

GCSE



GCSE RELIGIOUS STUDIES

MAKING CONNECTIONS BETWEEN CONTENT FOR EDUQAS GCSE - ROUTE B COMPONENTS 1 AND 2



In order to try and compensate for lost teaching time, there may be some worth in trying to connect different areas of the specification content in a more synoptic or holistic way. Below is a suggestion of how the Route B content for Components 1 and 2 could be delivered in this more thematic way

Connections with the Component 3 Judaism content are not included here, but can be found in this document: <https://resources.eduqas.co.uk/Pages/ResourceSingle.aspx?rId=1280>

| ORIGINS & MEANING | GOOD & EVIL | LIFE & DEATH | SIN & FORGIVENESS |
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| <p>Origins & Meaning</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Catholic beliefs and teachings about the origin of the universe and the concept of creation ex nihilo as expressed in the writing of St Augustine (specifically Confessions XII, 7) The relationship between Catholic views and other Christian views on the origin of the universe and the extent to which these conflict The relationship between Catholic and non-religious views about the origins of the universe and of human beings (Stephen Hawking's theory of the Big Bang) and the extent to which these conflict Comparison of scientific theory of evolution (Charles Darwin, Richard Dawkins), with Catholic beliefs about the purposeful creation of human beings; the extent to which creation and evolution are compatible, with reference to Pope John Paul II's Message To The Pontifical Academy Of Sciences: On Evolution (22 October 1996, paragraphs 3 & 4) Catholic beliefs and teachings about the origin and sanctity of human life and the concept of imago Dei as expressed in the writings of St Catherine of Siena (specifically The Dialogue of St Catherine of Siena, of Discretion) The relationship between Catholic views, other fundamentalist Christian views and non-religious views about the value of human life, including attitudes toward abortion Humanist critiques of Catholic beliefs about sanctity of life issues (for example, Peter Singer's views on 'speciesism') and Catholic responses to these challenges | <p>Good, Evil and Suffering</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Catholic perspectives on the origin of evil: Original Sin and evil as a "privation", with reference to St Augustine, The Enchiridion (3.11) Alternative Christian and non-Christian views on the nature and origin of evil and the difference between moral and natural evil Catholic beliefs about the relationship between God's goodness and the goodness of the created world Philosophical and non-religious challenges posed by belief in God's goodness, free will and the existence of evil and suffering The meaning of suffering and Catholic ambivalence towards it, with reference to the significance of Christ's suffering and death and Isaiah 53 <p>Beliefs: Trinity</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The nature of the Trinity as expressed in the Nicene creed – One God in three persons: Father, Son and Spirit The biblical support for the doctrine and its historical development, with reference to the metaphorical explanation of the doctrine as a trinity of love, lover and beloved in St Augustine De Trinitate 8.10 <p>Beliefs: Incarnation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The meaning and significance of the belief in Jesus as Incarnate Son, divine Word, fully God and fully human; its scriptural origins with reference to John 1:1-18 and the kenosis hymn (Phil 2:5-11) The importance of the doctrine in framing Catholic responses to the Problem of Evil, | <p>Death and the afterlife</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Catholic teaching on the meaning of death, the importance of dying well and the importance of palliative care with reference to Catholic teaching on assisted suicide and euthanasia Contrasting views on quality and sanctity of life and the right to die Catholic beliefs about life after death, with reference to 1 Cor. 15 Catholic belief in resurrection of the body in contrast to popular beliefs about survival of the soul Contrasting views about death as the end of personal existence <p>Beliefs: Eschatology</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Catholic teaching on heaven and hell with reference to the parables of judgement (Matthew 18:21-35, Luke 16:19-31) Catholic teaching on purgatory with reference to 1 Cor. 3:11-15 <p>Sources: The Magisterium</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The nature of the Catholic Magisterium and its exercise in both its ordinary and extraordinary forms by both popes (pontifical) and councils (conciliar) with reference to Evangelium Vitae (65) The nature and importance of the Second Vatican Council, its history and four key documents <p>Forms: Artefacts</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> How Christian beliefs about eternal life influenced the iconography in Christian sarcophagi, with particular reference to the Sarcophagus with Scenes of the Passion in the Museo Pio Cristiano, Vatican, Rome | <p>Crime and Punishment</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The difference between crime and sin their relationship to morality, with reference to absolutist and relativistic approaches to the morality of actions The different rationales given for criminal penalties: retribution, deterrence, rehabilitation and a critical evaluation of the justifiability of each Christian teachings about forgiveness, including interpretations of teachings: Matthew 18:21-22, Matthew 6: 14-15, with reference to the tension between forgiveness and punishment The development of Catholic teaching on capital punishment with reference to St Augustine, Letter 134(4) & 153 (3) to Macedonius and Pope John Paul II, Evangelium Vitae 56 Arguments for and against Capital punishment within Christianity, with reference to Genesis 9:6, Exodus 21:24 and Matthew 5:38 and non-religious views <p>Beliefs: Redemption</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The meaning and significance of the term "salvation" for Catholics and the role of grace and human freedom in redemption. How do Catholics believe the life, death, resurrection and ascension of Jesus saves them? The compatibility of a belief in Hell and a belief in the unconditional love of God and the universal nature of God's mercy <p>Sources: Church</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The nature of the Church as one, holy, catholic and apostolic and Mary as a model of the Church |

