

Christian Life and Biblical Worldview

RLGN-104

CG Section 8WK 11/08/2019 to 04/16/2020 Modified 04/27/2022

Course Description

This is a study in the development and application of the biblical worldview. This course will include an introduction and application of critical thinking skills, as well as a study of religious and philosophical worldviews. Special attention will be given to the theology and methodology of evangelism.

Requisites

For information regarding prerequisites for this course, please refer to the [Academic Course Catalog](https://catalog.liberty.edu/) (<https://catalog.liberty.edu/>).

Rationale

RLGN 104 is designed to deepen and broaden the student's understanding of the core fundamentals of the biblical worldview and to equip the student to present that view in relation to competing worldviews. The goal is to enable the student to think more clearly and critically about Christianity and truth. It is intended to equip the student to become a more effective witness and to participate more constructively in the larger socio-cultural debate. In order to accomplish this goal, the student must (1) understand the essentials of Christian truth, (2) be familiar with the historical opponents to Christianity and truth, and (3) present a biblical, logical, and reasonable defense of Christianity. Through studying worldviews, the student can better understand the nature of humanity and individual conduct so that he or she is prepared to address relevant questions in a culture of relativism. As the apostle Paul states: "Let your conversation be always full of grace, seasoned with salt, so that you may know how to answer everyone" (Colossians 4:6, NIV). By understanding worldviews, the student will acquire a powerful form of wisdom that characterized the sons of Issachar: "men who understood the times, with knowledge of what Israel should do..." (1 Chronicles 12:32, NASB).

Course Learning Outcomes

Upon successful completion of this course, the student will be able to:

- A. Apply critical thinking strategies and identify informal logical fallacies commonly used in argumentation.
- B. Define the term worldview and identify components of a biblical worldview.
- C. Identify important people and principles of major contemporary moral philosophies and religious worldviews that have helped shape modern society.
- D. Examine the Christian gospel and describe and assess common perceptions of the Christian gospel.
- E. Employ strategies to communicate the Christian gospel to a person from a non-biblical worldview.

General Education Foundational Skill Learning Outcomes

Foundational Skill Learning Outcomes (FSLO): Critical Thinking (CT) (Primary FSLO): the ability to use analytical, evaluative, logical, and reasonable patterns of thought to establish coherent beliefs, ethics, and strategic decisions.

Upon successful completion of this course, the student will be able to:

CT 2: Structure an argument or position using credible evidence and valid reasoning.

CT 3: Compare and contrast the biblical worldview with a non-biblical worldview, evaluating the influence of assumptions and contexts on ethics and values.

CT 4: Plan evidence-based courses of action to resolve problems.

CT 5: Relate critical thinking and ethics to participation in God's redemptive work.

Foundational Skill Learning Outcomes (FSLO): Civic and Global Engagement (CGE) (Secondary FSLO): the ability to engage local, national, and global structures as an informed follower of Christ.

Upon successful completion of this course, the student will be able to:

CGE 1: Identify the main features of a worldview, assessing the cultural, political, economic, and industrial implications.

CGE 3: Apply the Christian principles and general practices for effectively engaging people from different social and/or cultural backgrounds.

CGE 4: Describe the impact of a person's global perspective on evangelism and cross-cultural engagement.

CGE 5: Relate the human experience within various civic and global structures to participation in the redemptive work of God.

Course Resources

Click on the following link to view the required resource(s) for the term in which you are registered: [Liberty University Online Bookstore \(https://bncvirtual.com/liberty\)](https://bncvirtual.com/liberty).

Additional Materials for Learning

- A. Computer with basic audio/video output equipment
- B. Internet access (broadband recommended)
- C. Ability to create and submit files in Microsoft Word
- D. Canvas [recommended browsers \(https://community.canvaslms.com/t5/Canvas-Basics-Guide/What-are-the-browser-and-computer-requirements-for-Canvas/ta-p/66\)](https://community.canvaslms.com/t5/Canvas-Basics-Guide/What-are-the-browser-and-computer-requirements-for-Canvas/ta-p/66)
- E. Basic Canvas navigation skills
- F. Windows Media Player
- G. [Interactive Turabian-Based Writing Guide \(https://rise.articulate.com/share/er1g36fWyDNZkE3q1GA6CLbk3rQSmUiQ#/\)](https://rise.articulate.com/share/er1g36fWyDNZkE3q1GA6CLbk3rQSmUiQ#/)

Course Assignments

Textbook Readings and Lecture Presentations

Course Requirements Checklist

After reading the Course Syllabus and [Student Expectations \(https://www.liberty.edu/institutional-effectiveness/student-expectations/\)](https://www.liberty.edu/institutional-effectiveness/student-expectations/), the student will complete the related checklist found in the Course Overview.

