk/student-zone/philosophy-of-religion/language/critical-realism> A general introduction to the concept of 'Critical Realism'
- <http://justandsinner.blogspot.co.uk/2008/11/evaluation-of-nt-wrights-critical.html> an evaluation of Wright's Critical realism.
- https://biblicalstudies.org.uk/pdf/churchman/117-02_153.pdf and academic presentation of Wright's critical realism.
- <https://thesewaneepurple.org/2015/02/06/letter-to-the-editor-honorary-degrees-to-bring-a-little-less-honor/> A criticism of N T Wright.

YouTube help

- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tEgCLv7i8uQ> Discussion between Wright and Crossan.
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZJiPpAnFe4A> Crossan on Jesus.
- https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Gg_V7A8zkXw Crossan on the historical Jesus.
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=C-8r8rxboUo> At the beginning of this video Crossan speaks about his landmark study, Jesus: A Mediterranean Jewish Peasant.
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KRgkG9QxGC0&t=1s> Criticism of J. D. Crossan by Bishop Barron.
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HhOPcFcHW3M> Wright explains the concept of 'worldview'.
- https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QQJTF_XAiL0 N T Wright on Jesus as the Messiah.
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fxeZp0goEZI> N T Wright on Jesus' self-understanding as a Jewish prophet...and more.
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ICHovRHJAYY> N T Wright on 'What is a Gospel?'.
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3iTQuM8f8LY> N T Wright on 'The Jesus we Never Knew'.
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8WVysqUd4Gg> N T Wright (audio) on the identity of Jesus.

Specification:

Theme 2: Significant historical developments in religious thought

- (a) 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.

Historical developments in religious thought - challenges from secularisation

The conflicting religious and non-religious views on Christianity in the UK (the value of Christian faith schools; whether the UK can be called a 'Christian country'); beliefs conflicting with laws of the country; perceived challenges to Christianity (decline of role and status of Christianity; reduced impact in public life; restricted religious liberty).

Guidance for Teaching

Candidates should be familiar with the debated issue of Christianity's role in the UK. In particular, candidates should be aware of the debate concerning both the value of Christian faith schools and the extent to which the UK can be regarded as a 'Christian country'. This should lead to an examination of the meaning of the term "Christian" when applied to a country and its relationship to British identity and culture. Recurrent tension between the right to practice one's faith and the obligation to obey the law will best be considered by identifying some beliefs that conflict with the laws of the country. For example, recent court decisions have, in the eyes of some, restricted the right of Christians to practice their faith. One example of this was Peter and Hazelmary Bull's refusal to let a gay couple stay at their B&B, see - <http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-england-25119158>. Candidates should examine the perceived challenges to Christianity, including its alleged decline in role and status. Again, the list of challenges listed in the specification may well be best explored by referring to appropriate examples.

Useful resources

There are many digital resources that provide an effective introduction to this area, especially the articles from news sources below and the 'Big Questions' episodes (see 'YouTube help'). Moving deeper into AO1 issues, students would be well advised to be familiar with BRIN (British Religion in Numbers) as well as with the census statistics on religion from the Office of National Statistics – each of these websites can be found within 'Digital resources'. Candidates can engage with key thinkers and theorists such as Linda Woodhead, David Voas and Andrew Copson (see their articles and videos in the resources listed). Especially helpful with AO2 issues is the first bullet point below by Linda Woodhead, an article on the 'no religion' theme in British Culture.

Books:

- The WJEC/WJEC textbook by Illuminate [Christianity: Religious Studies for A Level Year 2 & A2 (Gregory A. Barker)], ISBN: 9781911208365, pp. 90-103, covers this area in the depth needed.
- Copson, Andrew, *Secularism: Politics, Religion, and Freedom* (Oxford: OUP, 2017) ISBN: 0198809131.

- Spencer, Nick, The Evolution of the West: How Christianity has shaped our values (London: SPCK, 2016), ISBN 281075201.

Digital resources:

- <https://www.britac.ac.uk/sites/default/files/11%20Woodhead%201825.pdf> Important article by Social Scientist Linda Woodhead on the rise of 'no religion' in Britain.
- http://resource.download.wjec.co.uk.s3.amazonaws.com/vtc/2015-16/15-16_37/pdf/eng/theme01/unit02/2-9-mcgrath-on-bultmann-and-historical-fact.pdf Article on secularisation in 'Challenging Issues' with a number of relevant examples.
- <http://www.brin.ac.uk/> British Religion in Numbers – a fantastic database of relevant statistics for this subtheme.
- <https://www.ons.gov.uk/peoplepopulationandcommunity/culturalidentity/religion/articles/religioninenglandandwales2011/2012-12-11> Office of National Statistics on Religion in the United Kingdom.
- <http://www.independent.co.uk/voices/comment/christianity-isn-t-dead-it-has-just-become-more-diverse-a6940081.html> "Christianity isn't dead – it has just become more diverse" (article on migration and secularisation).
- <http://www.reonline.org.uk/westminster-faith-debates-religion-in-public-life/> "Westminster Faith Debates: Religion in Public Life?"
- <http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/magazine-27111146> BBC News: "Eight arguments about whether the UK is a Christian country".
- <https://www.theguardian.com/world/2015/nov/23/cinema-ban-for-lords-prayer-ad-is-ridiculous-says-cameron> Article covering the banning of the Lord's prayer advert in cinemas.
- <https://humanism.org.uk/education/education-policy/faith-schools-why-not/> Humanists UK on the Faith Schools debate.
- <https://www.libdemvoice.org/a-liberal-case-for-faith-schools-53651.html> A Lib-Dem perspective on Faith schools.
- <https://www.theguardian.com/commentisfree/2017/dec/13/faith-schools-british-values-ofsted> Guardian op-ed piece on faith-schools.
- <https://corablivingwithdifference.files.wordpress.com/2015/12/living-with-difference-community-diversity-and-the-common-good.pdf> Woolf Institute, Cambridge report on the state of religion in the United Kingdom.
- <https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/politics/david-cameron-christmas-message-pm-to-hail-britains-christian-values-a6785021.html> David Cameron Calls Britain a Christian Country.

YouTube help

- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Yr75ipbGnbU> A debate between Hitchens and Copson - the 'gay cake' and secularism debate.
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UTFDWujABRY> Social Scientist Linda Woodhead on Religion in the United Kingdom; 'religion' as a toxic brand.
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3j8jQkSydeo> Big questions episode on humanism featuring Andrew Copson, chief executive of Humanists, UK.
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IX-w3ttxyVU> News report on the 'No Religion' Statistic. This features the British Attitudes Survey.
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=e7s0FOY2mo8> 'Is religion dying in Britain?' An eminent panel discuss this issue.
- https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YtAR_OGzlcg A leading social scientist speaks about religion losing ground in the West.
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zztAm4ep13k> BBC question time about the marginalisation of religion.
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=x-Wreyq33c0> Copson on 'militant secularism'.
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hPLsuW-TCtA> Linda Woodhead's lecture on the 'no religion' category.
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IYd6k7pelwU> Richard Dawkins on a 'Big Questions' episode speaking about Britain as a Christian country.
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MsPf-rRnMvA> David Cameron calls Britain a 'Christian Country'.

Specification:

Theme 2: Significant historical developments in religious thought

- (b) 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.

