

AS RS and Philosophy Conference

November 30, 2009 in Central London (C401) Conference starts at 11.00am and ends no later than 4:30pm

As one of the most experienced organisers of student conferences our aim is always to give you a memorable and useful day. Many regular clients tell us that our conferences are great motivators - events they always look forward to. We hope to welcome you!

Programme *

Key issues for AS

Near-Death experiences - Dr John Frye, senior examiner and author

John will investigate accounts of out-of-body and near-death experiences, to give an opinion on whether they tell us what it is like to die. Some of the recorded phenomena are amazing, and some researchers believe that they transcend all religious boundaries.

Religious experience - Dr Mel Thompson, author and former senior examiner

In this session, Mel will look at the variety of religious experiences to ask whether or not they can be used as evidence for the existence of God.

Kantian Ethics - Oliver McAdoo, senior examiner and author

Kant never travelled more than a hundred miles from his home town of Königsberg. Oliver will consider whether a man of so limited experience of the world was well qualified to produce a system of morality which expected all people to obey absolutely.

Where does the idea of God come from? - Oliver McAdoo

Descartes believed that the idea of God is innate – built into the human mind from birth. Others see the idea of God as an ideology, an idealized projection of humanity, a neurosis, or an environmental by-product. Oliver will give an overview of these different conclusions.

Religious Language - Dr Mel Thompson

Does it make sense to say that we can know and speak about God? Mel will give a survey of the debate about the meaningfulness (or meaninglessness) of 'God-talk'.

The Created World and the Environment - Dr John Frye

What duties do humans have to non-humans and to the environment as a whole? John will investigate whether or not religious views about the created world are environmentally destructive or environmentally friendly.

Freedom and determinism - Oliver McAdoo

Before we can be free to make a moral decision, we have to be happy (1) that scientific laws are not totally deterministic, (2) that God's omniscience doesn't remove freedom before we start, and (3) that the 'I' that chooses even exists to begin with. Oliver will attempt to answer these questions.

Hume's argument about miracles - Dr John Frye

Hume's inductive argument about miracles centres around his 'proof', that he thought certain, that they cannot possibly happen. John will make Hume's point clear (and thereby perform a miracle!!!).

Brief outlines of related conferences

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AS PSYCHOLOGY (C406)

December 10, 2009
in Central London

- **Memory and eyewitness testimony**, Professor Graham Davies, University of Leicester
- **Attachment and privation**, Professor Jacqueline Barnes, University of London
- **Stress and its management**, Dr Simon Green, Chief Examiner, University of London
- **Social influence and social change**, Mike Cardwell, former Chief Examiner, Bath Spa University
- **Treatments for abnormality**, Dr Martin Humphreys, Broadmoor High Security Hospital
- **Answering questions on research methods**, Hugh Coolican, Author, Coventry University
- **Top Tips for AS success**, Dr Simon Green, Chief Examiner, University of London

AS/A2 SOCIOLOGY (C403)

November 16, 2009
in Central London

- **Is there really more crime today?** Professor Jock Young, University of Kent
- **The challenge of dealing with research**, Dr Steve Taylor, LSE
- **What's happening to families?** Professor Ros Edwards, London South Bank University
- **Important changes happening in education today?** Sophie Moullin
- **The state of religion 2009**, Dr Kristin Aune, University of Derby,
- **Gender/women**, Dr Alison Phipps, University of Sussex
- **Class and stratification – the record in the UK!** James Turner, The Sutton Trust
- **How to achieve your best in Sociology**, Jonathan Blundell, Senior Examiner

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