
SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA SEMINARY
2075 EAST MADISON AVENUE • EL CAJON • CALIFORNIA 92019-1108

PH-503 HISTORY OF PHILOSOPHY AND WORLDVIEWS

SUMMER 2017, MODULE 5
MONDAY EVENINGS, MAY 8-JUNE 26, 2017
7:00-10:00 PM

PROFESSOR

Ward Crocker, D.Min.
Professor of Bible and Apologetics
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Office hours: Mon-Wed 10am-4pm; Thurs 12-5pm

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course provides an overview of philosophy and worldviews in relation to Christian apologetics. The biblical and philosophical basis for a rational defense of the Christian faith will be examined. An overview will be given on the historical development of philosophy, including the major figures, ideas, and worldviews. *3 units.*

PROFESSOR'S COMMENT

This course examines competing worldviews and philosophies and their answers to such important questions as: "How can we know?" "Why does that which exist, exist?" "What exists?" "What is value?" "What should we do?" "How should we interact with one another?" and "What is going to happen?" Also, due to the nature of the academic schedule, no late submissions will be accepted after the last due date of this course (July 2, 2017).

REQUIRED TEXTBOOKS

1. *The Bible*. The New American Standard (NASB), New King James (NKJV), or (ESV) are acceptable for reading, coursework, and quotations, as they are based on formal equivalence.
2. Pearcey, Nancy. *Finding Truth: 5 Principles for Unmasking Atheism, Secularism, and Other God Substitutes* (Colorado Springs, CO: David C Cook Publishing) 2015. ISBN: 978-0-7814-1308-4. Price \$19.09.
3. Sproul, R.C. *The Consequences of Ideas: Understanding the Concepts that Shaped our World* (Wheaton, IL: Crossway Books) 2009. ISBN-10: 143350314X; ISBN-13: 978-1433503146. Price \$14.72.
4. Kenny, Anthony. *An Illustrated Brief History of Western Philosophy* (Malden, MA: Blackwell Publishing) 2006. ISBN-10: 1405141794; ISBN-13: 978-1405141796. Price \$33.20.

STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES

The student who successfully completes this course will be able to . . .	PROGRAM OBJECTIVES*	SCS INSTITUTIONAL OBJECTIVES*	COURSE REQUIREMENT (CR #)
1. Understand what a worldview is and why it is important.	2,3,5,6	1,2,3,4,8	1,2,3
2. Recognize implications of each philosophy or aspect of worldview discussed – recognizing that what one believes or understands in one area will necessarily impact what is believed or understood in other areas.	2,3,5,6	1,2,3,4,8	1,2,3
3. Relate the basic components of a Biblical worldview and be able to sharply contrast those components with aspects of non-biblical worldviews.	2,3,5,6	1,2,3,4,8	1,2,3

* *The program and institutional objectives are published in the Academic Catalog.*

COURSE REQUIREMENTS**1. Participation and Interaction: Attendance, Content, Discussion Board Postings (300 points)**

This assignment supports all Course Student Learning Outcomes.

- a. Campus and Online students will attend all lectures (Campus students, in person, and Online students, either by audio or video).
- b. Initial Blackboard postings on designated reading will be completed on time (by midnight the Friday of the week assignments are given). These initial postings should be thoughtful academic discussions, directly related to the course work and concepts, including specific citations and references to materials. Also, the student will provide the material by posting the response within the thread and will not post anything in the discussion board requirements by uploading a paper.
- c. Post two responses to other student postings per discussion board for each week. These responses to other student postings are due by midnight Sunday evening of the week the assignments are due. These postings should be thoughtful, academic discussions directly related to the course work and engage with the student the post is replying to.

2. Reading and Reading Accountability: Reading Summaries and Critiques (400 points)

This assignment supports all Course Student Learning Outcomes.