Historical developments in religious thought – challenges from science:

Richard Dawkins' and Alister McGrath's contrasting views on the relationship between religion and science, and the nature of proof; the limits of science; the 'God of the gaps' argument.

Guidance for Teaching

Candidates should be introduced to the views of Richard Dawkins and Alister McGrath in relation to the specific areas listed in the specification. A helpful resource is Alister McGrath's book *The Dawkins Delusion* (SPCK 2007). It is expected that candidates should have a basic understanding of the scientific method. They should appreciate the ways in which scientific inquiry attempts to divorce questions of meaning and purpose from observation, and the way such a divorce divides religious and scientific approaches. Candidates should be aware of the differences between proof, probable, and justifiable in terms of the nature of proof. It is expected that candidates will explore how the nature of reality limits science. Candidates should be familiar with the 'God of the gaps' concept, wherein the effectiveness of the God-hypothesis is steadily diminishing as science increasingly offers explanations of the structure of the world, without evoking a concept of God. Students should return to McGrath and consider whether he effectively counters such an accusation.

Useful resources

As Dawkins' *'The God Delusion'* was produced in fairly recently (2006), there are ample YouTube videos in which both theorists in this specification share their views in depth. In fact, the most important resource for this subtheme is the first bullet point in the 'YouTube resources' below – an extended discussion between Dawkins and McGrath which covers the AO1 and AO2 material in this subtheme. In addition to this, students can delve into each theorist's views as they are interviewed separately (see 'Youtube help'). There are also some excellent brief articles by and about their views in the 'Digital resources' section, including their views on the scientific method and the relationship between science and religion.

Books:

- The WJEC/WJEC textbook by Illuminate [Christianity: Religious Studies for A Level Year 2 & A2 (Gregory A. Barker)], ISBN-13: 978-0745950136, pp. 90-103, covers this area in the depth needed.
- Dawkins, Richard. (2007) - The God Delusion, Black Swan, ISBN:055277331X
- Dawkins, Richard (2006) - The Blind Watchmaker, Penguin Books, ISBN:0141026162
- McGrath, Alister (2007) - The Dawkins Delusion? Atheist Fundamentalism and the Denial of the Divine, SPCK, ISBN:0281059276

Digital resources:

- http://resource.download.wjec.co.uk.s3-eu-west-1.amazonaws.com/vtc/2016-17/16-17_2-19_eng/challenges-from-science-ao1-animation.html This video, which focuses upon constructing an effective answer, develops an explanation of Dawkins approach to Christian faith which is helpful for this subtheme.
- <http://www.abc.net.au/religion/articles/2015/11/02/4343739.htm> Alister McGrath on Science.
- <http://www.abc.net.au/religion/articles/2017/09/25/4739706.htm> Important article by McGrath on science and method – with a critique of New Atheist method.
- <http://www.reonline.org.uk/knowning/what-re/philosophy/dawkins-v-mcgrath/> Brief summary of McGrath on ‘religion and violence’
- https://theologicalstudies.org.uk/pdf/jisca/02-1_136.pdf Positive review of ‘The Dawkins Delusion’.
- <https://www.theguardian.com/books/2006/sep/23/richarddawkins> Online extract from chapter one of The God Delusion.
- <https://www.richarddawkins.net/2014/06/the-improbability-of-god/> Dawkins on the improbability of God.

YouTube help

- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3LGm0iWPC80> This video, which is a discussion between Dawkins and McGrath, covers almost all aspects of this subtheme. It provides ample material for both the AO1 and AO2 aspects of this specification.
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tvA6mkXy11o> McGrath speaks about his conversion to Christianity and his views of science.
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DBRKY8Qx9YQ> McGrath interview on ‘The Hour’.
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=S8Mo7Az8y5Q> Critique of the McGraths’ book.
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tKXk-VeCaGY> McGrath on New Atheism (note: there are 6 parts to this video; also helpful for the New Atheism part of the Philosophy Spec.).
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FNp0tYWR7XY> McGrath on the relationship between science and religion.
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0KvN4saTIHo> Richard Dawkins reads passages from the God Delusion and answers questions.
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Su3pLOLraFE> Jeremy Paxman interviews Richard Dawkins – this begins with a focus on the God hypothesis.
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bNH00gjHRk> Richard Dawkins speaks about the God Delusion on the hour.

- https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=O3v2m4_NHhA Dawkins on the scientific method.

Specification:

Theme 2: Significant historical developments in religious thought

- (c) 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.

Historical developments in religious thought – challenges from pluralism and diversity within a tradition

Difference between religious pluralism and tolerance of religious diversity; the exclusivist and inclusivist views expressed in the Christian Bible (Deut 6:5; Joshua 23:16; John 14:6; Acts 4:12); the contribution of John Hick and Karl Rahner to Christian inclusivism (and the difference between their positions); the differences between Christian universalism and pluralistic universalism.

Guidance for Teaching

This section considers the challenges to Christianity from other faith traditions. Candidates should understand the difference between religious pluralism (an acceptance of diverse religious tradition as equal paths to religious truth) and religious tolerance (acceptance of diverse faith traditions while accepting Christianity as the one truth). Candidates should develop an understanding of the differences between exclusivist and inclusivist approaches to religious truth. While exclusivists emphasise attempts to define the absolute truth and correctness of Christian faith (against the claims of other faiths) inclusivists seek to embrace diversity and suggest that no one tradition has the whole truth. Alongside this general discussion, candidates should have an understanding of exclusivism in relation to belief in Jesus and salvation. It is expected that candidates will be able to support the different views using the set texts listed in the specification and understand the implications of these texts for the viability of interfaith dialogue and Christian attitudes to other religions. Candidates should also be familiar with the contributions of John Hick and Karl Rahner in Christian discussions surrounding the status of other religion traditions. The Catholic context of Rahner should be considered, alongside his notion of the 'anonymous Christian'. While Rahner does not dispute the complete uniqueness and truthfulness of Christian claims, he suggests that non-Christians (through their life and religious practice) can be saved by God from outside the Christian community. This should be contrasted with Hick's pluralistic universalism, which suggests among other things, that the same God is understood in a variety of ways by diverse faith traditions. Candidates should be able to distinguish between Christian universalism and pluralistic universalism. While Christian universalism insists that salvation is open and granted to all through Jesus Christ, pluralistic universalism dismisses the absolute truthfulness of Christian claims about salvation and sees them as one valid symbol of religious truth among others.

Useful resources

It will be very useful for students to read an overview of the various positions when it comes to Christian views on the salvation of those in other religions – the first two bullet points within the 'Digital resources' section will help with that. Then, students will need to lay down some deeper roots with both Hick and Rahner. Fortunately, there are many primary and secondary sources for Hick – both in text and on YouTube (see 'Youtube' help section). To understand Rahner's point of view, you will find several accessible resources listed; the videos by Karen Kilby in the 'YouTube help' section are also a faithful guide to this area. Developing a critical understanding of this area is not difficult, since all three positions (exclusivism, inclusivism and pluralism) are critical of the other positions; this will become apparent in most of the resources given. However, the very last bullet point under 'Digital resources' presents a somewhat new and interesting criticism of pluralism which some students may enjoy.

