


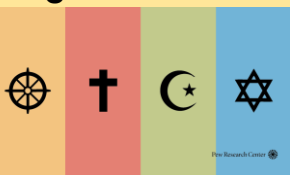
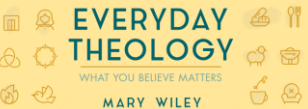
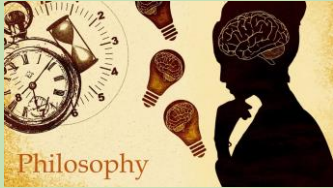






BVC: What Is Religion and What Is Truth?


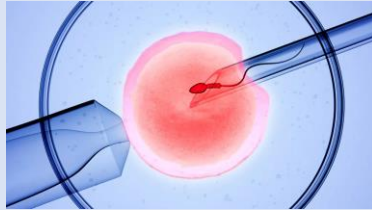



1. Key Terms

Beliefs 	An acceptance that something exists or is true, especially one without proof.
Values 	Principles or standards of behaviour; a judgement of what is important in life.
Citizenship 	Learning about and getting involved in public life.
Religion 	A particular system of faith and worship
Theology 	Questions about belief: what it is, where it has come from, how it has changed over time and how it is applied in different contexts

2. More Key Terms

Philosophy 	Questions about the nature of reality, existence and knowledge
Social Science 	Questions about the way that religion and beliefs are lived and the impact they can have at an individual, communal and societal level
Worldview 	a particular philosophy of life or conception of the world
Knowledge 	Facts, information, and skills acquired through experience or education
Truth 	That which is true or in accordance with fact or reality

3. A Few More Key Terms!

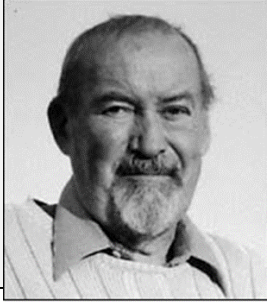
'Ultimate' Questions 	Questions which we may never know the answer to
In Vitro Fertilisation (IVF) 	The process of creating an embryo outside of the body and then implanting it in to the uterus
Free Will 	The freedom to make choices for yourself.
Soul 	The non-physical part of a person; the part of a person that Christians believe connects with God.
Anatta 	The doctrine of "non-self" – that there is no unchanging, permanent self or soul.

BVC: What Is Religion and What Is Truth

4. What Is Religion? - Overview

- ❖ Religion is a particular system of faith and worship.
- ❖ Ninian Smart looked at the features that religions have in common and came up with 7 dimensions:

1. Beliefs and teachings
2. Rules
3. Feelings
4. Social
5. Material
6. Rituals
7. Stories



7. What Is A Worldview? - Overview

- ❖ A worldview is a particular philosophy of life or conception of the world.
- ❖ Our own worldview journey is personal and will be shaped by our own individual background, family, and cultural influences.
- ❖ Worldviews differ from person to person.



- ❖ Value is the relative worth, merit, or importance of something.
- ❖ What we believe affects what we value and how we behave. E.g. someone who believes in life after death affects the way they value their life and makes them want to behave well so that they will be rewarded in their afterlife.
- ❖ Christians and Muslims believe in the **Sanctity of Life**- The belief that only God has the right to create and end life.

5. Why Do We Have Religion? – Overview

- ❖ Many people need religion for the following reasons:
- ❖ It can explain the origins of life.
- ❖ Religion can give hope that there is a life after death.
- ❖ Most religions contain stories that can offer hope/calm
- ❖ Religion can bond communities together
- ❖ It can offer answers to 'ultimate' questions.
- ❖ Religion offers guidance/help – a deity to pray to, to give strength.

8. What Is Truth? -Overview

- ❖ A truth is a fact or belief that is accepted as true.
- ❖ There are different types of truths – some examples are scientific, moral, spiritual and historical.
- ❖ Many people would say for something to be true, there needs to be empirical evidence
- ❖ Some people would argue that beliefs can't be truths as they don't always have evidence
- **Truth** – A fact or belief accepted as true.
- **Belief** - the feeling of certainty that something exists or is true.
- **Knowledge** - Justified true belief (a belief that is true and can be evidenced).



10. How Should We Value Human Life?- Overview

6. How To Study BVC Through Different lenses - Overview

- ❖ BVC is a 'multidisciplinary' subject
- ❖ The 3 core disciplines used in BVC lessons are theology, philosophy and the social sciences.
- ❖ We all have our own lenses which will have developed from our life experiences and learning!
- ❖ Your personal lense may change as you learn and experience more.



9. Scientific & Religious Truths-Overview

- ❖ '**Ultimate**' questions are questions which we may never know the answer to. Religious truths try to answer some of these questions
- ❖ Science and religion often respond in different ways to different situations.
- ❖ For example, **In Vitro Fertilisation (IVF)**- The process of creating an embryo outside of the body and then implanting it in to the uterus – a scientific approach may be to embrace this due to the advances in technology. Some religious views, however, may believe this goes against nature.

11. What Makes Us Human? - Overview

- ❖ **Freewill** = Humans having a choice about how they live - what they believe, what they value and how they behave.
- ❖ Christians believe that God created us to be spiritual beings like him. God keeps in touch with humans through their spirit. This might be through prayer or an experience such as a magnificent sunset.
- ❖ Buddhists believe there is no such thing as the 'self'. This teaching is called 'Anatta'. If you take away our body, mind etc. we no longer exist, it's only the force of our good or bad actions which lives on (**Karma**).