



National  
Qualifications  
2025

**X864/77/11**

**Religious, Moral and  
Philosophical Studies**

FRIDAY, 30 MAY

9:00 AM – 12:00 NOON

**Total marks — 90**

**SECTION 1 — PHILOSOPHY OF RELIGION — 45 marks**

Attempt **EITHER** question 1 **OR** question 2

**THEN** attempt question 3.

**SECTION 2 — 45 marks**

Attempt **EITHER** Part A **OR** Part B

**Part A — RELIGIOUS EXPERIENCE — 45 marks**

Attempt **EITHER** question 4 **OR** question 5

**THEN** attempt question 6

**Part B — MEDICAL ETHICS — 45 marks**

Attempt **EITHER** question 7 **OR** question 8

**THEN** attempt question 9.

Write your answers clearly in the answer booklet provided. In the answer booklet you must clearly identify the question number you are attempting.

Use **blue** or **black** ink.

Before leaving the examination room you must give your answer booklet to the Invigilator; if you do not, you may lose all the marks for this paper.



\* X 8 6 4 7 7 1 1 \*

**SECTION 1 — PHILOSOPHY OF RELIGION — 45 marks**

Attempt **EITHER** question 1 **OR** question 2 **THEN** attempt question 3.

- |  |    |
|--|----|
| 1. 'Given the improbability of God, it is unlikely that God exists'.<br>To what extent do you agree? | 30 |
| 2. 'Aquinas' cosmological arguments do not prove God's existence'.<br>To what extent do you agree?   | 30 |

Read the following source and attempt question 3.

'But the design argument still lives, as an argument that the precise structure of laws and constants that seem uniquely fitted to produce life by a process of evolution is highly improbable. The existence of a designer or creator God makes this much less improbable.'

*Keith Ward*

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| 3. (a) Describe what is meant by the teleological argument. | 5 |
| (b) Analyse this source.                                    | 5 |
| (c) Evaluate this source.                                   | 5 |

## SECTION 2 — 45 marks

## Part A — Religious Experience

Attempt this Part if you have studied Religious Experience.

Attempt EITHER question 4 OR question 5 THEN attempt question 6.

- |  |    |
|--|----|
| 4. How effective are sociological accounts in developing our understanding of religious experience?  | 30 |
| 5. How effective are meditative experiences in developing our understanding of religious experience? | 30 |

Read the following source and attempt question 6.

‘Religious experiences are real just like any other feelings we have. We can study them like we study our thoughts and emotions. It’s kind of like looking at what goes on in our minds beneath the surface, like when we dream.’

*William James*

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| 6. (a) Describe what is meant by James’ idea of religious experience. | 5 |
| (b) Analyse this source.  | 5 |
| (c) Evaluate this source.   | 5 |

[Turn over

**Part B — Medical Ethics**

**Attempt this Part if you have studied Medical Ethics.**

Attempt **EITHER** question 7 **OR** question 8 **THEN** attempt question 9.

7. To what extent do you agree that organ allocation is **not** a moral issue? 30

8. To what extent do you agree that assisted dying is **not** a moral issue? 30

Read the following source and attempt question 9.

‘Nobody is morally required to make large sacrifices, of health, of all other interests and concerns, of all duties and commitments, for nine years, or even nine months, in order to keep another person alive . . .’

*Judith Jarvis Thomson*

9. (a) Describe what is meant by abortion. 5

(b) Analyse this source. 5

(c) Evaluate this source. 5

**[END OF QUESTION PAPER]**