Books:

- The WJEC/WJEC textbook by Illuminate [Christianity: Religious Studies for A Level Year 2 & A2 (Gregory A. Barker)], ISBN: 9780745950136, pp. 90-103, covers this area in the depth needed.
- Kilby, Karen, Karl Rahner: A Brief Introduction (London: SPCK, 2007) ISBN 0281058426
- Hick, John (1986) - God Has Many Names, Westminster John Knox Press, ISBN:066424419X
- Hick, John (2009) - The Rainbow of Faiths: Critical Dialogues on Religious Pluralism, SCM Press, ISBN:0334026083
- There are many accessible, brief and relevant articles on both Hick and Rahner in standard theological dictionaries and encyclopaedias.

Digital resources:

- <http://www.patheos.com/blogs/anxiousbench/2018/04/christianity-and-other-religions/> Introduction to Exclusivism, Inclusivism and Pluralism
- https://www.huffingtonpost.com/andrew-pessin/god-is-not-one---but-rel_b_616708.html?guccounter=1 Introduction to the theology of religions – a light touch.
- <http://www.johnhick.org.uk/jsite/> John Hick's website continues to be maintained.
- <http://www.philosopherkings.co.uk/hickandpluralism.html> John Hick's Theological Pluralism.
- <http://www.onreligion.co.uk/the-value-of-pluralism-christian-reflections-on-john-hick/> Accessible article on Hick and Pluralism.
- <http://www.johnhick.org.uk/article2.html> John Hick questions if Christianity is the only true religion.
- <https://www.iep.utm.edu/hick/> Fairly advanced article, but with a relevant section on Hick's Pluralism.
- <http://peped.org/philosophicalinvestigations/john-hick-pluralist-hypothesis/> Article on Hick at Peped.org.

- <http://groups.apu.edu/theophil/Abare/Religious%20Pluralism%20and%20Salvation.pdf> In depth article by Hick on the subject of salvation.
- <http://wri.leaderu.com/theology/hick.html> Introduction to John Hick's Pluralistic Hypothesis.
- https://www.washingtonpost.com/national/on-faith/analysis-pope-francis-outreach-to-atheists-not-as-controversial-as-it-seems/2013/09/12/5ba14340-1bd9-11e3-80ac-96205cacb45a_story.html?noredirect=on&utm_term=.9e27d011b5b0 This interesting journalistic piece compares Pope Francis' approach to atheists with Rahner's 'anonymous Christians'.
- <https://www.ignatianspirituality.com/ignatian-voices/20th-century-ignatian-voices/karl-rahner-sj> Accessible introduction to Karl Rahner.
- http://www.issuearchive.org/issues_site/resource/archives/anonchrs.htm What is the Catholic teaching of "Anonymous Christianity"?
- <https://spaces.hightail.com/space/fWuTMltdt2/files/fi-d8c732e7-1918-4330-aa88-97f44ce57dce/fv-5d5bc50d-3ed3-48f5-a26e-20574c1cbb7c/A%20Level%20Theme%20C%20Overview%20of%20theological%20Inclusivism%20from%20www.philosopherkings.co.uk.pdf> Summary of Inclusivism, including Rahner.
- <http://peped.org/philosophicalinvestigations/extract-karl-rahner-inclusivism/> Brief introduction to Rahner and Inclusivism.
- https://ir.stthomas.edu/cgi/viewcontent.cgi?article=1009&context=sod_mat The first 20 pages of this master's thesis gives a solid introduction to Rahner and Inclusivism with many relevant quotations by and about Rahner.
- <http://www.internationalbulletin.org/issues/1978-01/1978-01-002-schreiter.pdf> A short academic article about Rahner's anonymous Christian approach.
- <https://www.iep.utm.edu/reli-div/> In depth article on exclusivism, inclusivism and pluralism.
- <https://www.firstthings.com/web-exclusives/2015/11/the-road-to-nostra-aetate> On the inclusivistic statement, Nostra Aetate.
- http://www.vatican.va/archive/hist_councils/ii_vatican_council/documents/vat-ii_decl_19651028_nostra-aetate_en.html Nostra Aetate.
- <http://www.bu.edu/today/2010/all-religions-are-not-alike/> An article by Stephen Prothero who is critical of pluralism.

YouTube help

- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZWeqGTaxJFM> Karen Kilby introduces Karl Rahner – start at 6 mins following for anonymous Christianity.
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=n1bKWzPY0Yg> Another introduction to Karl Rahner by Karen Kilby- watch the first 2 minutes and then go to 7.40 mins for how humans are related to God.
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Q6zifk3hhiE> A thoughtful lecture (slide show) on Inclusivism and Hick.
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=C79JmHZ4QB8> Introduction to Hick by a leading Hick scholar.
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iiPFgFyNI7g> Watch of Hick's last public addresses (receiving an honorary doctorate) – he begins his speech at 5.00 mins; he speaks about his religious pluralism.
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CK54pDxaAzY> A Theologian discusses Acts 4:12 as possibly not an exclusivist passage.

Specification:

Theme 3: Significant social developments in religious thought

(a) attitudes towards wealth

The dangers of wealth (with reference to Mark 10:17-25; Matthew 6:25-34; Luke 12:33-34, 1 Timothy 6:10); apparent contradiction between biblical teaching on stewardship and the ascetic ideal; the prosperity gospel of the Word-Faith movement.

Guidance for Teaching

In this section candidates should examine the apparent different attitudes that exist within Christianity concerning wealth. A central aspect of Jesus ministry was to the poor and candidates should be encouraged to make links between Christian responses to wealth and Jesus' teaching on attitudes to material possessions, based on the three Gospel set texts in the specification. Candidates should be aware of the implications that 1 Timothy 6:10 raises for Christians. Jesus' teaching suggests that there is a just and generous way to make use of wealth, but that wealth can become a spiritual obstacle. Candidates should also be introduced to the notion that some see wealth as a divine blessing. In this regard, candidates should become familiar with the concept of the prosperity gospel of the Word-Faith movement. In these movements, wealth is understood as a sign of God's favour.

Useful resources

Fortunately, some key scholars who address this area can be accessed through video interviews on YouTube (see the 'Youtube help' resources.) One very accessible way for students to 'get into' this area is to read the magazine and newspaper reports on 'Prosperity Gospel' or 'Word-Faith' Movement (see 'Digital resources' section). To develop a critical understanding of the issues, these can be contrasted with articles on 'Asceticism' (see 'Books' resources below). The final bullet point in 'Digital resources' contains an important and informed Biblical reaction to the Word-Faith movement. When teaching the Biblical passages that comprise this subtheme, the Illuminate textbook is more than adequate.

Books:

In addition to the WJEC/WJEC textbook, Christianity: Religious Studies for A Level Year 2 & A2 (Gregory A. Barker), ISBN:9781911208365, pp. 50-62, the following textbooks are helpful:

- Blomberg, C. (2013) - Christians in an Age of Wealth: A Biblical Theology of Stewardship, Zondervan, ISBN:031031898X of the Son of God, SPCK, ISBN:0281055505.
- Ronald J. Sider (2015) – Rich Christians in an Age of Hunger: Moving from Affluence to Generosity, Thomas Nelson, ISBN:0718037048.
- For comment on specific Bible passages in the specification you can rely on the Illuminate textbook. To enrich this area, there are numerous academic Christianity and Bible Encyclopedias and Resources containing short articles on 'Asceticism', 'Stewardship', 'Tithe/tithing', 'word-faith movement' and 'Prosperity Gospel'. One example is 'Asceticism' in F. L. Cross and E. A. Livingstone eds., ISBN:

9780192802903, Oxford Dictionary of the Christian Church (Oxford, OUP: 2005), pp. 114-115.

