

When Worlds Collide: An Intro to Worldviews

April 16-17, 2010 at Crossroads Bible Church
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Course Description:

To effectively reach the unsaved, Christians must understand their worldviews; namely, the different ways people think about God, humanity, moral order and purpose. This conference evaluates non-Christian worldviews and topics (i.e., Secular Humanism, New Age philosophy, Postmodernism, Darwinian Evolution, the new Atheism, etc.).

Course Textbook:

Sire, James W. The Universe Next Door: A Basic Worldview Catalogue (4th Ed.).
Downers Grove: InterVarsity Press, 2004.

Course Requirements:

1. Students are required to attend all general sessions conducted by Dr. Doug Geivett, Dr. Norm Geisler, Dr. Larry Vardiman, and J. Kirby Anderson at the worldviews conference. They will also be required to attend at least 2 out of the 3 workshops that take place between the general sessions.
2. Students will be required to write a one-page synopsis for each of the four speakers' main topics of discussion (typed, double-spaced, 12 pt. Times New Roman font).
3. Students must thoroughly read the course textbook.
4. Students will write a 10-12 page paper (double spaced, 12 pt. Times New Roman font) about one of the main subjects addressed by one of the guest lecturers. Papers must not only explain the worldview they are critiquing, but must also give Biblical solutions for the issues / questions that the philosophy raises. Papers must have at least 3 academic sources (other than the Bible, dictionaries, etc.).

- *All work is to be completed no later than May 28th, 2010.*

Recommended Reading

The following books are only a few of the many volumes that address certain issues relating to worldviews and apologetics. For a more thorough list, please visit the library at Northwest College or contact the imago Dei institute's Academic Dean, James Hansen.

General Apologetics

- Clark, David K. Dialogical Apologetics: A Person-Centered Approach to Christian Defense. Grand Rapids: Baker Books, 1993.
- Colson, Charles; and Morse, Anne. Burden of Truth: Defending Truth in an Age of Unbelief. Wheaton Tyndale Publishers, 1997.
- Corduan, Winfried. No Doubt About it: The Case for Christianity. Nashville: Broadman & Homan Publishers, 1997.
- Cowan, Steven B.; and Gundry, Stanley N., Eds. Five Views on Apologetics. Grand Rapids: Zondervan Publishing House, 2000.
- Frame, John M. Apologetics to the Glory of God: An Introduction. Phillipsburg, Pennsylvania: Presbyterian & Reformed Publishing, 1994.
- Geisler, Norman L., Ed. Baker Encyclopedia of Christian Apologetics. Grand Rapids: Baker Books, 1999.
- Geisler, Norman; and Brooks, Ron. When Skeptics Ask: A Handbook on Christian Evidences. Grand Rapids: Baker Books, 1990.
- Mc. Dowell, Josh. The New Evidence that Demands a Verdict. Nashville: Thomas Nelson Publishers, 1999.
- Moreland, J. P. Scaling the Secular City: A Defense of Christianity. Grand Rapids: Baker Book House, 1987.
- Murray, Michael J., Ed. Reason for the Hope Within. Grand Rapids: Wm. B. Eerdmans Publishing Company, 1999.
- Taylor, Daniel. The Myth of Certainty: The Reflective Christian & the Risk of Commitment. Downers Grove: InterVarsity Press, 1992 Reprint.
- Zacharias, Ravi; and Geisler, Norman, Eds. Who Made God?. Grand Rapids: Zondervan Publishing House, 2003.

General Worldviews

- Beckwith, Francis J.; Craig, William Lane; Moreland, J. P., eds. To Everyone an Answer: A Case for the Christian Worldview. Downers Grove: InterVarsity Press, 2004.
- Colson, Charles; and Percy, Nancy. How Now Shall We Live? Wheaton: Tyndale House Publishers, Inc., 1999.
- Geisler, Norman; Bocchino, Peter. Unshakable Foundations. Minneapolis: Bethany House, 2001.
- Jordan, James B. Through New Eyes: Developing a Biblical View of the World. Brentwood, Tennessee: Wolgemuth & Hyatt, Publishers, Inc., 1988.
- Newbigin, Lesslie. Proper Confidence: Faith, Doubt & Certainty in Christian Discipleship. Grand Rapids: William B. Eerdmans Publishing Company, 1995.
- Noebel, David A. The Battle for Truth. Eugene: Harvest House Publishers, 2001.
- Percy, Nancy. Total Truth: Liberating Christianity from Its Cultural Captivity. Grand Rapids: Zondervan Publishing Co., 2004.
- Raeper, William; and Edwards, Linda. A Brief Guide to Ideas. Grand Rapids: Zondervan Publishing House, 1997.
- Whitehead, John W. Grasping for the Wind: The Search for Meaning in the 20th Century. Grand Rapids: Zondervan Publishing House, 2001.
- Wiker, Benjamin. Moral Darwinism: How We Became Hedonists. Grand Rapids: InterVarsity Press, 2002.

Pluralism

- Carson, D. A. The Gagging of God: Christianity Confronts Pluralism. Grand Rapids: Zondervan Publishing House, 1996.
- Dyrness, William. Christian Apologetics in a World Community. Downers Grove: InterVarsity Press, 1983.
- Netland, Harold. Encountering Religious Pluralism: The Challenge to Christian Faith & Mission. Downers Grove: InterVarsity Press, 2001.

