

### 1. Philosophical Language and Thought

Learners will study significant concepts and issues in the philosophy of religion through the works of key thinkers

Topic	Content	Key Knowledge
Ancient philosophical influences*	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• the philosophical views of Plato, in relation to:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ understanding of reality</li> <li>○ the Forms</li> <li>○ the analogy of the cave</li> </ul> </li> <li>• the philosophical views of Aristotle, in relation to:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ understanding of reality</li> <li>○ the four causes</li> <li>○ the Prime Mover</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Plato's reliance on reason as opposed to the senses</li> <li>• the nature of the Forms; hierarchy of the Forms</li> <li>• details of the analogy, its purpose and relation to the theory of the Forms</li> <li>• Aristotle's use of teleology</li> <li>• material, formal, efficient and final causes</li> <li>• the nature of Aristotle's Prime Mover and connections between this and the final cause</li> </ul>
<p>Learners should have the opportunity to discuss issues related to the ideas of Plato and Aristotle, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• comparison and evaluation of Plato's Form of the Good and Aristotle's Prime Mover</li> <li>• comparison and evaluation of Plato's reliance on reason (rationalism) and Aristotle's use of the senses (empiricism) in their attempts to make sense of reality</li> </ul>		
<p><b>Contextual references</b></p> <p><i>For reference, the ideas of Plato and Aristotle listed above can be found in:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Plato, <i>Republic</i> Book 474c–480; 506b–509c; 509d–511e; 514a–517c</li> <li>• Aristotle, <i>Physics</i> II.3 and <i>Metaphysics</i> V.2</li> </ul> <p><b>Suggested scholarly views, academic approaches and sources of wisdom and authority</b></p> <p><i>Learners will be given credit for referring to any <b>appropriate</b> scholarly views, academic approaches and sources of wisdom and authority, however the following examples may prove useful</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Annas, J. (1998) <i>An Introduction to Plato's Republic</i>, Oxford University Press, Chapters 9 and 10</li> <li>• Stanford Encyclopedia of Philosophy (2004, rev.2013), <i>Plato</i>, <a href="http://plato.stanford.edu/entries/plato/">http://plato.stanford.edu/entries/plato/</a></li> </ul>		