Digital resources:

- <https://www.nytimes.com/2017/11/04/opinion/sunday/christianity-communism.html> 'Are Christians Supposed to be Communists?'
- <https://rlp.hds.harvard.edu/fag/prosperity-gospel> Solid introduction to the 'Prosperity Gospel' – 'Word-Faith' movement
- <http://humanities.exeter.ac.uk/theology/research/projects/beyondstewardship/origins/> See this page – especially the embedded video – for an overview of the concept of stewardship.
- <https://www.christianitytoday.com/history/2010/january/can-you-be-too-rich-for-heaven.html> Interesting article on Mark 10:21 (on the spec). Note: you need to subscribe for full article.
- <https://www.christianitytoday.com/history/2008/august/ancient-rise-and-recent-fall-of-tithing.html> Article on the history of Tithing. Note: you need to subscribe for full article.
- <https://www.christianitytoday.com/ct/2016/june-web-only/faithful-tithing-now-comes-with-money-back-guarantee.html> Interesting (but not spec-specific) article on Churches offering a money back guarantee on offerings!
- <https://www.christianitytoday.com/ct/1994/october24/4tc085.html> Article covering the Word-Faith Movement. Note: you need to subscribe for full article.
- https://dukespace.lib.duke.edu/dspace/bitstream/handle/10161/2297/D_Bowler_Catherine_a_201005.pdf Merely reading the abstract of this graduate thesis gives a quick & effective overview of the 'Prosperity Gospel'.
- <https://www.lausanne.org/content/a-statement-on-the-prosperity-gospel> - An article explaining and denouncing the World Faith movement from a Christian point of view.

YouTube help

- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QU8-CKfQIH0> Economist Charles Lee speaks about the subject of money in the Bible.
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=m4eqAtJi-aE> Explanation of the history of Stewardship from the University of Exeter.
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=m7ysBubiUY0> Craig Blomberg, short video: 'Christians in an Age of Wealth'.
- https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GktMAy_tsN0 Craig Blomberg full lecture on Biblical teaching on material possessions.
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=E-Um5n6MI9E> Interview with Craig Blomberg on his book, 'Neither Poverty Nor Riches'.
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TAPhJM3bDc4> An explanation and critical view of The Word of Faith movement.
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=M9jdEHXdPa8> watch the first 5 minutes to see an example of 'God wants you rich' preaching.
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-QtO4Z2zH2Y> Preacher says he needs a private jet.
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KlgA2C3KiKo> Ron Sider shares Biblical teachings on God siding with the poor.
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8HoWqqoNdIE> Ron Sider on 'Was Jesus a Socialist?' – go to 15.00 to see his opening address.

Specification:

Theme 3: Significant social developments in religious thought

(b) migration and Christianity in the UK

The challenges of Christian migration to the UK, with reference to assimilation, provision of worship, style of worship and issues of culture. The reverse mission movement to the UK.

Guidance for Teaching

In this section candidates should develop an understanding of the impact of migration on UK Christian communities. Candidates should be aware of the revival of urban congregations that migration has brought about and the challenges the Christian migrants face at the level of liturgy, worship and fellowship. For instance, the challenges to assimilation that may occur because of their different cultures and resulting styles of worship. Candidates should understand that the decline in attendance in Christian worship in the UK has led countries outside the UK sending missions to the UK, whereas in the past it was the UK that sent missions to other parts of the world. It is expected that candidates could give examples of the reverse mission movement to the UK.

Useful resources

There are many digital resources that will help you introduce your students to this area. First, there are many newspaper and magazine articles which reflect on the phenomenon of Christian immigration to Britain (see 'Digital resources'). Moving more deeply into AO1 content for this area, you can consult the studies and reflections conducted by the Catholic Church, the Roman Catholic Church and university researchers (the first three bullet points under 'Digital resources'). The first resource listed below is especially helpful in that it goes into some depth on the pastoral issues involved for established churches incorporating Christians who have immigrated to the United Kingdom. Keep in mind that not all immigrant Christians join established churches – they form new churches and even new denominations. To help with this area see the articles below on new Pentecostal churches and denominations. Turning to AO2 issues, how well immigrants are 'assimilated' into Christian churches can be explored by comparing the documents below from established churches with the phenomenon of new Pentecostal denominations in the UK. The issue of the UK as a 'modern mission field' can be effectively explored through the two 'Reverse Missionaries' documentary episodes listed in the 'YouTube help' section.

Books:

- The WJEC/WJEC textbook by Illuminate [Christianity: Religious Studies for A Level Year 2 & A2 (Gregory A. Barker)], ISBN:9781911208365, pp. 63-74, covers this area in the depth needed.

Digital resources:

- <http://www.catholic-ew.org.uk/Catholic-News-Media-Library/Archive-Media-Assets/Files/CBCEW-Publications/Mission-of-the-Church-to-migrants-in-England-and-Wales-word> This is a very important report by Bishops of the Catholic Church in England and Wales providing theoretical and practical guidance on incorporating immigrants into the worshipping community.
- <http://community.dur.ac.uk/churchgrowth.research/wp-content/uploads/2015/10/NCNEreportFINAL.pdf> This is an important study of new churches in the North East of England, many of which are composed of immigrant Christians.
- https://www.urc.org.uk/images/mission/at_home_strange/Mission-Migrants-and-Refugees-MTAG.pdf Important reflection from the Church of England on the Christian reasons to embrace immigrants.
- <https://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/religion/6799755/Study-reveals-impact-of-immigration-on-UK-faiths.html> This article is a popular introduction to a 2009 report on the impact of immigration on UK faiths.
- <https://www.christiantoday.com/article/how-reverse-missionaries-built-the-uks-fastest-growing-church/37894.htm> Reverse missionaries and UK Churches.
- <http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/religion/11724826/Immigration-reviving-Christianity-in-Britain-Cardinal.html> Immigration reviving Christianity in Britain.
- <http://www.independent.co.uk/voices/comment/christianity-isn-t-dead-it-has-just-become-more-diverse-a6940081.html> Article on migration and secularism.
- <http://www.christiantoday.com/article/> How reverse missionaries built the UK's fastest-growing church.
- <https://www.spectator.co.uk/2016/05/britain-really-is-ceasing-to-be-a-christian-country/> This article argues that the church in Britain is declining despite the influx of Christian immigrants.
- <https://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/2017/09/04/britain-has-non-believers-ever-church-england-christians-make/> Note the reference to immigrant Christians toward the end of this article.
- <http://blogs.lse.ac.uk/religionglobalsociety/2016/11/a-history-of-pentecostalism-in-britain/> Many immigrant Christians not only attend established churches in Britain, but form their own churches and denominations – this article gives an overview of this phenomenon.
- https://www.biblesociety.org.uk/uploads/content/bible_in_transmission/files/2015_spring/BiT_Spring_2015_Akhazemea.pdf Black majority Churches and immigration.
- https://www.churchofengland.org/sites/default/files/2017-10/celebratingdiversitygsmisc938_0.pdf A report on diversity of the Church of England along with some reflection on immigration and the Church.
- https://www.cte.org.uk/Groups/248695/Home/Resources/Pentecostal_and_Multicultural/The_Pentecostal_and/The_Pentecostal_and.aspx Look especially at the section of this article on the African diaspora Pentecostal Church.
- <http://www.wesley.cam.ac.uk/wp-content/uploads/2015/10/06-da-silva.pdf> Reverse mission in the Western context.

