

The Nobel School Sixth Form
Reading, Watching and Listening List Summer 2021
A Level Philosophy, Ethics & DCT



In year 12 you will study a range of philosophy, ethics and development in Christian thought units. These include a study and application of different ethical theories such as natural law, utilitarianism. Philosophy units include Plato and Aristotle, Soul, Mind and Body, and Arguments for the existence of God. DCT topics include looking at Aristotle's views on Human nature, studying different views on the person of Jesus. At this stage though we want you to start with the basics! You will find that you have something to read, watch and listen to for all 3 units.

Why this work?



Before starting the course it is really useful to have some background knowledge about what philosophy and ethics is so the first preparation for sixth form study will focus on this to help you understand how the approaches and ways of thinking in this subject are very different to what you might be used to. You might find that people are using vocabulary that you have never heard and also ideas that you've never come across. Don't worry - remember we will go through all of this when we teach you! We just want you to begin to develop some knowledge and understanding in these areas.


Where should I complete it?


Please complete any notes either on paper or on computer upload them to Teams for me to look through.



How long will it take?


The first set of work should take you around 4.5 hours in total (approximately 1.5 hours for each unit), please do not feel you need to spend longer than this but if you get interested it is also fine to read more around the topic.

A-Level topic: An Introduction to Philosophy		TASK
 Something to read	'The Man Who Asked Questions: Socrates and Plato' by Nigel Warburton, <i>A Little History of Philosophy</i>	1) Read the information from start to finish 2) Write a brief summary of what philosophy is about 3) Write a list of 10 interesting things you've learnt about each Socrates and Plato
 Something to watch	What is Philosophy (Crash Course) https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1A_CAKYt3GY Theory of Knowledge (Epistemology) https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=r_Y3utleTPg	1) Watch each of the videos one at a time. We recommend watching it once fully without making notes and then a second time to be able to write things down that you found interesting. 2) Summarise the main ideas of each video in no more than 3 sentences. Make sure you include subheadings in your notes.

	<p>Introduction to arguments: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=n2ziJThtk&feature=youtu.be&fbclid=IwAR1VGVhziNjuL-s4B4w7K2h3Xlqi37Q66p0idrqUnQpdrCvyDzqyDfAi0k</p> <p>Pascal's wager: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sgTNvUHXqLQ&feature=youtu.be&fbclid=IwAR1Cid80kZ0mdTeg3lVySUIKEesBHuD0lijAzJYamihy5SGpiFvk6KZ0jg</p>	<p>3) Watch the video on how to make an argument, make notes and then complete the tasks at the end of the video.</p> <p>4) Watch the video on Pascal's Wager, take notes and then complete the tasks at the end.</p>
 Something to listen to	<p>MM McCabe on the 'Socratic Method' [13 minutes]</p> <p>https://podcasts.apple.com/v/podcast/m-m-mccabe-on-socratic-method/id257042117?i=1000131585315</p> <p>If the link doesn't work, google 'Philosophy Bites' and search directly from there.</p>	<p>1) Listen to the podcast which deals with questions about what are the best ways to do practical ethics and work out how to behave? As you listen, write a list of possible answers to these questions</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Who was Socrates? How do we know about the life and views of Socrates? What is the socratic method? What was Socrates trying to show people through using this method? Why was the socratic method controversial to some people? What does McCabe think Socrates means when he says 'the unexamined life is not worth living'? What might be the problems with examining all aspects of life? Is there something we can learn from Socrates today? Why is questioning and reflecting important? Are there any problems? (e.g. with exams, courses).



A-Level topic: An Introduction to Ethics	TASK	
 Something to read	What is Ethics (handout)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Read the information from start to finish Write a list of 10 interesting things you've learnt about ethics, trying to focus on any new vocabulary you have learnt.

 <p>Something to watch</p>	<p>Moral Relativism: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5RU7M6JJSVtk</p> <p>Deontology: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wWZi-8Wji7M</p> <p>Consequentialism: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=51DZteag74A</p> <p>Virtue Ethics: https://www.youtube.com/watch?time_continue=92&v=NMBiKpkKYao&feature=emb_logo</p>	<p>5) Watch each of the videos one at a time. We recommend watching it once fully without making notes and then a second time to be able to write things down that you found interesting.</p> <p>6) Summarise the main ideas of each video in no more than 3 sentences. Make sure you include subheadings in your notes.</p>
 <p>Something to listen to</p>	<p>James Wilson 'Real World Ethics' [20 minutes] https://philosophybites.com/2019/10/james-wilson-on-real-world-ethics.html</p> <p>If the link doesn't work, google 'Philosophy Bites' and is on the main home page.</p>	<p>2) Listen to the podcast which deals with questions about what are the best ways to do practical ethics and work out how to behave? As you listen, write a list of possible answers to these questions</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> What are thought experiments? (Give an example). What is Wilson's view on the use of thought experiments? What is meant by real world ethics? How are real world problems different from thought experiments? Why does context matter when thinking about ethical issues (according to Wilson)? Aside from thought experiments, what other techniques or tools could be used to help make ethical decisions? What does Wilson think about the use of principles in ethics? (strengths/weaknesses)

A-Level topic: An Introduction to DCT	TASK
 <p>Something to read</p>	<p>Read the accounts in the gospels of the resurrection of Jesus (you could use biblegateway.com if you don't have a Bible at home)</p> <p>Matthew 28:1 – 10</p> <p>Mark 16: 1 – 8</p> <p>Luke 24: 1 – 10</p>

After reading the gospel accounts complete the following questions:

- Do you find these stories convincing? Why, or why not?
- Do you think the stories contradict each other, or are they just told from different points of view, in your opinion?
- What might account for the differences and the similarities between the stories?

	John 20: 1 – 18	
 Something to watch	<p>Watch this documentary, 'Barra Boy'</p> <p>https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nhGX1YCsvAM</p>	<p>Complete the following tasks after watching the documentary:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Do you think the story provides convincing evidence for reincarnation? Why, or why not? 2. What do you think counts as 'convincing evidence' for life after death (e.g. scripture, near death experiences, nothing)? What makes evidence convincing or unconvincing?
 Something to listen to	<p>Militant Atheism by Dawkins:</p> <p>https://www.ted.com/talks/richard_dawkins_militant_atheism?language=en</p> <p>Alistair McGrath "The Dawkins Delusion":</p> <p>https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ApucKBxhYco</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Watch the following TED talks seminar: Richard Dawkins – militant atheism • Then to write a personal response to Dawkins saying if they agree or disagree with his arguments. • Now watch the response to Dawkins by Alistair McGrath who wrote the book "The Dawkins' Delusion" to give a counter argument to Dawkins. Make notes. • Who do you agree with most and why?