

VCE Religion and Society 2017–2021

Written examination – End of year

Examination specifications

Overall conditions

The examination will be sat at a time and date to be set annually by the Victorian Curriculum and Assessment Authority (VCAA). VCAA examination rules will apply. Details of these rules are published annually in the *VCE and VCAL Administrative Handbook*.

There will be 15 minutes reading time and 2 hours writing time.

The examination will be marked by a panel appointed by the VCAA.

The examination will contribute 50 per cent to the study score.

Content

The *VCE Religion and Society Study Design 2017–2021* is the document for the development of the examination. All outcomes in Units 3 and 4 will be examined.

All of the key knowledge and skills that underpin the outcomes in Units 3 and 4 are examinable.

Format

The examination will be in the form of a question and answer book.

The examination will consist of two sections.

Section A will consist of short-answer questions and will be worth a total of 30 marks.

Section B will consist of extended-answer questions, including some with multiple parts. At least two questions will not have multiple parts and will be worth 10 marks each. Section B will be worth a total of 50 marks.

The examination may include questions that refer to visual and/or written material.

All questions will be compulsory. The total marks for the examination will be 80.

Answers are to be recorded in the spaces provided in the question and answer book.

Approved materials and equipment

Pens, pencils, highlighters, erasers, sharpeners and rulers

Relevant references

The following publications should be referred to in relation to the VCE Religion and Society examination:

- *VCE Religion and Society Study Design 2017–2021*
- *VCE Religion and Society – Advice for teachers 2017–2021* (includes assessment advice)
- *VCAA Bulletin*

Advice

During the 2017–2021 accreditation period for VCE Religion and Society, examinations will be prepared according to the examination specifications above. Each examination will conform to these specifications and will test a representative sample of the key knowledge and skills from all outcomes in Units 3 and 4.

For each area of study in Units 3 and 4, students study one or more religious traditions or denominations. Teachers and students should note that some examination questions may require responses on one religious tradition or denomination only. Other examination questions may allow responses on one or more religious traditions or denominations, and students will be able to access the full range of available marks regardless of whether they respond using one or more than one religious tradition or denomination.

Examination questions may relate to one or more areas of study. The weighting of examination questions will reflect approximately the weighting of the outcomes in the study design.

Students should use command/task words, other instructional information within questions and corresponding mark allocations to guide their responses.

A separate document containing a sample examination has been published on the 'Religion and Society – Exams and Examination Reports' page on the VCAA website.

The sample examination provides an indication of the format of the examination, and the types of questions teachers and students can expect until the current accreditation period is over.

The VCAA does not provide answers to sample examinations.