RP601 BIBLICAL PHILOSOPHY AND WORLDVIEW

Course: RP601E (EN) Biblical Philosophy and Worldview (Blended)
Credit: 3 Semester Hrs.
Semester: Spring 2021, Cycle 5
Dates: March 8 – April 30, 2021
Time: Tuesdays 6:00-9:00 pm
Location: CABRE 100
Professor: Dr. Gary Gromacki, Th.M., D.Min., Ph.D.
Department Chair and Professor of Bible and Theology
Director of the Ph.D. in Bible and Theology Program

DESCRIPTION

This course examines competing worldviews and philosophies, focusing on the four components of epistemology, metaphysics, ethics, and socio-political thought. The study addresses important questions in those fields such as, “How can we know?” “What is reality?” and “What should we do?”

*This is a blended class, meaning that both campus and online students take this class together. Campus students attend the classes in person, online students attend the classes via the online classroom. All interaction and assignments for campus and online students are done in the online classroom.

OBJECTIVES

General competencies to be achieved. You will:

Develop the biblical worldview based on summarizing the major doctrines of the faith
PLOs 1, 2, 3 A 4, 5, 6, 8, 9

Define and explain worldview and why it is important.
PLOs 1, 2, 3 A 1, 2, 3, 8, 9

Critique non-biblical worldviews from the perspective of the biblical worldview
PLOs 1, 2, 3 A 7, 8, 9

Our Mission: “…to prepare Christians to live and serve in the church and in the world according to the Biblical worldview.”
Specific competencies to be achieved. You will:

Develop the skills of dialogue through interaction with the professor and students
PLOs 1, 2, 3  A 1, 2, 8

Demonstrate ability to think critically about philosophy and worldview
PLOs 1, 2, 3  A 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9

Be able to identify, explain, and compare basic components of worldview through research and writing.
PLOs 1, 2, 3  A 4, 6, 7

REQUIRED MATERIALS

The Bible is a required textbook in every course at Calvary University. To facilitate academic level study, students are required to use for assignments and research an English translation or version of the Bible based on formal equivalence (meaning that the translation is generally word-for-word from the original languages), including any of the following: New American Standard (NASB), English Standard Version (ESV), New King James (NKJV), or King James (KJV). Other translations and versions based on dynamic equivalence (paraphrases, and thought-for-thought translations like NLT and NIV) may be used as supplemental sources. Please ask the professor if you have questions about a particular translation or version.

TEXTBOOKS


ASSIGNMENTS

Assignment #1 – Read Christian Contours and write a two page book review of it. (100 points)

Assignment #2 – Read Making Sense of Your World and write a two page book review of it (100 points)
Assignment #3 - Write a research paper of 8-12 double spaced pages explaining the Biblical worldview. This paper should explain the four components of worldview from the Bible:
Epistemology: View of Knowledge (How do you know?)
Metaphysics: View of Reality (What is real?)
Ethics: View of Right and Wrong (What is the standard of right and wrong?)
Social-Political View: View of society and politics (How should we govern ourselves?)
(100 points)

Assignment #4: Write a doctrinal statement of 20-30 pages summarizing what you believe the Bible teaches about the following areas. Be sure to give definitions of key terms and explain key scripture texts that explain the following doctrines:
Bibliology – doctrine of the Bible
Theology Proper – doctrine of God
Angelology – doctrine of angels
Anthropology – doctrine of man
Hamartiology – doctrine of sin
Christology – doctrine of Jesus Christ
Soteriology – doctrine of salvation
Pneumatology – doctrine of the Holy Spirit
Ecclesiology – doctrine of the church
Israelology – doctrine of Israel
Eschatology – doctrine of end time events
(200 points)

Assignment #5: Read the book Think Biblically and write a two page book review of it (100 points).

Assignment #6: Write a research paper of 8-12 double spaced pages following Turabian style (footnotes and bibliography) on one of the following topics listed below. The paper must cite at least 6-10 sources in the bibliography. (100 points)
A Biblical View of Science
A Biblical View of Origins
A Biblical View of Sex and Marriage
A Biblical View of Homosexuality and Same Sex Marriage
A Biblical View of Abortion
A Biblical View of Euthanasia
A Biblical View of Racism
A Biblical View of War
A Biblical View of Music and the Arts
A Biblical View of the Environment
A Biblical View of Biomedical Ethics
A Biblical View of Social Justice
A Biblical View of Manhood and Womanhood
A Biblical View of Economics and Business
A Biblical View of Sports
A Biblical View of Psychology
**Assignment #7:** Write a research paper of 8-12 double spaced pages following Turabian style (footnotes and bibliography) critiquing one of the following worldviews:
- Secular Humanism
- New Atheism
- Postmodernism
- Islam
- Judaism
- Hinduism.
This paper should explain the core beliefs of the worldview and critique it from the biblical worldview. The paper must cite at least 6-10 sources in the bibliography (100 points)

**Assignment #8: Attendance and Discussion Forum:** Attend class in person and/or participate in Microsoft Teams when the class meets once a week. Asynchronous students will be expected to answer questions each week posted in Discussions in Canvas and interact with at least one other student for each question (100 points)

**Assignment #9: Final Exam:** Take a final exam over the course notes and doctrinal summaries in Canvas. The test will be 50 questions (true/false and multiple choice). (100 points)

**TOTAL POINTS AND GRADE**

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**HELP FOR STUDENTS**

Students with disabilities have the responsibility of informing the Accommodations Support Coordinator (aso@calvary.edu) of any disabling condition that may require support.

The Clark Academic Center (learning@calvary.edu) is dedicated to providing free academic assistance for all Calvary University students. Student tutors aid with all facets of the writing process, tutor in various subject areas, prepare students for exams, and facilitate tests. Please take advantage of this service.
EXPECTATIONS FOR ALL STUDENTS

Do not plagiarize. Plagiarism is defined as copying any part of a book or paper without identifying the author. This also includes taking another person’s ideas and presenting them as your own.

Use Turabian style for all research papers. All class papers must follow the Turabian style according to A Manual for Writers of Research Papers, Theses and Dissertations, 8th edition and the Calvary Style Guide, 2019 edition.

EXPECTATIONS OF ONLINE STUDENTS

Watch the video lecture in Canvas within one week of the lecture and post a reply under the Weekly Attendance Report in Announcements.

Answer and post your questions about the lecture in Questions about the Lecture under Announcements in Canvas.

Be respectful of the professor and all students in the Discussion Forum in Canvas.

Turn all work in on time. Late work will not be accepted.

EXPECTATIONS OF RESIDENT STUDENTS

Attend class. My class attendance policy: Any student who misses more than one class will experience a grade reduction. Attendance for class will be taken.

Be on time for class. Coming in late interrupts the class and is disruptive. Two tardies equals one absence.

Listen to the lecture and write down your questions. When I call for questions after finishing a section of the lecture you can ask your questions then.

Be courteous and respectful in class to the professor and all students. A lack of respect in class will lead to a grade reduction.

Please eat your evening meal before class or during one of the class breaks. Thank you for not eating during the class lecture/discussion time.

Turn all work in on time. Late work will not be accepted.