STUDY OF RELIGION

You have set eternity in the hearts of man. Ecclesiastes 3:11.

Since the beginning of time humanity has sought meaning, seeking the answers to the great questions of purpose, creation and eternity. In this course we will explore these powerful belief systems that have shaped the globe.

It is a compelling story of brokenness and conflict, as well as healing and hope. Throughout the Studies of Religion course, students will engage with a wide array of thought-provoking topics, including:
Sacred Texts and religious writings:

In Unit 1, students are introduced to the five major world religions of:
• Judaism,
• Christianity,
• Islam,
• Hinduism, and
• Buddhism, and to
• Australian Aboriginal spiritualities, as a foundation to the course of study.

Religion and Ritual: In Unit 2, students build on their understandings of Judaism, Christianity, Islam, Hinduism, Buddhism, Australian Aboriginal spiritualities and Torres Strait Islander religion as they investigate religious rituals that mark significant moments and events in the religion itself and in the lives of adherents.

Religious Ethics: In this unit students study the religious foundations that form and inform ethical principles within different religious traditions. Students apply religious–ethical principles and theories to real-life contexts and evaluate how they influence people, society and culture.

Religion, rights, and the nation state: In Unit 4, students consider how religion affects and influences people's understanding of culture, history, politics, and social interaction. Within this context, issues of rights and religion–state relationships are considered. Students investigate how religions seek to shape or are shaped by their social, cultural, and political contexts.

By exploring these key themes and topics, students will gain a deeper understanding of the multifaceted nature of religion and its profound impact on individuals, communities, and the world at large.

Reference: QCAA 2019, Studies of Religion Syllabus.