- a. Complete all assigned reading as scheduled in the *Sequence of Instruction*. Students will be required to report a honest and accurate percentage of reading completed for the course.
- b. Write and submit in Blackboard a 300-400 word summary for each designated reading. If there are multiple readings assigned per session, multiple and separate reading summaries must be completed. Summaries must include the following components:
 - i. The first section should be a neutral summary of the reading.
 - ii. The following section should add a thoughtful critique of the reading
 - iii. Be sure to clearly distinction between each summary and its associated critique.

3. Research: Philosophy and Worldview Papers (300 points / 100 points per paper)

This assignment supports Course Student Learning Outcome #3. Each paper should use complete and proper Turabian formatting, be a Word or PDF document and be submitted properly on Blackboard so that the professor can “reply” with comments on the paper. If a student needs guidance with writing these informational papers, please consult both the SCS Writing Center and the How to Write tab within this course on Blackboard. Write three brief research papers, 1000-1500 words each, double-spaced, as follows:

- a. **Paper 1** – Identify and describe basic components of a Biblical worldview using only Biblical citations. It is recommended that students use the framework presented in class.
- b. **Paper 2** – Write a neutral summary on any (non-Biblical) worldview discussed in the readings. Use at least five extra-Biblical sources/references pertaining to that worldview.
- c. **Paper 3** – Considering Paul’s evangelistic strategy in Acts 17, choose any worldview discussed in the assigned readings, and discuss a strategy for presenting the Gospel to adherents of that worldview.

NO ASSIGNMENTS DUE ON THE FIRST DAY OF CLASS.

SEQUENCE OF INSTRUCTION

SESSION	DATE	SESSION CONTENT AND ASSIGNMENTS DUE
1	May 8-14	<p style="text-align: center;"><i>Introduction: Why Worldview and Philosophies Matter. Ontology</i></p> <p>Participation and Interaction</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Attend lecture. • Post a brief introduction of yourself, so that we can get to know you. • Post initial discussion board replies (by midnight Sunday evening) • Post replies to other student discussion board postings (midnight Tue) <p>Reading</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Vidal: “What is Worldview” (PDF in Blackboard) • Sproul: Introduction and chapters 1-2 • Kenny: chapters I-III • Pearcey: Part 1 • Psalm 1; Acts 17:16-34; Genesis 1-3; <p>Summaries and Critiques</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Vital • Kenny: <u>Chapter I</u> (all of it); <u>Chapter 3</u>: The Theory of Ideas and Plato’s Republic. <p>Research</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Begin Paper 1

SESSION	DATE	SESSION CONTENT AND ASSIGNMENTS DUE
<p style="text-align: center;">2</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">May 15-21</p>	<p style="text-align: right;"><i>Ontology: What Exists? Dualism, Materialism, and Theism</i> <i>Epistemology: what is knowledge? How do we know?</i></p> <p>Participation and Interaction</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Attend lecture. • Post initial discussion board replies (by midnight Sunday evening) • Post replies to other student discussion board postings (midnight Tue) <p>Reading</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sproul: chapters 3-4 • Kenny: chapters IV-VI • Pearcey: Part Two, Principle #1—Twilight of the Gods • Genesis 3; Romans 1-2; Luke 1:1-4; 1 John 1:1-4 <p>Summaries and Critiques</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kenny: <u>Chapter IV</u>: Moral Philosophy: Virtue and Happiness; Moral Philosophy: Wisdom and Understanding; Science and Explanation; Motion and Change; Metaphysics. <u>Chapter V</u>: Epicureanism; Stoicism; Scepticism; Christianity and Gnosticism; Neo-Platonism. <u>Chapter VI</u>: Boethius and Philoponus. <p>Research</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Submit Paper 1
<p style="text-align: center;">3</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">May 22-28</p>	<p style="text-align: right;"><i>Doxology: Why Does That Which Exists, Exist?</i> <i>Anthropocentrism, Biocentrism, and Theocentrism</i></p> <p>Participation and Interaction</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Attend lecture. • Post initial discussion board replies (by midnight Sunday evening) • Post replies to other student discussion board postings (midnight Tue) <p>Reading</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sproul: chapter 5 • Kenny: chapters VII-IX • Pearcey: Part Two, Principle #2—How Nietzsche Wins • Scripture: Genesis 1-3; Psalm 19, 97 <p>Summaries and Critiques</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kenny: <u>Chapter VII</u>: Saint Anselm; Aberlard’s Ethic; Maimoides. <u>Chapter VIII</u>: Saint Boneventure; Matter, Form, Substance, and Accident; Aquinas on Essence and Existence; Aquinas’ Moral Philosophy. <u>Chapter IX</u>: Duns Scotus; John Wyclif. <p>Research</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Begin Paper 2

