

EXCEPTIONAL

TEACHING

EXCEPTIONAL

EXPERIENCE

PHILOSOPHY



Launceston Sixth

Part of the Athena Learning Trust

Subject Information
For admissions in September

Philosophy

Exam Board: AQA

Qualification Title: A-Level Philosophy (7172)

Specification Link:

<https://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/philosophy/a-level/philosophy-7172/specification>

Unit Titles:

- Epistemology
- Moral philosophy
- Metaphysics of God
- Metaphysics of mind

Unit 1 Epistemology:

Epistemology is the study of knowledge, focusing on its definition and types, including propositional, acquaintance, and practical knowledge. It examines the classic tripartite definition (justified true belief) and challenges like Gettier cases. Key debates include rationalism (knowledge via reason) versus empiricism (knowledge via experience), and the role of skepticism in questioning knowledge certainty.

Unit 2 Moral Philosophy:

Moral philosophy examines key ethical theories, including utilitarianism (maximizing collective happiness), Kantian deontology (duty-based ethics), and Aristotelian virtue ethics (character-focused). It addresses challenges like moral relativism and critiques of absolutism, applying these theories to issues such as euthanasia, theft, and simulated killing.

Unit 3 Metaphysics of God:

The metaphysics of God explores philosophical arguments on God's existence and nature, including the ontological, cosmological, and teleological arguments. It addresses challenges like the problem of evil and critiques from atheism and agnosticism, and examines God's attributes (omnipotence, omniscience, benevolence) along with issues of religious language.

Unit 4 Metaphysics of mind:

The metaphysics of mind explores the nature of consciousness and its relationship to the body. It covers key theories like dualism (mind and body as distinct), physicalism (mind as physical), and functionalism (mental states as brain functions). It addresses issues like the problem of other minds and challenges such as epiphenomenalism, evaluating whether the mind can be fully explained physically or if it entails more.

Entry Requirements:

5 GCSE's at 5-9 including minimum of Grade 6 in English Language and Grade 5 in Maths and English Literature.

Possible Progression Routes:

Studying A-level Philosophy opens diverse progression routes across various fields. It provides a strong foundation for pursuing degrees in philosophy, law, politics, or theology, where critical thinking and ethical reasoning are key. It also benefits careers in journalism, education, and public policy, due to its focus on analytical skills and complex problem-solving. Many students also progress into roles in business, consulting, or tech ethics, where philosophical insight helps in decision-making and innovation. Philosophy graduates are valued for their ability to think critically and approach issues from multiple perspectives.

Subject Contact:

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How to apply?

To apply to Launceston Sixth please complete our online application form:

www.launcestoncollege.uk/sixth-form

Our admissions team will then be in contact to arrange a Sixth Form interview to discuss your options, your aspirations, and to provide advice and guidance on your next steps.

If you cannot access the website or would like to submit a paper based application please email or call.

sixthform@launcestoncollege.uk

01566 771855

Further details about all of the courses we offer can be found on our website.