



### What is the difference between 1 Unit and 2 Unit Studies of Religion?

Barker offers two pathways in completing Studies of Religion: 1 Unit accelerated and 2 Unit.

1. In 2023, Barker will offer 1 Unit Studies of Religion as an accelerated course to students in Year 11. The Preliminary and HSC course will be completed in 2023 with students sitting the HSC examination at the end of Year 11 (October 2023). For the appropriate candidate, this is an excellent opportunity to experience the rigours of HSC study while still in Year 11.

2. The 2 Unit course will still run as usual, completing the Preliminary Course in 2023 and the HSC Course in 2024.

1 Unit and 2 Unit Studies of Religion have three common units. 2 Unit Studies of Religion has an additional three units.

1 Unit has a 1.5 hour exam while 2 Unit has a 3 hour exam. Both courses fit within the regular timetable as a 7 period block.

### What is the benefit in studying 1 Unit accelerated Studies of Religion?

Some students would find an advantage of completing an HSC subject before they start Year 12. This would allow them to study more units for the HSC without having to juggle them all in their final year. Studying an HSC subject in Year 11 allows students to understand the rigour of the HSC which could positively affect their study habits across all their subjects in Year 12.

### What are the requirements for a student applying for 1 Unit accelerated Studies of Religion?

- The timetable has space for a student to take six 2U subjects. Accelerated 1U Studies of Religion would take one of these spaces. This means students must take an extension unit in Mathematics and/or English in order to have enough Preliminary units.
- Students are unable to drop their extension units and continue with 1U accelerated Studies of Religion as this would leave them with fewer than 12 units. (unless they study both Extension Mathematics and English)
- This is not a course where students can try for a short period of time and then opt out. Because of the eligibility requirements to complete the Preliminary course, students must complete 12 units. Changes to subjects can only occur in the first four weeks of Year 11.

- Students are expected to meet their obligation of completing the course. The school will support students to meet these expectations.
- Students taking this pathway will be required to study a minimum of ten (10) units when they are in their Year 12 year. This means they will have accumulated at least 11 units for their HSC and ATAR. Taking this course is not designed to provide a significantly reduced workload in Year 12 (i.e. 9 units). However, it will allow students to 'bank' a 1U subject at the end of Year 11 and therefore have some insurance if they don't perform as well in one of their other subjects.
- There will be an application and selection process for choosing the appropriate candidates. Please see website for a link to apply.

### What is the workload for the 1 Unit accelerated course?

- As the course moves at an accelerated rate, students are expected to be highly motivated and highly organised. Students will complete regular homework and summary notes for submission. Students will also complete their assessment tasks more frequently, due to the accelerated nature of the course. Students will complete the Preliminary Course in Term 1 2023 and the HSC course in Terms 2 and 3 2023. Students will sit their Trial HSC exams early in Term 3 and their HSC exams early in Term 4. Because of the compacted nature of the course, some work may need to be completed in the vacation break.

### What type of student would apply for studying 2 Unit Studies of Religion?

- Students looking for an additional 2 Unit of study in Years 11 and Year 12 are the ideal candidate. For some students, studying at the regular pace and completing the regular requirements of a 2 Unit subject is more beneficial. Students who are interested in history, society and culture, various religions, cultures and worldviews will thoroughly enjoy the in-depth nature of this course.

## How is the course structured?

### 1 Unit accelerated

<b>Preliminary Course</b> Term 1	<b>Duration</b> Indicative hours
<b>Nature of Religion and Beliefs</b> Includes Aboriginal spiritualities	16
<b>Religious tradition study 1: Islam</b> Includes origins, development, beliefs, practices	22
<b>Religious Tradition Study 2: Christianity</b> Includes origins, development, beliefs, practices	22
<b>Total</b>	<b>60</b>

<b>HSC Course</b> Term 2 and Term 3	<b>Duration</b> Indicative hours
<b>Religion and Belief Systems in Australia post-1945</b> Includes current religious trends, Aboriginal spiritualities	16
<b>Religious Tradition Depth Study 1: Islam</b> A significant person, ethic and practice	22
<b>Religious Tradition Depth Study 2: Christianity</b> A significant person, ethic and practice	22
<b>Total</b>	<b>60</b>

### 2 Unit – ALL of the above PLUS

<b>Preliminary Course</b>	<b>Duration</b> Indicative hours
<b>Religion in Australia pre-1945</b> Includes the establishment development and contribution of religion in Australia pre-1945	16
<b>Religious Tradition Depth Study 3: Buddhism</b> Includes origins, development, beliefs, practices	22
<b>Religions of Ancient Origin</b> Study of two ancient religions – Nordic, Shinto	22
<b>Total</b>	<b>60</b>

<b>HSC Course</b>	<b>Duration</b> Indicative hours
<b>Religion and Non-Religion</b> Exploring the human search for meaning through both religion and non-religion	16
<b>Religious Tradition Depth Study 3: Buddhism</b> A significant person, ethic and practice	22
<b>Religion and Peace</b> How two different religions approach the issue of peace	22
<b>Total</b>	<b>60</b>

## Is there a choice of religions to study?

The NESA syllabus provides specific religions and content which must be covered. Within the scope of the syllabus choices are then made at the school level as to which religions will be explored. Those choices have been reflected in the unit tables above.

### What does assessment look like?

We assess students in a variety of ways including written excursion reports, oral presentations, research essays and examinations.

The Year 11 end of year exam, the HSC Trial exam and final HSC exam mirror each other. Each has 3 sections common to both 1 Unit and 2 Unit Studies of Religion:

- Section I – 10 multiple choice questions and one 5-mark short answer
- Section II – a series of short answer questions
- Section III – an essay

Examinations for 2 Unit Studies of Religion is double the length, following the same pattern as above for an extra three sections.

For the 2019 HSC papers – for 1 Unit [click here](#); for 2 Unit [click here](#).

### How do you approach the study of religion?

We encourage our students to ask enquiring questions about the different worldviews we encounter and to develop the skills of critical analysis. We help our students to understand, with compassion, the beliefs and practices of other religions, seeking to see the world through their eyes. Students develop the skill of communicating their ideas in creative ways and through different mediums. We encourage our students to personally respond to what they learn, allowing their understanding to shape the way they live and interact with others. As with all Barker subjects, we do this in the context of the Christian purpose of the school.

If you have other questions, please email the Head of Christian Studies Department, Mr. Rob Hughes at [rhughes@barker.nsw.edu.au](mailto:rhughes@barker.nsw.edu.au)