YouTube help

- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YtWH6-Km8jY> This film contains footage of Polish immigrants worshipping in Great Britain. At 1 minute 15 seconds onwards, a Catholic priest shares issues that Christian immigrants have to face and how the Church can help.
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WHx95cuXpUE> A Christian perspective on immigration from a US lecturer who speaks to a benefit to immigration to the Christian Church worldwide.
- <https://spaces.hightail.com/space/HqnnHbjmpu/files/fi-40644db3-d7ca-4918-b334-b0b3d54ad6c8/fv-80380d9b-9682-4e03-978e-e05d3e5d2461/A%20Level%20Theme%203b%20BBC%20Reverse%20Missionaries%201%20of%202%20from%20YouTube.mp4> Episode 1 of the BBC Documentary Series on Reverse Missionaries.
- <https://spaces.hightail.com/space/HqnnHbjmpu/files/fi-30089835-a463-4a33-9a1c-10bfd734bad6/fv-2252c8b0-f5e8-4c77-9138-a7be238d912b/A%20Level%20Theme%203b%20BBC%20Reverse%20Missionaries%202%20of%202%20from%20YouTube.mp4> Episode 2 of the BBC Documentary Series on Reverse Missionaries.

Specification:

Theme 3: Significant social developments in religious thought

- (c) The relationship between religion and society: religion, equality and discrimination.

Social developments in religious thought – feminist theology and the changing role of men and women:

The contribution of Mary Daly and Rosemary Radford Ruether to feminist theology. The changing role of men and women, with reference to the issue of the ordination of women priests and bishops; the impact on the lives of believers and communities within Christianity today.

Guidance for Teaching

In this section the focus is on feminist theology and the impact this has on Christianity. Candidates should be introduced to the work of Mary Daly and Rosemary Radford Ruether and their work on God-language. Candidates should appreciate the Catholic context of both thinkers. They should understand the ways in which their feminist methodologies come into conflict with Catholic orthodoxy, and shape contemporary Church debates. Candidates should be familiar with theological differences between Christian denominations regarding the legitimacy of the ordination of women priests and bishops. Consideration should be given to the impact these issues have on the roles of men, the lives of believers and communities within Christianity today.

Useful resources

Books:

- The WJEC/WJEC textbook by Illuminate [Christianity: Religious Studies for A Level Year 2 & A2 (Gregory A. Barker)], ISBN: 9781911208365, pp. 63-74, covers this area in the depth needed.
- Daly, Mary (2015, or older edition), *Beyond God the Father: Toward a Philosophy of Women's Liberation*, Beacon Press, ISBN:0807015229.
- Ruether, Rosemary Radford (2010) - *Sexism and God-talk: Toward a Feminist Theology: with a New Introduction*, SCM Press, ISBN:0334028779.

Digital resources:

- <https://spaces.hightail.com/space/HqnnHbjmpu/files/fi-64032f63-3340-42dd-bb62-09538ba8a35a/fv-2520eda1-1d60-4084-95ab-a01e2022c277/A%20Level%20Theme%203C%20Should%20women%20be%20priests%20%20from%20%20BBC%20Learn%20-%20Divine%20Women.mp4> The issue of ordination.
- <https://www.americamagazine.org/issue/100/women-church-vatican-ii> Women in the church since Vatican II.
- <http://www.christianitytoday.com/history/issues/issue-17/neglected-history-of-women-in-early-church.html> History of women in the church.
- <http://liberationtheology.org/people-organizations/rosemary-radford-ruether/> Information on Rosemary Radford Ruether.
- <http://liberationtheology.org/people-organizations/mary-daly/> Information on Mary Daly
- <http://www.reonline.org.uk/westminster-faith-debates-is-it-right-for-religions-to-treat-men-and-women-differently/> "Westminster Faith Debates: Is it right for religions to treat men and women differently?"
- http://people.bu.edu/wwildman/bce/mwt_themes_908_ruether.htm Introduction to Rosemary Radford Ruether.
- <https://feminismandreligion.com/2011/06/24/what-is-feminism-and-why-should-we-do-it/> Short article by Rosemary Radford Ruether on the definition of feminism.
- <http://www.philosopherkings.co.uk/Traditionalviewsonwomen.html> Relevant quotes by Rosemary Radford Ruether can be found here.
- <https://www.britannica.com/biography/Mary-Daly> Britannica article on Mary Daly.
- <http://www.philosopherkings.co.uk/Radicalfeministtheology.html> Helpful introduction to Mary Daly.
- <https://www.theguardian.com/world/2010/jan/27/mary-daly-obituary> Obituary on Mary Daly.
- <https://www.theguardian.com/commentisfree/belief/2010/jan/06/religion-feminism> Opinion piece on Mary Daly from the Guardian.
- <http://www.equip.org/article/the-debate-over-feminist-theology/> A critique of feminist theology from a conservative Christian website.

YouTube help

- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aPwsPf6vpxw> A 'Big Questions' episode devoted to the inequality of men and women especially in Christianity, Judaism and Islam.
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=m1ugVyuRUv0> '10 Women Christian Men Shouldn't Marry' - A provocative challenge to conservative Christian attitudes to women.
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Nh5KRNTsspK> A helpful introduction to early feminists beginning with the 19th century. Mary Daly is introduced at 3.00; 5.50 for Rosemary Radford Ruether.
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AvrKgy34RA8> An early television show featuring several feminists including Mary Daly – Mary Daly speaks at 1.40 and then at 8.33.
- https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kP9oz74IK_o Rosemary Radford Ruether describes how she came to faith.
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PTIcuU3moQ8> Rosemary Radford Ruether on the exclusion of women in Church history.
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9fszLvrWGko> [audio only] Rosemary Radford Ruether on Ecofeminism.
- https://www.youtube.com/watch?time_continue=5&v=FaOqk_juwLg Debate on whether religions should treat men and women differently.
- https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jmCP9q_IQpw Women against feminism in the Church.

Specification:

Theme 4: Religious practices that shape religious identity (part 2)

(a) Religious identity through unification

The development of the Ecumenical Movement since 1910 (World Missionary Conference); the World Council of Churches, its rationale, its mission and its work in three main areas: Unity, Mission, and Ecumenical Relations; Public Witness and Diakonia; and Ecumenical Formation.

Guidance for Teaching

In this section candidates should be introduced to the concept of ecumenism (an attempt to unify diverse Christian traditions). This notion of ecclesial unity should be placed in relation to modern initiatives including World Missionary Conference (convened 1910) and the World Council of Churches (founded 1948). The latter brought together diverse Protestant denominations in an effort to develop a common approach to evangelism and missionary activity. Candidates should be sensitive to the ways in which ecumenical movements are expressions of a Christian to service (Diakonia) in divided religious communities. Candidates should be aware of the diverse ways in which ecumenical actions work for the peaceful resolution of conflict. These organisations should be understood as expressions of common Christian commitments related to peace and justice. It is expected that candidates will be aware of the educational role of the ecumenical movement. Central here is an understanding of how education is used by ecumenical participants to inform, break down distrust or differences and support ongoing dialogue. These processes are called Ecumenical Formation by the WCC.

