



GCE AS/A level

1347/01



S16-1347-01

RELIGIOUS STUDIES – RS1/2 WR
Introduction to Western Religions

A.M. THURSDAY, 19 May 2016

1 hour 15 minutes

ADDITIONAL MATERIALS

In addition to this examination paper, you will need an 8 page answer book.

INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES

Use black ink or black ball-point pen.

Answer questions from **one** section only, **either** Section A **or** Section B.

Write your answers in the separate answer book provided.

Write the number of each question you answer both alongside your answer and on the front cover of the answer book.

INFORMATION FOR CANDIDATES

Each question carries 45 marks.

The number of marks is given in brackets at the end of each part-question.

Part (a) of each question tests your knowledge and understanding.

Part (b) of each question tests your skills of reasoning and evaluation.

You are reminded of the need for good English and orderly, clear presentation in your answers.

All questions should be answered in continuous prose. Assessment will take into account the quality of written communication in all your answers.

Answer questions from **one** section only, **either** Section A or Section B.

Section A: Introduction to Islam

Answer **two** questions.

1. (a) Examine the significance for Muslims of tawhid (the concept of Allah). [30]
- (b) 'Reading the Qur'an is the only way for Muslims to understand Allah.'
Assess this view. [15]
2. (a) Explain why Muslims regard Muhammad as the perfect Muslim. [30]
- (b) 'The sources of information about Muhammad's life and example are entirely authentic.'
Assess this view. [15]
3. (a) Explain the various ways in which the mosque assists Muslims to live the Muslim way of life. [30]
- (b) 'Mosques are not essential to Islam.'
Assess this view. [15]
4. (a) Examine Muslim beliefs about the importance of family life. [30]
- (b) 'Islamic teachings on family life and dress discriminate against women.'
Assess this view. [15]

Section B: Introduction to Judaism

Answer two questions.

1. (a) Examine the role and significance of Moses in relation to the laws of Judaism. [30]
- (b) 'There is no agreement in Judaism today about the authority of the Law of Moses.'
Assess this view. [15]
2. (a) Explain the nature of Jewish worship. [30]
- (b) 'Worship is no longer important to Jews except at special events.'
Assess this view. [15]
3. (a) Explain how the practices of Shabbat reflect Jewish beliefs about Shabbat. [30]
- (b) 'Shabbat observance is not essential for Judaism today.'
Assess this view. [15]
4. (a) Examine the beliefs and practices in **two** Jewish life cycle rituals. [30]
- (b) 'The life cycle rituals of Judaism are essential in the 21st Century.'
Assess this view. [15]

END OF PAPER