

RP601 BIBLICAL PHILOSOPHY AND WORLDVIEW

Course: RP601E (EN) Biblical Philosophy and Worldview (Blended)
Credit: 3 Semester Hrs.
Semester: Spring 2022 Cycle 5
Dates: March 14 – May 6, 2022
Time: Thursdays 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 the biblical philosophy and worldview focusing on the four components of epistemology, metaphysics, ethics, and socio-political thought. Students will learn how to discover the biblical worldview through doing exegesis and biblical theology. Students will learn the biblical worldview of history, science, the arts, ethics, sex and marriage, law, and government. Students will critique religious and secular worldviews by the Bible.

**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:**

1. Develop the biblical worldview based on summarizing the major doctrines of the faith
PLOs 1, 2, 3 A4, 5, 6, 8, 9
2. Define and explain worldview and why it is important.
PLOs 1, 2, 3 A 1, 2, 3, 8, 9
3. Critique non-biblical worldviews from the perspective of the biblical worldview
PLOs 1, 2, 3 A7, 8, 9

Specific competencies to be achieved. You will:

1. Develop the biblical worldview by discussing the word of God
PLOs 1, 2, 3 A 1, 2, 8

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

3. 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

Huffman, Douglas. *Christian Contours: How a Biblical Worldview Shapes the Mind and Heart*. Grand Rapids: Kregel Academic, 2011.
ISBN: 978-0-8254-3673-4 Cost: \$22.83

MacArthur, John. *Think Biblically: Recovering a Christian Worldview*. Wheaton: Crossway, 2003. ISBN: 978-1-4335-0950-4 Cost: \$26.99

ASSIGNMENTS

Assignment #1 – Read *Christian Contours* and answer questions 1-10 in Discussions. Interact with two other students on your answers to the questions (100 points)

Assignment #2: Write a research paper of 10-12 double spaced pages explaining the Biblical Worldview.

Biblical Epistemology: What is truth? How do I know? How do I know that I know?

Theology Proper: How do you know God exists? What is God like?

Biblical Anthropology/Hamartiology: What is the origin of man, woman and marriage? What is sin?

Christology/Soteriology: Who is Jesus Christ? What is the gospel?

Biblical Ethics: What is the standard of right and wrong?

Biblical Social-Political View: How should we govern ourselves?

Eschatology: What does the Bible reveal about the future?

Each research paper must follow the Turabian style guide (Calvary 2019 edition).
(300 points)

Assignment #3: Read the book *Think Biblically* and answer questions 11-20 in Discussions in Canvas. Interact with two other students on the answers to the questions (100 points).

Assignment #4: Write a research paper of 10-12 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. (300 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

Each research paper must follow the Turabian style guide (Calvary 2019 edition).

Assignment #5: Answer Weeks One through Eight Questions in the Discussion Forum:

Answer the questions posted in Discussions in Canvas each week and interact with two other students for each question (100 points)

Assignment #6: Class Attendance. Attend class in person and/or participate in the class in Microsoft Teams when the class meets once a week. Two absences = minus 20 points. Three absences = minus 30 points. Four absences = minus 40 points. Five absences = minus 50 points. Six absences = minus 60 points. Seven absences = minus 80 points. Eight absences = minus 100 points. Students will report their attendance each week (see attendance reports under Announcements in Canvas). Students will list three things they learned from the class lecture each week. Students must email the professor and let him know that they are unable to attend class. Failure to do so will lead to the professor counting the student as absent for class. (100 points)

TOTAL POINTS AND GRADE

960-1000	A
940-959	A-
920-939	B+
880-919	B
860-879	B-
840-859	C+
800-839	C
780-799	C-
0-779	F

SCHEDULE

Week One	Paul and the Greek Philosophers in Athens (Acts 17) What is a Worldview? What is the Biblical Worldview? How do you Discover the Biblical Worldview? – How to Do Biblical Theology and Systematic Theology
Week Two	Biblical Epistemology How do we Know? General and Special Revelation Wisdom from the Wisdom Books (Proverbs, Job, Ecclesiastes)
Week Three	Bible and Science Creation vs. Evolution Young Earth Creationism vs. Old Earth Creationism Historical Adam Debate Flood Geology vs. Uniformitarianism
Week Four	Introduction to the Worldview of Francis Schaeffer Greek Philosophy Idealism (Socrates and Plato) Realism (Aristotle) Western Worldview: How Should We Then Live? Roman Age

	Middle Ages The Renaissance The Reformation The Revolutionary Age The Scientific Age
Week Five	The Age of Non-Reason Existentialism (Kierkegaard) NeoOrthodoxy (Barth and Bultmann) Jesus Seminar – The Five Gospels Secular Humanism Postmodernism Eastern Mysticism
Week Six	Biblical Ethics Marriage and Family Issues Divorce and Remarriage Egalitarianism vs. Complementarianism Critique of Homosexuality and Same Sex Marriage Gender Issues
Week Seven	Whatever Happened to the Human Race? – Abortion, Infanticide and Euthanasia Biblical View of Social Justice – Slavery and Civil Rights Biblical View of Government and Politics Capital Punishment Democracy vs. Communist (Marxist Leninism)
Week Eight	Dispensationalism Biblical Covenants and God’s Program for Israel Biblical Meta-Narrative (God’s Plan for the Ages) Views on The Kingdom of God Critique of Covenant Theology Premillennialism vs. Amillennialism

HELP FOR STUDENTS

Students with disabilities have the responsibility of informing the Accommodations Support Coordinator (aso@calvary.edu) of any disabling condition that may requires 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 and participate in Microsoft Teams. Watch the video lecture in Canvas within one week of the lecture (if not in Microsoft Teams on class day) 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.

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.