

Natural Theology – learning about God by observation and experience of the world			Revealed Theology – God reveals himself to people through different means			Key Vocabulary	
1	Innate sense of divine?	Calvin: we all have sensus divinitas which makes it possible to know God. God created us with this. <ul style="list-style-type: none">Sin confuses our sense of God.Everyone has the seed of religion in them“Without knowledge of the self there is no knowledge of God.” Cicero: across all cultures and times, there have been religious beliefs – human naturally orientate to the divine	1	Faith?	Aquinas argued that faith is a conscious choice to accept God and is a superior virtue, even to reason Calvin: faith is acceptance that Jesus is the Redeemer	Faith	Commitment to belief without the need for evidence
2	Conscience?	Newman: feelings of guilt come from our sense of divinity and conscience allows us to comprehend God’s goodness	2	Jesus Christ?	Barth: God revealed himself through his son. God demonstrated his endless love to humanity by sacrificing his son. Jesus’ revelation is personal to us all and allows us comfort in suffering	Grace	God’s unconditional love
			3	Impacts of Jesus?	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Jesus gave the gift of the ChurchThe Eucharist is a sacrament that commemorates and allows the believer to be part of Jesus’ sacrificeJesus taught Christians how best to practice their faith	Innate	Something we are born with
						Natural theology	Learning about God through observation and experience, particularly of nature, God’s creation.
3	Beauty?	Being able to appreciate beauty gives us insight into God’s work of creation and goodness	4	Bible?	This collection of revelations tells the history of salvation that redeems humanity. Eg the Old Testament follows a structure of sin, redemption and kingdomship	Revealed theology	God reveals himself to us e.g. through Jesus, the Bible and religious experience
4	Reason?	Aquinas argued that our rational capacities are God-given. We can use them to infer knowledge about God e.g. the Five Ways	5	Grace?	Only God chooses how and when to reveal himself to us. This is a loving act.	Revelation	God’s message to humans
5	Creation?	Paley argued that we can learn about God by studying creation. Teleological arguments are examples of natural theology.				Reason	Using human logic to establish truth
6	Accommodation	Calvin: principle of accommodation is that God communicates in ways that we will understand.				A02 Discussion <ul style="list-style-type: none">Can God be fully known through pure reason?Is faith sufficient for belief and trust in God’s existence?Has the Fall removed all natural human knowledge of God? Was the Fall also revelation?Compare natural and revealed theologies	



This DCT unit challenges you to compare examples of natural and revealed theology. You can use knowledge from units on arguments about God's existence, religious experience, nature of God, conscience and Augustine's human nature. Aim to compare the two types and create an argument for which method allows us to know God best.

Natural Theology –			Revealed Theology –			Key Vocabulary	
1	Innate sense of divine?		1	Faith?		Faith	
						Grace	
			2	Jesus Christ?		Innate	
2	Conscience?					Natural theology	
3	Beauty?		3	Impacts of Jesus?		Revealed theology	
4	Reason?					Revelation	
5	Creation?		4	Bible?		Reason	
						Sensus divinitas	
6	Accommodation		5	Grace?			