SESSION	DATE	SESSION CONTENT AND ASSIGNMENTS DUE
None	May 29- June 4	<p style="text-align: center;">No class on Monday, May 29, 2017 No assignments due this week! Get caught up, get ahead, have fun!</p>
4	June 5-11	<p style="text-align: center;"><i>Axiology: What is Value, Who Determines Good? Instrumental, Intrinsic Value</i></p> <p>Participation and Interaction</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Attend lecture. • Post initial discussion board replies (by midnight Sunday evening) • Post replies to other student discussion board postings (midnight Tue) <p>Reading</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sproul: chapters 6-7 • Kenny: chapters X-XII • Pearcey: Part Two, Principle #3—Secular Leaps of Faith • Genesis 1-3; Psalm 8; Colossians 1; Eccl 1-4 <p>Summaries and Critiques</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kenny: <u>Chapter X</u>: Bruno and Galileo; Francis Bacon. <u>Chapter XI</u>: The Doubt and the Cogito; The Essence of Mind; God, Mind, and Body; The Material World. <u>Chapter XII</u>: The Empiricism of Thomas Hobbes; Substances and Persons. <p>Research</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Submit Paper 2

SESSION	DATE	SESSION CONTENT AND ASSIGNMENTS DUE
<p style="text-align: center;">5</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">June 12-18</p>	<p style="text-align: right;"><i>Eschatology: What is Going to Happen? Materialistic Optimism and Theistic Models</i></p> <p>Participation and Interaction</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Attend lecture. • Post initial discussion board replies (by midnight Sunday evening) • Post replies to other student discussion board postings (midnight Tue) <p>Reading</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sproul: chapters 8-9 • Kenny: chapters XIII-XV • Pearcey: Part Two, Principle #4—Why Worldviews Commit Suicide • Scripture: Genesis 1-3; Isaiah 65; Revelation 19-21 <p>Summaries and Critiques</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kenny: <u>Chapter XIII</u>: Spinoza and Malebranche; Leibniz. <u>Chapter XIV</u>: Hume on Causation. <u>Chapter XV</u>: The Philosophes; Rousseau. <p>Research</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Begin Paper 3
<p style="text-align: center;">6</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">June 19-25</p>	<p style="text-align: right;"><i>Praxeology and Ethics: What Should We Do?</i></p> <p>Participation and Interaction</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Attend lecture. • Post initial discussion board replies (by midnight Sunday evening) • Post replies to other student discussion board postings (midnight Tue) <p>Reading</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sproul: chapters 10-12 • Kenny: chapters XVII-XIX (skip chapter XVI) • Pearcey: Part 2, Principle #5—Free-loading Atheists • Scripture: Genesis 1-3; Matthew 5-7 <p>Summaries and Critiques</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kenny: <u>Chapter XVII</u>: Hegel; Marx and the Young Hegelians: Capitalism and its Discontents. <u>Chapter XVIII</u>: Jeremy Bentham; The Utilitarianism of J. S. Mill. <u>Chapter XIX</u>: Nietzsche <p>Research</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continue working on Paper 3

SESSION	DATE	SESSION CONTENT AND ASSIGNMENTS DUE
<p style="text-align: center;">7</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">June 26- July 2</p>	<p style="text-align: right;"><i>Sociopraxy: How Should We Interact With One Another? Aristocracy, Communism, Social Contract, Democracy</i></p> <p>Participation and Interaction</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Attend lecture. • Post initial discussion board replies (by midnight Sunday evening) • Post replies to other student discussion board postings (midnight Tue) <p>Reading</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sproul: chapters 13-14 and Conclusion • Kenny: chapters XX and XXII (skip chapter XXI) • Pearcey: Part Three • Genesis 1-11, 17; Romans 12; 1 Cor 11:23-34; <p>Summaries and Critiques</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kenny: <u>Chapter XX</u>: Charles Darwin. <u>Chapter XXII</u>: Logical Positivism <p>Research</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Submit Paper 3

