



apologia.

LIVE CLASSES

Understanding the Times – A Survey of Worldviews

Mrs. Powell

Syllabus

2024-2025

Description:

Presented in partnership with Summit Ministries, this classic study is a guided tour of how different worldviews answer life's ultimate questions. We will examine today's six most prominent worldviews—Christianity, Islam, Secularism, Marxism, New Spirituality, and Postmodernism—and how they view man's relationship to God, himself, and one another.

Prerequisites:

None. **Recommended:** 9th – 12th Graders

Course Materials:

- **Textbook** - Myers, Jeff, and David A. Noebel. *Understanding the Times: A Survey of Competing Worldviews*. 1st ed. Manitou Springs, CO: Summit Ministries, 2015. (ISBN 9781434709585)
- **Student Manual** - Summit Ministries. *Understanding the Times: A Survey of Competing Worldviews Student Manual*. 5th ed. Manitou Springs, CO: Summit Ministries, 2015. (ISBN 9780936163215)
 - The student manual provides a passcode to access videos and additional required reading material.
- **Screwtape Letters by C.S. Lewis** – In an effort to put some real-life application to our study of worldviews, students will be reading through this book. The instructor is using a study guide for teenagers for the discussion prompts.

Course Progression:

We will look at how the influence of the six major worldviews manifests in America's institutions of higher learning, especially in the key academic disciplines of theology, philosophy, ethics, biology, psychology, sociology, law, politics, economics, and history.

Weekly Live Lecture:

Tuesday 11 am – 12:15 pm **Eastern**

Tuesday 10 am – 11:15 am **Central**

Tuesday 9 am – 10:15 am **Mountain**

Tuesday 8 am – 9:15 am **Pacific**

Assignment Structure:

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|---|-----|
| Class participation (attendance & participation) | 10% |
| Discussions | 25% |
| Worldview Focus / Application | 25% |
| Quizzes & Tests | 25% |
| Final | 15% |

Due Dates and Late Policy:

Pay attention to due dates. Assignments not completed by the due date will be marked late. All assignments have built-in two weeks for completion therefore, **extensions will not be offered.**

NOTE: Students are responsible for consulting the schedule and completing all coursework by the assigned due date **in** Canvas.

Class Canvas Portal:

Students will access the course through the Canvas course portal:

<https://apologia.instructure.com/login/canvas>.

Live Lecture Attendance Policy:

Zoom is our online classroom. You will use the link provided in the Canvas portal to log in every week. You will enter your first name and the first initial of your last name. Do not use nicknames; if the teacher is unable to recognize the student, said student will be removed from class. **Note: The class is being recorded.**

Academic Dishonesty:

Academic dishonesty is any type of cheating that occurs on any exercise related to this course. It can include plagiarism, fabrication, deception, cheating, bribery, sabotage, professional misconduct, and impersonation.

Any type of cheating will not be tolerated!

Cheating includes but is not limited to copying homework, falsifying reasons for missing class, copying other students' exams/homework/answers, impersonating a parent, having someone else login to a Canvas/Zoom account to complete material on a student's behalf, or plagiarizing material someone else has written and claiming it as your own.

Any plagiarised work will receive 0 points, and the parents of that student will be notified.

Course Schedule

The schedule is **subject to change** at the discretion of your classroom instructor, who will notify students of any changes to the schedule by e-mail.

| 1 ST SEMESTER | | | |
|--|---------|-------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Week | Date | Chapter | Notes |
| WK1 | Aug 20 | Ch. 1: Overview | Read: 1.1 – 1-14 |
| WK2 | Aug 27 | Ch. 1 | Plato's Cave; World of Worldviews |
| WK3 | Sept 3 | Ch. 2: Christianity | Read: 2.1 – 2.9 |
| WK4 | Sept 10 | Ch. 2 | Gospel of Mark, Christian Worldview |
| WK5 | Sept 17 | Ch. 3: Islam | Read: 3.1 – 3.8 |
| WK6 | Sept 24 | Ch. 3 | Quran: Sura |
| WK7 | Oct 1 | Ch. 4: Secularism | Read: 4.1 – 4.10 |
| WK8 | Oct 8 | Ch. 4 | Humanist Manifesto |
| WK9 | Oct 15 | Ch. 5: Marxism | Read: 5.1 – 5.7 |
| WK10 | Oct 22 | Ch. 5 | Communist Manifesto |
| WK11 | Oct 29 | Ch. 6: New Spirituality | Read: 6.1 – 6.9 |
| WK12 | Nov 5 | Ch. 6 | Bhagavad Gita |
| WK13 | Nov 12 | Ch. 7: Postmodernism | Read: 7.1 – 7.8 |
| * | Nov 19 | THANKSGIVING BREAK – NO CLASS | |
| WK14 | Nov 26 | Ch. 7 | The Parable of the Madman |
| WK15 | Dec 3 | Ch. 8: Theology | Read: 8.1 – 8.10 |
| WK16 | Dec 10 | Ch. 8: Theology | Imago Dei |
| CHRISTMAS BREAK – NO CLASS: Dec 17, Dec 24, Dec 31 | | | |
| END OF 1ST SEMESTER | | | |

| 2 ND SEMESTER | | | |
|--------------------------|--------|-------------------|-----------|
| Week | Date | Chapter | Notes |
| WK1 | Jan 7 | Ch. 9: Philosophy | |
| WK2 | Jan 14 | Ch. 9 | ** TBD ** |

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|---|--------|-------------------------|-------------------|
| WK3 | Jan 21 | Ch. 10: Ethics | |
| WK4 | Jan 28 | Ch. 10 | ** TBD ** |
| WK5 | Feb 4 | Ch. 11: Biology | |
| WK6 | Feb 11 | Ch. 11 | ** TBD ** |
| WK7 | Feb 18 | Ch. 12: Psychology | |
| WK8 | Feb 25 | Ch. 12 | ** TBD ** |
| WK9 | Mar 4 | Ch. 13: Sociology | |
| WK10 | Mar 11 | Ch. 13 | ** TBD ** |
| * | Mar 18 | Spring Break – no class | |
| * | Mar 25 | Spring Break – no class | |
| WK11 | Apr 1 | Ch. 14: Law | ** TBD ** |
| WK12 | Apr 8 | Ch. 15: Politics | ** TBD ** |
| WK13 | Apr 15 | Ch. 16: Economics | ** TBD ** |
| WK14 | Apr 22 | Ch. 17: History | ** TBD ** |
| WK15 | Apr 29 | Ch. 17 | ** TBD ** |
| WK16 | May 6 | Ch. 18 | Welcome to Exile! |
| PRINT GRADES – CANVAS PORTAL CLOSES – MAY 17TH | | | |
| END OF 2ND SEMESTER | | | |

Help and Questions Outside of Live Class:

You can contact me at mrspowell@apologia.com. My office hours are Fridays, 12:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.