

COURSE PROGRAM

Unit 1 Religion in society

This unit begins with an exploration of the origins of religion, identifying the nature and purpose of religion past and present, and their common features. Next, there is an investigation of the contribution of religion to the development of human society in general, and finally, exploration of religion's contribution to shaping personal and group identity. The unit also examines how religious traditions are affected and changed by individuals and groups. There are three areas of study in which students will investigate the following key knowledge points.

Area of Study 1 The religious world		Chapter	1-hr lesson allocation-17	Assessed tasks
Outcome 1: An explanation of the role of religion in society.				
1	The nature and purpose of religion, past and present.	1	4	1
2	The contributions, both positive and negative, of religion in general to the development of human society.	3	2	
3	Features common to religions, including the eight aspects: beliefs, myths and other stories, sacred texts and other religious writings, rituals, symbols, social structures, ethical principles and oral or written codes of behaviour, religious experience and spirituality.	2, 8.2, 11, 12	5	2
4	The importance of the eight aspects of religion to specific religious traditions.	2, 8.2, 11, 12	2	3
5	The characteristics and contributions of at least two religious traditions.	2-4, 11, 12	4	
Area of Study 2 Religious traditions in Australia		Chapter	1-hr lesson allocation-17	Assessed tasks
Outcome 2: An explanation of the expression of collective identity of particular religious traditions in Australia, and the interaction of these traditions with other religious traditions and the wider society.				
6	The distribution and adherence to major religions in the world and in Australia today.	4	2	1
7	The expression of collective identity by religious traditions in Australia through their history and relevant aspects of religion.	4	5	2
8	Instances of interaction between different religious traditions in Australia.	5	5	
9	Instances of interaction between different religious traditions in Australia and the wider national society of which they are a part.	5	5	
Area of Study 3 Religious identity and life experience (focus on Australia)		Chapter	1-hr lesson allocation-17	Assessed tasks
Outcome 3: Recognition and discussion of the interplay between the identity of members, as individuals or as specific communities, and their religious tradition.				
10	The impact of life experiences on identity.	6	2	1
11	The personal meaning and identity that is found and further developed through engagement with relevant aspects of religion.	6	3	
12	The ways particular aspects of religion may assist members to find and further develop personal meaning and identity.	6	2	
13	The ways religious traditions can assist members through personal life passages and events.	6	2	2
14	Specific occasions when members have been challenged by their religious tradition to change and grow.	6	3	
15	The tension that can occur between members and a religious tradition over issues of authority, freedom, interpretation of beliefs and teaching, and behaviour.	6	3	
16	The extent to which the expectations, judgements and involvement of members can contribute to the development of a religious tradition.	6	2	