

Syllabus for
IS 103—Christian Worldview in the Twenty-First Century
3.0 Credit Hours
Spring 2002

The Mission of the School of Education is to provide the opportunity for individuals who hold Christian principles to participate in advanced study in preparation for the professional public and private responsibilities in the field of education throughout the world.

I. COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course is a study of worldviews or thematic frameworks that form the conceptual foundation for human thought and action. The focus will be to develop intentionally a comprehensively biblical perspective for the transformation and renewal of the student.

II. COURSE GOALS

The purpose of this course is to familiarize the student with the broad range of competing worldviews operative in contemporary culture, and then to develop a personal, integral vision of life from a radically Trinitarian vantage point by inculcating the values of the liberating Gospel of Jesus Christ.

III. COURSE OBJECTIVES

As a result of successfully completing this course, the student will be able to do the following:

- A. Outline the major worldviews operating in the world of the twenty-first century.
- B. Explain the central tenets of a Christian worldview and the implications they have for the transformation of every aspect of life.
- C. Describe the distinctive contribution of a thoroughly Trinitarian understanding of Christianity and its impact in modern and post-modern culture.

IV. TEXTBOOKS

Required Textbook:

Colson, C. & Pearcey, N. (1999). *How now shall we live?* Wheaton, IL: Tyndale House Publishers.

Sire, J. (1997). *The universe next door*. Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity Press.

V. POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

- A. University Policies and Procedures
 - 1. Attendance at each class or laboratory is mandatory at Oral Roberts University.
 - 2. Double cuts will be assessed for absences immediately preceding or following holidays.
 - 3. Excessive absences can reduce a student's grade or deny credit for the course.

4. Students taking a late exam because of an unauthorized absence will be charged a late exam fee.
5. Students and faculty at Oral Roberts University adhere to all laws addressing the ethical use of others' materials, whether it is in the form of print, video, multimedia, or computer software.
6. Final exams cannot be given before their scheduled times. Students need to check the final exam schedule before planning return flights or other events at the end of the semester.

B. Course Policies and Procedures
Evaluation Procedures

Book Critique	20%
Class Presentation: Group and Individual	30%
Journaling	20%
Final Exam	30%

Grading Scale:

90%-100%	=	A
80-89%	=	B
70-79%	=	C
60-69%	=	D
Below 60%	=	F

VI. COURSE CALENDAR

Week 1	General Introduction to Course
Week 2	Christianity Is a Worldview (Introduction, chs 1-2) The Battle of the Age (chs. 3-4)
Week 3	The Religion of Naturalism—Part I (chs. 5-7) The Religion of Naturalism—Part II (chs. 8-10)
Week 4	Life Worth Living (chs. 11-12)
Week 5	Life Worth Living (chs. 13-14)
Week 6	But for Sin (chs. 15-18) The Nature of Sin (chs. 19-20)
Week 7	The Problem of Suffering (ch. 21) From Death to Life (chs. 22-23)
Week 8	Liberated to Slavery (chs. 24-25) Salvation through Science (ch. 26)
Week 9	The Courage of Despair (chs. 27-28) Real Redemption (ch. 29)

Week 10 All Things New (chs. 30-31)
Beginning with Ourselves (ch. 32)

Week 11 God's Training Ground (ch. 33)
Still At Risk (ch. 34)

Spring Break! (March 18-22)

Week 12 Life Together (chs. 35-36)
Becoming Moral Persons (ch. 37)

Week 13 The Work of Our Hands (ch. 38)
The Ultimate Appeal (ch. 39)

Week 14 The Basis for True Science (ch. 40)
Reforming the Arts (chs. 41-42)

Week 15 The Gospel and Popular Culture (chs. 43-44)
How Now Shall We Live? (ch. 45)
Becoming Men and Women of Another Type

Finals Week

VII. ASSESSMENT SUMMARY

Pamela J. Smucker
Name of Instructor

IS 103
Course No.

Christian Worldview in the 21st Century
Title of Course

Education
Name of Department

MISSION

The lifestyle at ORU is rooted in the word "Wholeness." ORU seeks to educate the whole person, with balanced emphasis placed on the development of mind, spirit, and body.

MAJOR OUTCOMES

Create a workable plan for a community development project.

Explain the fundamental principles of effective community development.

Explain the Biblical and practical basis for community development as a viable ministry for Christians.

Demonstrate the organizational, interpersonal, and expressive skills needed to carry out community development work.

GENERAL OUTCOMES

1. Spiritual Development
2. Physical Development
3. Communication
4. Analysis
5. Problem Solving
6. Valuing in Decision Making
7. Social Interaction
8. Global Perspectives
9. Effective Citizenship
10. Aesthetic Responsiveness

COURSE GOALS

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2. Explain the central tenets of a Christian worldview and the implications they have for the transformation of every aspect of life.
3. Describe the distinctive contribution of a thoroughly Trinitarian understanding of Christianity and its impact in modern and postmodern culture.

ASSESSMENT OF COURSE GOALS

STIMULI:

Book critique on various worldviews

Journal of reflections from weekly reading

Class presentation with a group regarding a book dealing with Christian worldview

CRITERIA:

Clear, correct written expression

Clear and coherent oral expression

Thoughtful responses in journal

Participation in class discussion