Postmodernism

- Appignanesi, Richard; and Garratt, Chris. Introducing Postmodernism. New York: Totem Books, 1999.
- Erickson, Millard J. Postmodernizing the Faith: Evangelical Responses to the Challenge of Postmodernism. Grand Rapids: Baker Books, 1998.
- Groothuis, Douglas. Truth Decay: Defending Christianity Against the Challenges of Postmodernism. Downers Grove: InterVarsity Press, 2000.
- Loscalzo, Craig A. Apologetic Preaching: Proclaiming Christ to a Postmodern World. Grand Rapids: InterVarsity Press, 2000.
- Mc Callum, Dennis, Gen. Ed. The Death of Truth. Minneapolis: Bethany House Publishers, 1996.
- Middleton, J. Richard; and Walsh, Brian J. Truth is Stranger Than it Used to Be: Biblical Faith in a Postmodern Age. Downers Grove: InterVarsity Press, 1995.
- Phillips, Timothy T.; and Okholm, Dennis L. Christian Apologetics in the Postmodern World. Downers Grove: InterVarsity Press, 1995.
- Veith, Gene Edward. Postmodern Times: A Christian Guide to Contemporary Thought and Culture. Wheaton: Crossway Books, 1994.

Christianity & Islam

- Adeney, Miriam. Daughters of Islam: Building Bridges with Muslim Women. Downers Grove: InterVarsity Press, 2002.
- Geisler, Norman L.; and Saleeb, Abdul. Answering Islam. Grand Rapids: Baker Book House, 1993.
- Mc Dowell, Bruce A.; and Zaka, Anees. Muslims and Christians at the Table. Phillipsburg, Pennsylvania: Presbyterian & Reformed Publishing, 1999.
- Moucarry, Chawkat. The Prophet & the Messiah: An Arab Christian's Perspective On Islam & Christianity. Downers Grove: InterVarsity Press, 2001.
- Trifkovic, Serge. The Sword of the Prophet: Islam History, Theology, Impact on the World. Boston: Regina Orthodox Press, Inc., 2002.

New Age Movement

- Clark, David K.; and Geisler, Norman L. *Apologetics in the New Age: A Christian Critique of Pantheism*. Grand Rapids: Baker Books, 1990.
- Groothuis, Douglas. *Confronting the New Age: How to Resist A Growing Religious Movement*. Downers Grove: InterVarsity Press, 1988.
- . *Revealing the New Age Jesus: Challenges to Orthodox Views of Christ*. Downers Grove: InterVarsity Press, 1990.
- . *Unmasking the New Age*. Downers Grove: InterVarsity Press, 1986.
- Miller, Elliot. *A Crash Course on the New Age Movement*. Grand Rapids: Baker Books, 1989.
- Newport, John P. *The New Age Movement and the Biblical Worldview: Conflict and Dialogue*. Grand Rapids: Wm. B. Eerdmans Publishing Company, 1998.
- Rhodes, Ron. *The Counterfeit Christ of the New Age Movement*. Grand Rapids: Baker Books, 1990.
- Best Selling Spirituality: American Cultural Change & the New Shape of Faith* (Mars Hill Audio Report). Charlottesville, Virginia: Mars Hill Audio, 1999.

The Jesus Seminar & the Da Vinci Code

- Bock, Darrell L. *Breaking the Da Vinci Code*. Nashville: Nelson Books, 2004.
- Boyd, Gregory A. *Jesus Under Siege*. Wheaton: Victor Books, 1995.
- Hanegraaff, Hank; and Maier, Paul. *The Da Vinci Code: Fact or Fiction?* Wheaton: Tyndale House Publishers, 2004.
- Lutzer, Erwin W. *The Da Vinci Deception*. Wheaton: Tyndale House Publishers, 2004.
- Wilkins, Michael J.; and J. P. Moreland, General Eds. *Jesus Under Fire: Modern Scholarship Reinvents the Historical Jesus*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan Publishing, 1995.

Creation / Evolution Debate

Behe, Michael J. Darwin's Black Box: The Biochemical Challenge to Evolution. New York: Touchstone Books, 1996.

Hanegraaff, Hank. The Face That Demonstrates the Farce of Evolution. Waco: Word Publishing, 1998.

Johnson, Philip E. Darwin on Trial, 2nd Edition. Downers Grove: InterVarsity Press, 1993.

---. Defeating Darwinism by Opening Minds. Downers Grove: InterVarsity Press, 1997.

---. Objection Sustained: Subversive Essays on Evolution, Law & Culture. Downers Grove: InterVarsity Press, 1998.

---. The Wedge of Truth: Splitting the Foundations of Naturalism. Downers Grove: InterVarsity Press, 2000.

Ratzsch, Del. The Battle of Beginnings: Why Neither Side is Winning the Creation-Evolution Debate. Downers Grove: InterVarsity Press, 1996.

Woodward, Thomas. Doubts About Darwin: A History of Intelligent Design. Grand Rapids: Baker Book House, 2003.