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| <p>Beliefs: Creation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Comparison of the first (Genesis 1:1-2:3) and second (Genesis 2:4-24) creation accounts, and their respective representations of God and human beings • The significance of the Creation narratives with regards to Catholic beliefs about the nature of human beings and their relationship with creation • A comparison of Catholic and Humanist beliefs on the importance of preserving the planet and the environment <p>Sources: The Bible</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Catholic understanding of the nature of revelation and inspiration, with reference to the structure and origins of scripture and its literary forms • Different Christian views on the literary form of Genesis and the significance of this for the interpretation of the accounts <p>Forms: Painting</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The meaning of Michelangelo's Creation of Adam in the Sistine chapel • The extent to which Michelangelo's Creation of Adam expresses Catholic beliefs about creation, God and human beings <p>Forms: Symbolism</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The use of symbolism and imagery in Christian art, with particular reference to the Tree of Life Apse mosaic in San Clemente in Rome and the meanings of the symbols contained within it, for example, the Alpha and Omega, the Chi-Rho, lamb, dove and the four evangelists • The symbol of cross as the tree of life with reference to the theology of Christ as the New Adam and how this is expressed in the San Clemente mosaic | <p>with reference to Pope John Paul II, Salvifici Doloris 13 & 23</p> <p>Sources: Jesus and moral authority</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The example and teaching of Jesus as the authoritative source for moral teaching, with reference to Jesus as the fulfilment of the law in Matthew 5-7 • The existence of the Natural Law and conscience as evidence of God's goodness and the role of suffering in the development of the virtues <p>Forms: Sculpture and Statuary</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The meaning and significance of sculpture and statues to Catholic tradition and worship • The importance of sculpture and statuary as an expression of Catholic beliefs about God's goodness and the meaning of human suffering, with reference to Michelangelo's Pieta <p>Practices: Popular devotion as practised in Catholic communities in Britain and elsewhere</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The meaning and significance of pilgrimage for Catholics as a response to human suffering, with particular reference to Lourdes • Popular piety, such as the Rosary as a reflection on the meaning and significance of the Incarnation with particular reference to the Sorrowful Mysteries | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How Christian beliefs in the resurrection are expressed by the paschal candle as it is used in the Easter Vigil and during Catholic Baptism <p>Forms: Music and the funeral rite</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The significance of different forms of music used in worship and how music expresses Catholic beliefs about eternal life, with reference to Faure's Requiem • The symbols, prayers and texts of the Catholic funeral rite in Britain and how these express Catholic beliefs about eternal life <p>Practices: Prayer within Catholic communities in Britain and elsewhere</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The significance of prayer as "the raising of the mind and heart to God", both in formulaic and extempore prayers, with particular reference to the Lord's Prayer • The meaning and significance of the Catholic practice of praying for and offering Masses for the dead | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The meanings and significance of different understandings of the Church as the 'Body of Christ' and 'the people of God' and the meaning of the claim "outside the Church there is no salvation" with reference to the Catechism of the Catholic Church 846-848 <p>Forms: Buildings</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How the sacred objects within a Church represent Catholic beliefs about salvation with particular reference to the altar and the font • How the orientation of Catholic churches and their architectural features facilitate Catholic worship and reflection on the mystery of salvation <p>Practices: Sacraments</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Catholic belief in the sacramental nature of the whole of reality and its connection to the seven sacraments: their names, meanings and effects; the meaning and significance of sacraments for a Catholic understanding of salvation • The meaning and significance of the Eucharist as "the source and summit" of Christian life and the role it plays in Catholic understanding of salvation <p>Practices: Mission and Evangelisation in Britain and elsewhere</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Catholic teaching on the imperative to evangelise and the forms this should take, with reference to Pope Francis' Evangelii Gaudium 15, 48-49, 197-198, 264-265 • How Catholic beliefs about the relationship between faith and salvation influence attitudes to mission and evangelisation locally, nationally and globally • Evangelising in Britain; benefits and challenges. Results of the 2011 census compared to the 2001 census, show an increase in diverse religious and non-religious beliefs and practices (including |

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| <p>Practices: Loving and Serving in Catholic communities in Britain and elsewhere</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">The influence of the concept of imago Dei on Catholic Social Teaching about justice, peace and reconciliation, with reference to Gaudium et Spes 29 & 78The importance of the role of the Catholic Church in inter-faith dialogue to promote understanding, respect, tolerance and harmony between the different religious and non-religious traditions in Great Britain, including: Christianity; Buddhism; Hinduism; Islam; Judaism; Sikhism; Humanism and AtheismThe extent to which the work of one Catholic charity, such as CAFOD and one local charity, such as SVP, reflect Catholic beliefs about the dignity of human beings, the importance of loving one’s neighbour, and respecting creation | | | <p>those of Christianity; Buddhism; Hinduism; Islam; Judaism; Sikhism; Humanism and Atheism), whilst also showing that over half of those who responded considered themselves Christian</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">U.K. laws, festivals and traditions are rooted in the Christian tradition. However, festivals, beliefs and cultures of other religious and non-religious traditions are also recognised and celebrated |