STUDENT EVALUATION

1. Online Participation and Interaction.....	300 points	30%
2. Reading / Reading Summaries.....	400 points	40%
<u>3. Research Papers.....</u>	<u>(3x100) 300 points</u>	<u>30%</u>
Total.....	1000 points	100%

GRADE SCALE

The final course grades are not given out until at least three weeks after the course is finished. A student will not be given their final grade unless the course has been paid for in full.

Grade	Percent	Points	Grade	Percent	Points
A	95–100%	950-1000	C+	80–82%	800-829
A-	92–94%	920-949	C	77–79%	770-799
B+	89–91%	890-919	C-	74–76%	740-769
B	86–88%	860-889	Any grade lower than “C-” will be reduced to “F.”		
B-	83–85%	830-859			

ATTENDANCE POLICY

Online courses have the same attendance requirements as traditional on campus courses. You are expected to actively participate in the course each and every week. Therefore, the minimum requirements for being considered “present” in the course are that you participate in the discussion board, and complete at least one of the assignments required. Failure to do so will count as an absence. You are only permitted one absence for a 7-week online course and you must notify your professor and offer an explanation. You are permitted two absences for a 14-week online course. If you exceed those, you will be automatically withdrawn from the course in accordance with published SCS policies. Additionally, your professor reserves the right to lower your final grade for any assignments turned in late even when notified in advance, unless there are extenuating circumstances.

General School Policy: A student who takes an absence from class will receive a penalty resulting in an immediate reduction of their final grade by 7 percent in a modular class and 3.5 percent in a trimester class. However, the student will have the ability to make up between 0 percent and all of the deduction at the professor’s discretion.

LATE COURSE WORK POLICY

Since this course involves collaborative learning and time management, it is vital to your learning team that Posts and Replies be submitted on time. Assignments submitted after their due dates will be docked 10% for each 1-2 days late. Exceptions to this will be made only in extreme cases, at the professor’s discretion. If you experience problems with Blackboard, contact the professor ASAP. If you claim that you could not submit something, but never checked with your professor, your claim will be dismissed.

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY

Southern California Seminary expects its students to conduct themselves honestly in their personal and academic lives. If evidence arises of academic dishonesty, the dean of the program will investigate the matter and take appropriate action.

Offenses Against Academic Integrity

Cheating. Cheating is never tolerated at SCS.

Plagiarism. Plagiarism can occur intentionally or inadvertently. Intentional acts of plagiarism involve knowingly and willingly treating another person's work as one's own original work. It includes copying or imitating the words, sentences, outlines, or ideas of another person. Inadvertent plagiarism can occur when a student fails to properly cite original sources. Plagiarism will not be tolerated at SCS. Therefore, all offenses of plagiarism will be reported to the dean of the program in which the offense occurred and an investigation will be made to determine what disciplinary action should be taken.

Aiding or Conspiring in the Commission of Plagiarism. Helping someone commit plagiarism is viewed as equally dishonest as plagiarism, for all participating parties.

Multiple Submissions. This offense occurs when a student submits a paper that was written for another course as if it were an original paper satisfying the requirements of the present course. Attempting to submit such work is deceptive and a form of academic dishonesty. On the occasion that a student's previous work has some potential for expansion, improvement, or to serve as a starting point for another line of thought (as with Doctrinal Summary/Synopsis) the student will be advised by the professor to what extent a particular previous work may be permitted. The professor may require that a copy of the previous work be submitted with the later work.

LIBRARY

The SDCC/SCS Library website is your gateway to library resources and information. For a complete description of the library's holdings, services, staff and access to its online collections, go to: <http://sdcc.edu/library>.