Useful resources

Perhaps the most helpful resource for students to gain an understanding of ecumenism and the World Council of Churches is for students to investigate the WCC's website and YouTube Channel – relevant links are provided below. For a deeper understanding of the ecumenical movement the book by Steven R. Harmon, *Ecumenism Means You, Too: Ordinary Christians and the Quest for Christian Unity* (ISBN:9781606088654) is both relevant and accessible. In terms of developing AO2 skills, students would do well to find criticisms of the WCC by Christians today – there are many of these, especially by evangelical or fundamentalist Christians which can be found both on the web and on YouTube. It is also relevant to examine Roman Catholic criticisms – see especially the last bullet point in the 'Digital resources' section.

Books:

- The WJEC/WJEC textbook by Illuminate [Christianity: Religious Studies for A Level Year 2 & A2 (Gregory A. Barker)], ISBN: 9780745950136, pp. 132-145, covers this area in the depth needed.
- Steven R. Harmon, *Ecumenism Means You, Too: Ordinary Christians and the Quest for Christian Unity* Cascade Books; Annotated edition (28 Feb. 2010), ISBN 1606088653

- Noel A. Davies and Martin Conway, *SCM Core Text: World Christianity in the 20th Century* SCM Press; First Edition (27 Jun. 2008), ISBN 0334040434
- R. David Nelson and Charles Raith II, *Ecumenism: A Guide for the Perplexed* (Guides for the Perplexed) Bloomsbury T&T Clark (27 July 2017) ISBN 056757346X
- Joseph Ratzinger/Pope Benedict XVI Church, *Ecumenism and Politics: New Endeavors in Ecclesiology* (Ignatius Press, 2008), ISBN 1586172174

Digital resources:

- http://resource.download.wjec.co.uk.s3-eu-west-1.amazonaws.com/vtc/2016-17/16-17_2-19/eng/ecumenical-ao1.html A Board-approved resource to develop AO1 knowledge and understanding of the history of the ecumenical movement.
- http://resource.download.wjec.co.uk.s3-eu-west-1.amazonaws.com/vtc/2016-17/16-17_2-19/pdf/eng/wjec/5a-ecumenical-AO1-handout.pdf A companion to the above with further AO1 insights.
- http://resource.download.wjec.co.uk.s3-eu-west-1.amazonaws.com/vtc/2016-17/16-17_2-19/eng/ecumenical-ao2.html A Board-approved resource to develop arguments for each of the issues areas related to ecumenism.
- http://resource.download.wjec.co.uk.s3-eu-west-1.amazonaws.com/vtc/2016-17/16-17_2-19/pdf/eng/wjec/6a-ecumenical-AO2-handout.pdf A companion to the resource just above with further AO2 insights.
- <https://spaces.hightail.com/space/JvQQ53j8xR/files/fi-35155f2c-017c-4a3c-b0d6-b006ba24034e/fv-18f55aff-0eea-4944-ad28-d26a89a1be96/4F%20RCC%20and%20Ecumenism.ppt> A power-point summary of some key Roman Catholic ecumenical documents.
- <https://www.oikoumene.org/en> This website is probably the single most important resource for this section, providing an overview of the history and activities of the World Council of Churches.
- <https://www.oikoumene.org/en/press-centre/news/pope-francis-to-visit-the-world-council-of-churches-this-summer> Pope to visit WCC.
- http://w2.vatican.va/content/pius-xi/en/encyclicals/documents/hf_p-xi_enc_19280106_mortalium-animos.html A 1928 Catholic statement critical of the ecumenical movement.
- http://www.anglicancommunion.org/media/105260/final_report_arcic_1.pdf An extremely positive report from 1981 of Anglican-Roman Catholic dialogue (prior to the Anglican ordination of women).
- http://www.prounione.urbe.it/dia-int/arcic/doc/e_arcic_responseva.html A less enthusiastic response to the event just above from the Catholic point of view.
- <https://cruxnow.com/faith/2015/05/05/is-ecumenism-between-catholics-and-anglicans-over/> A brief, current assessment of the state of Anglican-Roman Catholic relations.
- <https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/home-news/could-the-archbishop-and-the-pope-really-reunify-the-church-9552879.html> A popular article on the relationship between Pope Francis and Justin Welby.
- <https://www.oikoumene.org/en/what-we-do/jwg-with-roman-catholic-church> The relationship of the Roman Catholic Church to the World Council of Churches
- <http://referenceworks.brillonline.com/entries/encyclopedia-of-christianity/life-and-work-movement-L334> Excellent article on the early 20th century history of the ecumenical movement; only available with subscription.
- <https://www.oikoumene.org/en/resources/documents/wcc-programmes/ecumenical-movement-in-the-21st-century/member-churches/special-commission-on-participation-of-orthodox-churches/first-plenary-meeting-documents-december->

[1999/the-orthodox-churches-the-wcc-and-the-upcoming-assembly](#) A reference to Orthodox-WCC tensions.

- http://orthodoxinfo.com/ecumenism/encyc_critique.aspx An extreme criticism of this history of orthodox openness to the ecumenical movement.
- http://www.vatican.va/archive/hist_councils/ii_vatican_council/documents/vat-ii_decree_19641121_unitatis-redintegratio_en.html Landmark 1964 Roman Catholic statement on ecumenism.
- <https://www.oikoumene.org/en/resources/documents/wcc-programmes/ecumenical-movement-in-the-21st-century/member-churches/special-commission-on-participation-of-orthodox-churches/first-plenary-meeting-documents-december-1999/the-orthodox-churches-the-wcc-and-the-upcoming-assembly> The relationship of Orthodox churches to the WCC.
- http://w2.vatican.va/content/john-paul-ii/en/encyclicals/documents/hf_jp-ii_enc_25051995_ut-unum-sint.html More sober view of ecumenism and Unitatis Redintegratio from Pope John Paul II in 1995.

YouTube help

- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xMAQb2DyWVI> Various church leaders define the word 'ecumenism'.
- <https://www.youtube.com/user/WCCworld> This is the channel for the WCC; the featured video will help students see the kinds of experiences that Christians have at Council Assemblies.
- https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zF_izf-7Aek A general overview of the World Council of Churches
- https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gLjHKbyc_r4 The Pope speaks about ecumenism.
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5ABewBsoUX4&list=PL5B1FBED4633032FB&index=4> The Archbishop of Canterbury speaks about Evangelism and Mission in the World Council of Churches. He is addressing a meeting of the WCC.
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HtOiSnPPqUY> A good introduction to the WCC and some of its history.
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iCLcoPn2bKI&t=0s&index=18&list=PL5B1FBED4633032FB> A very brief introduction to the WCC, showing how one denomination supports the WCC.
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=u0sn56JW9tg> Go to 8 mins 38 secs and watch a few minutes to get a portion of a lecture introducing the 1910 World Missionary conference – pretty academic.
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UXxX6FeBh2c> an example of the WCC and environmental concern.
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XEPTpTcOP28> an example of a Christian rejection of the WCC.

Specification:

Theme 4: Religious practices that shape religious identity (part 2)

(b) Religious identity through religious experience

The development of the Charismatic Movement post-1960; main beliefs; implications for Christian practice in the experience of believers and Christian communities; philosophical challenges to charismatic experience (verification and natural explanation).

