



**GCE AS/A level**

1347/01

**RELIGIOUS STUDIES**

**RS1/2 WR - Introduction to Western Religions**

A.M. TUESDAY, 17 January 2012

1¼ hours

#### **ADDITIONAL MATERIALS**

In addition to this examination paper, you will need an 8 page answer book.

#### **INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES**

Use black ink or black ball-point pen.

Answer questions from **one** section only, **either** Section A **or** Section B.

Write your answers in the separate answer book provided.

Write the number of each question you answer both alongside your answer and on the front cover of the answer book.

#### **INFORMATION FOR CANDIDATES**

All questions carry 45 marks.

The number of marks is given in brackets at the end of each part-question.

Part *(a)* of each question tests your knowledge and understanding.

Part *(b)* of each question tests your skills of reasoning and evaluation.

You are reminded of the need for good English and orderly, clear presentation in your answers.

All questions should be answered in continuous prose. Assessment will take into account the quality of written communication in all your answers.

*Answer questions from one section only, either Section A or Section B.*

**Section A: Introduction to Islam**

*Answer two questions.*

1. (a) Examine the use of the Qur'an as the basis of shari'a law. [30]  
(b) 'Obedience to Qur'anic teaching is not practical for Muslims in today's society.'  
Assess this view. [15]
  
2. (a) Explain how Muhammad fulfilled his role as a prophet after the hijrah. [30]  
(b) 'Muhammad was the author of the Qur'an.'  
Assess this view. [15]
  
3. (a) Explain the practice and significance of salah. [30]  
(b) 'Salah is the most difficult of the Five Pillars for Muslims.'  
Assess this view. [15]
  
4. (a) Explain Muslim beliefs and practices in relation to divorce. [30]  
(b) 'Arranged marriages ensure that divorce is rare in Islam.'  
Assess this view. [15]

**Section B: Introduction to Judaism**

*Answer two questions.*

1. (a) Explain the role of Moses in relation to the exodus from Egypt. [30]  
(b) 'Stories about Moses are no longer relevant to Judaism.'  
Assess this view. [15]
  
2. (a) Explain the main features of synagogue worship. [30]  
(b) 'Worship at home is now more important to Jews than synagogue worship.'  
Assess this view. [15]
  
3. (a) Explain the practice and religious significance of Rosh Hashanah. [30]  
(b) 'Jewish festival observance is more social than religious.'  
Assess this view. [15]
  
4. (a) Explain Jewish practices in relation to birth customs. [30]  
(b) 'Traditional life cycle rituals strengthen Jewish family life.'  
Assess this view. [15]