**AL Religious Studies (RS) Induction Activity**

Understanding Academic Religious Studies

There are many reasons why someone may wish to study RS at advanced level. This activity is designed to help you understand what studying religion involves, what skills are needed and to then assess whether it sounds like the right course for you.

1. Why do want to study RS?
2. Read the article below.

[https://www.swarthm https://www.swarthmore.edu/religion/why-study-religionore.edu/religion/why-study-religion](https://www.swarthmore.edu/religion/why-study-religion)

1. Summarise the main ideas in this article using the paragraph headings.
2. Which ideas interest you? Explain why.
3. Write down all new ideas you discover, look up the meaning of words you do not understand.

**Research Task**

Look up the OCR RS Advanced Level specification.

Read the sections on:

1. Philosophy of Religion
2. Religious Ethics
3. Developments in Christian Thought.

Pick one topic from each paper that you would like to explore and do some research about your chosen topics.



Reflection

After doing this activity, are you more likely or less likely to consider taking RS at advanced level?

Explain your thinking.

**To Think About**

What do you think about this idea?

Why does Dawkins think this?