Guidance for Teaching

In this section candidates should develop an understanding of the development of the global charismatic movement post 1960. Mention should be made of its continuing growth-rate and social impact. Alongside these general observations, candidates need to develop a broad understanding of how the role of Charismatic forms of worship and prayer has impacted both Catholic and Protestant Churches. It is expected that candidates should develop an understanding of key Charismatic beliefs including the spiritual efficacy of faith-healing, the gifts of the Holy Spirit, the importance of speaking in tongues (glossolalia) and the centrality of direct experience of God in the life of the believer. Although no Biblical texts are listed in the Specification, texts such as Acts 2:1-12, 1 Corinthians 12, 1 Corinthians 14:18 may provide helpful background information. Candidates should be sensitive to the intense and outwardly chaotic character of some Pentecostal services, the implicit egalitarianism of Pentecostal worship, and the proactive role of women in such contexts. Alongside the perceptions and beliefs of Charismatic Christians themselves, candidates should be attentive to the rejection by some of charismatic claims of miraculous communication and healing. For instance, alternative explanations, such as the alleged religious experiences being the result of the placebo effect and the inability to independently verify such claims have cast doubts on such events.

Useful resources

There are a wealth of articles, books and videos which provide a good depth of knowledge and understanding of the charismatic movement worldwide. Students should expose themselves to at least three different areas of this movement: Protestant-origins, Catholic and Asian-African dimensions as all three of these streams are present in the UK today. All of the resources below are relevant to one of these three areas. In terms of a critical assessment of aspects of this movement, see the final two bullet points under 'Digital resources'; the first of these is a psychiatric understanding of speaking in tongues and the final piece shows charismatic Christianity as evidence of the weakness of the secularisation thesis. The final YouTube resource is a good introduction to some scientific explanations of the phenomenon in terms of brain scans.

Books:

The WJEC/Eduqas textbook by Illuminate [Christianity: Religious Studies for A Level Year 2 & A2 (Gregory A. Barker)], ISBN: 9780745950136, pp. 146-163, covers this area in the depth needed.

- Anderson, Allan Heaton (2014) An Introduction to Pentecostalism: Second Edition (Cambridge: University of Cambridge Press) ISBN:1107660947 this is the leading academic treatment of this subject).
- Hamilton, Michael P. (1975) The Charismatic Movement (Eerdmans) ISBN 9780802815897 (a collection of essays by academics and others).
- Hyatt, E. L. (2015) - 2000 Years of Charismatic Christianity. ISBN:0884198723. A 21st Century Look at Church History from a Pentecostal/Charismatic Perspective, Charisma, (note: this is not a particularly academic/objective account)
- The Church of England (1981) The Charismatic Movement in the Church of England (London: CIO Publishing) ISBN:071514751X. A very interesting study with first-hand reports of charismatic experiences in the Church of England.

Digital resources:

- <https://spaces.hightail.com/space/JvQQ53j8xR/files/fi-ef8c4c2e-86f0-4116-b784-6c29650a59c7/fv-8902a6e1-d87f-4483-87cd-65100d79330f/A%20Level%20Theme%204B%20%20Understanding%20the%20Charismatic%20Movement%20%20from%20christianitytoday.org.pdf> Introduction to the charismatic movement
- <http://www.ccr.org.uk/about-ccr/about/what-is-ccr/> An important site with resources describing Catholic charismatic renewal.
- <http://www.gotquestions.org/Charismatic-movement.html> "What is the Charismatic movement?" (though note anti-Charismatic bias of the article).
- <https://www.christiancentury.org/article/2006-03/discerning-spirit> Great article summarising the Charismatic movement (note: subscription needed for full download).
- <https://www.christianitytoday.com/ct/2000/march6/32.84.html> On the status of the charismatic movement in Protestant Christianity.
- <https://www.christianitytoday.com/edstetzer/2013/october/charismatic-renewal-movement.html> Introduction to the charismatic movement.
- <http://www.pewforum.org/2011/12/19/global-christianity-movements-and-denominations/> PEW study on the number of charismatic Christians.
- <http://www.pewresearch.org/fact-tank/2014/11/14/why-has-pentecostalism-grown-so-dramatically-in-latin-america/> Research on the growth of charismatic Christianity in Latin America.
- <http://www.pewforum.org/2006/10/05/spirit-and-power/> Sociological overview of Pentecostalism.
- <http://www.pewforum.org/2006/04/12/the-new-face-of-global-christianity-the-emergence-of-progressive-pentecostalism/> interesting interview with a scholar in the area of Pentecostalism.
- <http://blogs.lse.ac.uk/religionglobalsociety/2016/11/pentecostalism-in-britain-today-making-up-for-failures-of-the-past/> history of Pentecostalism in the UK.

- http://www.bbc.co.uk/religion/religions/christianity/subdivisions/pentecostal_1.shtml BBC profile of Pentecostalism
- <https://www.elim.org.uk/> The website of the Elim denomination – indigenous UK Pentecostalism.
- <https://www.economist.com/britain/2014/07/05/the-power-of-prayer> Introduction to African Pentecostalism.
- <http://www.compas.ox.ac.uk/2015/reflections-on-african-pentecostals-in-london-and-the-political/> African Pentecostals in London.
- <http://www.eauk.org/church/resources/theological-articles/upload/Charismatic-renewal-in-Britain.pdf> A summary of the history of Pentecostalism in Britain
- <https://sojo.net/articles/charismatic-movement-thrives-church-england-sputters> An interesting and superficial piece contrasting lively charismatic congregations in the UK with C of E church closures.
- <https://www.theguardian.com/world/2016/aug/13/church-of-england-evangelical-drive> Guardian article on Church life in Britain.
- <https://www.economist.com/international/2016/01/23/ecstasy-and-exodus> Global Pentecostalism.
- http://www.orcuttchristian.org/Pattison_BEHAVIORAL%20SCIENCE%20RESEARCH%20ON%20THE%20NATURE%20OF%20GLOSSOLALIA.pdf An old but relevant psychiatric study of the phenomenon of speaking in tongues.
- http://www.st-marys-centre.org.uk/resources/challengingreligiousissues/Issue%201_ChallengingReligiousIssues.pdf See the article by William Kay on how the growth of the Charismatic movement challenges the secularisation thesis.

YouTube help

- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LzT3pRu2FkY> Lecture/slideshow on the rise of Pentecostalism.
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VPm980ATPa4> A 'documentary' from a Christian bias on the Azusa street mission. Some fantastic images of the birth of the Charismatic movement.
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Kcd1a68YQq0> an evangelical Christian criticism of Charismatic Christianity – valuable for the opening images of Charismatic worship.
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ieFUcaXW5LE> 6 year old girl shares that she has interpreted the use of tongues.
- https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ED_Wi83mSpU BBC documentary featuring a Black Pentecostal congregation in London (The Brixton Community Church).
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3D2WhjcvXUA> A Christian account of Catholic charismatic movement.
- https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ci5wEy_Js54 Popular Catholic vlogger gives reactions to Charismatic Christianity – good for an opening engagement with students.
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NZbQBajYnEc> Nightline report on the science of speaking in tongues.

Specification:

Theme 4: Religious practices that shape religious identity (part 2)

(c) Religious identity through responses to poverty and injustice

The basis (political, ethical and religious) of South American liberation theology with reference to Gustavo Gutierrez and Leonardo Boff; Roman Catholic Church responses to South American liberation theology.