Discussions: Threads and Replies (3)

Threads

Discussions are collaborative learning experiences. Therefore, the student is required to create a thread in response to the provided topic for each Discussion. Discussion: Beliefs requires the student to create a thread that must be a minimum of 75 words for each question (150 words total). Discussion: Gospel Message Perceptions and Discussion: Gospel Message Friendships and Barriers require the student to create a thread that must be 300–500 words. All discussions must be supported by course content, outside materials, and/or Scripture references using current APA, MLA, or Turabian formatting (whichever corresponds to the student's degree program. (CLOs: C, D and E). This assignment aligns with the following FSLOs: CT 5, CGE3, CGE4, CGE 5.

Replies

In addition to the thread, the student is required to reply to at least 2 other classmates' threads. For Discussion: Beliefs, each reply

must be a minimum of 75 words. For Discussion: Gospel Message Perceptions and Discussion: Gospel Message Friendships and Barriers, each reply must be a minimum of 150–200 words. All discussions must be supported by course content, outside materials, and/or Scripture references using current APA, MLA, or Turabian formatting (whichever corresponds to the student’s degree program). (CLOs: A, C, D) This assignment aligns with the following FSLOs: CT4.

Worldview Research Paper Assignment

For this assignment, the student is to define the term worldview in 75 – 100 words, answer the five worldview questions from a Biblical Worldview in 400 – 500 words, and apply that Biblical Worldview to two of four practical questions from a list of options in 100 – 150 words. The student is writing a research paper, so this assignment should be written in paragraph format. Headers may be used to introduce each part. The student must support their content with course materials, research, and or Scripture references. A minimum of three different sources is required. At least one of the sources must be outside of the materials used in this course (Course Materials and the Bible). (CLOs: A, B) This assignment aligns with the following FSLOs: CT2, CT4, CGE 1, CGE5.

Critical Thinking Research Paper Assignment

The student will submit a paper consisting of 600–1,000 words. For this assignment the student is to choose one of four worldviews (i.e., Secular Humanism, Hinduism, Buddhism, or Islam) and learn and articulate how that worldview would answer the five worldview questions. The student will review chapters four and five of *Finding Your Worldview: Thinking Christianly about the World* for content and clarity to these questions. You will also compare and contrast that worldview’s responses to the five worldview questions with how the Biblical Worldview would answer that question. A minimum of four different sources is required. At least two of the sources must be outside of the materials used in this course (Course Materials and the Bible). (CLOs: A, B, E) This assignment aligns with the following FSLOs: CT2, CT3, CT5, CGE1 & CGE 3, CGE4.

Quizzes (8)

Each Quiz will cover the Learn material for the assigned Module: Week. Each Quiz will be open-book/open-notes, contain 20 multiple-choice and true/false questions, and have a 30-minute time limit. (CLOs: A, B, C) This assignment aligns with the following FSLOs: CT3, CT4, CT5, CGE1, CGE 3 , CGE 4.

✓ Course Grading

Course Requirements Checklist	10
Discussions (1 at 40 pts.; 2 at 100 pts. ea.)	240
Worldview Research Paper Assignment	100
Critical Thinking Research Paper Assignment	100
Quizzes (8 at 70 pts. ea.)	560
Total	1010

* Course Policies

Formatting Policy

The student will format all written assignments, including Discussions, according to the guide corresponding with his or her degree program (APA, MLA, or Turabian). All written assignments in the course, with the exception of Discussion posts, must be submitted as Microsoft Word documents.

Late Assignment Policy

Course Assignments, including discussions, exams, and other graded assignments, should be submitted on time.

If the student is unable to complete an assignment on time, then he or she must contact the instructor immediately by email.

Assignments that are submitted after the due date without prior approval from the instructor will receive the following deductions:

1. Late assignments submitted within one week after the due date will receive up to a 10% deduction.
2. Assignments submitted more than one week and less than 2 weeks late will receive up to a 20% deduction.
3. Assignments submitted two weeks late or after the final date of the course will not be accepted outside of special circumstances (e.g. death in the family, significant personal health issues), which will be reviewed on a case-by-case basis by the instructor.
4. Group projects, including group discussion threads and/or replies, and assignments will not be accepted after the due date outside of special circumstances (e.g. death in the family, significant personal health issues), which will be reviewed on a case-by-case basis by the instructor.