Guidance for Teaching

Candidates should develop a basic overview of the key themes of sources of South American liberation theology. In particular, the role of social and economic context should be considered (the dispossession of South American farmers) alongside the influence of Marxist political theory and Catholic Social Teaching (CST). Candidates should possess a cursory understanding of the key themes and methods of liberation theology including an emphasis on reading Biblical texts from the perspective of the poor and marginalised. A key theme in this regard is the role Jesus as social liberator. It is expected that candidates will be familiar with the key theological contributions of Gustavo Gutierrez and Leonardo Boff. An emphasis should be put on their joint challenge to the Catholic hierarchy to a Church for the poor and oppressed. The response of the Roman Catholic hierarchy to these ideas should be explored, with a particular focus on the formal censure of Boff and Gutierrez for their ideas. Both not merely advocate radical economic policy, but have suggested significant transformations in the life of the Church. Boff suggests that the power of the Papacy should be curtailed while Gutierrez has supported grass-roots Catholic movements outside the control of Church authority. At the time Conservative Catholic critics of liberation theology suggested that the movement was far too influenced by Marxist politics to the detriment of the teachings of Jesus and the Church.

Useful resources

The board has produced some relevant digital resources to help students with both AO1 and AO2 skills – these are in the first 4 bullet points just below. One important (and very sad) story that will help students understand the gravity of this area is the murder of priests, their housekeeper and their housekeeper's daughter by government forces in El Salvador in 1989 – links to this story are below; this is followed by a number of short media links for liberation theology. To develop AO2 skills, students can examine the reactions of liberation theology by Joseph Cardinal Ratzinger and compare this to Pope Francis' criticisms of capitalism (toward the end of the list below). This is an excellent way to understand a variety of Catholic reactions to this area. For those who wish to travel even deeper into this area are encouraged to read McGovern's book ('Book' resources below).

Books:

- The WJEC/WJEC textbook by Illuminate [Christianity: Religious Studies for A Level Year 2 & A2 (Gregory A. Barker)] ,ISBN: 9780745950136, pp. 164-180, covers this area in the depth needed.
- Boff, Leonardo (1996) - Introducing Liberation Theology, Orbis Books, ISBN:0883445506
- Gutiérrez, G. (2010) - A Theology of Liberation, SCM Press, ISBN:0334028531
- McGovern, Arthur F (2009 [1989] Liberation Theology and its Critics: Toward an Assessment (Eugene, Or.: Wipf & Stock) ISBN 1606088939

Digital resources:

- http://resource.download.wjec.co.uk.s3-eu-west-1.amazonaws.com/vtc/2016-17/16-17_2-19/_eng/liberation-theology-ao1.html This is a board approved AO1 exercise on Gustavo Gutiérrez; students complete an AO1 essay from the elements provided.
- http://resource.download.wjec.co.uk.s3-eu-west-1.amazonaws.com/vtc/2016-17/16-17_2-19/pdf/_eng/wjec/7a-liberation-theology-AO1-handout.pdf Handout to complement the activity above.
- http://resource.download.wjec.co.uk.s3-eu-west-1.amazonaws.com/vtc/2016-17/16-17_2-19/_eng/liberation-theology-ao2.html Board approved AO2 activity on Church criticism of liberation theology; students compose an essay from the elements provided.
- http://resource.download.wjec.co.uk.s3-eu-west-1.amazonaws.com/vtc/2016-17/16-17_2-19/pdf/_eng/wjec/8a-liberation-theology-AO2-handout.pdf Handout to complement the activity above.
- <https://www.reuters.com/article/us-el-salvador-murder-idUSKBN0UK2FW20160106> Article on the murder of priests in El Salvador, 1989
- <https://www.theguardian.com/world/2016/apr/08/spanish-trial-of-soldiers-behind-uca-atrocity-raises-hopes-of-ending-impunity-in-el-salvador> An update on the 1989 murder of priests in El Salvador.
- <http://liberationtheology.org/people-organizations/leonardo-boff/> Information on Leonardo Boff.
- <http://liberationtheology.org/people-organizations/gustavo-gutierrez/> Information on Gustavo Gutiérrez.
- <https://www.theguardian.com/world/2015/may/11/vatican-new-chapter-liberation-theology-founder-gustavo-gutierrez> Important Guardian article on a change of attitude at the Vatican towards liberation theology.
- <http://opcentral.org/resources/wp-content/uploads/sites/11/2014/09/crisis02.pdf> Overview of Latin American Bishops' reception of Liberation Theology.
- <http://america.aljazeera.com/articles/2015/9/22/pope-embraces-liberation-theology.html> Article on the Pope embracing Liberation Theology.
- <https://www.theway.org.uk/back/20Sobrinio.pdf> Very helpful study of a key moment in the Latin American Church when Liberation Theology was formally embraced.
- <https://www.tikkun.org/nextgen/the-earth-will-defeat-capitalism> Short article by Leonardo Boff on Capitalism.
- <http://www.uscatholic.org/articles/201501/what-preferential-option-poor-29649> Article explaining the preferential option for the poor.

- <https://itself.blog/2013/05/03/a-brief-history-of-latin-american-liberation-theology/> A nice, short overview of liberation theology.
- <http://www.dw.com/en/leonardo-boff-this-pope-will-change-the-church/a-16970616> Article by Boff on Pope Francis.
- <https://www.ncronline.org/news/celam-update-lasting-legacy-liberation-theology> article on the legacy of liberation theology for Catholics.
- <https://www.theway.org.uk/back/434Sobrino.pdf> Karl Rahner's influence on liberation theology.
- http://w2.vatican.va/content/paul-vi/en/apost_exhortations/documents/hf_p-vi_exh_19751208_evangelii-nuntiandi.html Papal criticisms of Liberation Theology from 1975.
- http://www.vatican.va/roman_curia/congregations/cfaith/documents/rc_con_cfaith_doc_19840806_theology-liberation_en.html 1984 Criticism of Liberation Theology from Joseph Cardinal Ratzinger.
- https://w2.vatican.va/content/francesco/en/apost_exhortations/documents/papa-francesco_esortazione-ap_20131124_evangelii-gaudium.html 2013 - Pope Francis criticises capitalism – see paragraphs 53-58.
- <http://www.geraldschlabach.net/medellin-1968-excerpts/> Excerpts of the 1968 Medellin conference favourable to Liberation Theology.
- <http://infed.org/mobi/what-is-praxis/> Definition of Praxis

YouTube help

- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8utDwPwnzJs> Lecture by Gustavo Gutierrez.
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pNKyV262KIA> Gustavo Gutierrez on Liberation theology (short).
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Fy67NJPYBdM> Academic introduction to the concept of 'the preferential option for the poor'.
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-58mDSPasM4> News report on Liberation theology.
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Sf2c3NfNYhc> Introduction to Liberation Theology.
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=A4zFYegvhRw> Cardinal criticises violence in liberation theology and praises Romero.
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JyxJaAlw8jU> Documentary on Leonardo Boff.
- https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zPDv_1peapY Chomsky on radical nature of the Gospels and Liberation theology.
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ITpXVW9BTjg> News report from the 1989 murder of priests in El Salvador.
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4enR1Xc4xng> Informed video on the radical message of Jesus and how this inspired Liberation theology (and other movements).
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ujm5b4TP2FQ> relationship of Pope Francis to Liberation theology.