Disability Assistance

Students with a disability and those with medical conditions associated with pregnancy may contact Liberty University's Online Office of Disability Accommodation Support (ODAS) at LUOODAS@liberty.edu for accommodations. Such accommodations require appropriate documentation of your condition. For more information about ODAS and the accommodations process, including how to request an accommodation, please visit <https://www.liberty.edu/online/online-disability-accommodation-support/> (<https://www.liberty.edu/online/online-disability-accommodation-support/>). Requests for accommodations not related to disabilities or pregnancy must be directed to the Registrar's Office, which generally handles medical needs support.

If you have a complaint related to disability discrimination or an accommodation that was not provided, you may contact ODAS or the Office of Equity and Compliance by phone at (434) 592-4999 or by email at equityandcompliance@liberty.edu. Click to see a full copy of Liberty's [Discrimination, Harassment, and Sexual Misconduct Policy](https://www.liberty.edu/media/1226/Liberty_University_Discrimination_Harassment_and_Sexual_Misconduct_Policy.pdf) (https://www.liberty.edu/media/1226/Liberty_University_Discrimination_Harassment_and_Sexual_Misconduct_Policy.pdf) or the [Student Disability Grievance Policy and Procedures](http://www.liberty.edu/media/8021/Disability_Grievance_Procedures.pdf) (http://www.liberty.edu/media/8021/Disability_Grievance_Procedures.pdf).

Course Attendance

In an effort to comply with U.S. Department of Education policies, attendance is measured by physical class attendance or any submission of a required assignment within the enrollment dates of the course (such as examinations, written papers or projects, any discussion posts, etc.) or initiating any communication with one's professor regarding an academic subject. More information regarding the [attendance policy](https://nam04.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwiki.os.liberty.edu%2Fdisplay%2FIE%2FOnline%2BAttendance%2BAnd%2BNon-Attendance&data=02%7C01%7Caccollins2%40liberty.edu%7Cd91431fa6ac547056b5408d833029e1a%7Cbaf8218eb3024465a9934a39c97251b2%7C0%7C0%7C637315433613719138&sdata=%2BNBTsPOoXuHAPLfISQRugK7cRSuV6UyC7qD3agf3l2k%3D&reserved=0) (<https://nam04.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwiki.os.liberty.edu%2Fdisplay%2FIE%2FOnline%2BAttendance%2BAnd%2BNon-Attendance&data=02%7C01%7Caccollins2%40liberty.edu%7Cd91431fa6ac547056b5408d833029e1a%7Cbaf8218eb3024465a9934a39c97251b2%7C0%7C0%7C637315433613719138&sdata=%2BNBTsPOoXuHAPLfISQRugK7cRSuV6UyC7qD3agf3l2k%3D&reserved=0>) can be found in the [Academic Course Catalogs](https://nam04.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.liberty.edu%2Findex.cfm%3FPID%3D791&data=02%7C01%7Caccollins2%40liberty.edu%7Cd91431fa6ac547056b5408d833029e1a%7Cbaf8218eb3024465a9934a39c97251b2%7C0%7C0%7C637315433613729132&sdata=DjjhMiRBFnF%2B2ZJUC8eBd1OdNb26S9ADukODYsilXIA%3D&reserved=0) (<https://nam04.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.liberty.edu%2Findex.cfm%3FPID%3D791&data=02%7C01%7Caccollins2%40liberty.edu%7Cd91431fa6ac547056b5408d833029e1a%7Cbaf8218eb3024465a9934a39c97251b2%7C0%7C0%7C637315433613729132&sdata=DjjhMiRBFnF%2B2ZJUC8eBd1OdNb26S9ADukODYsilXIA%3D&reserved=0>). Regular attendance in online courses is expected throughout the length of the term. Students who do not attend within the first week of a sub-term by submitting a required academic assignment (such as the Course Requirements Checklist, an examination, written paper or project, discussion post, or other academic activity) will be dropped from the course. Students who wish to re-engage in the course are encouraged to contact Academic Advising to discuss their enrollment options. Students who begin an online course, but at some point in the semester cease attending, and do not provide official notification to withdraw, will be assigned a grade of "FN" ([Failure for Non-Attendance](https://nam04.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwiki.os.liberty.edu%2Fdisplay%2FIE%2FUnofficial%2BWithdrawals&data=02%7C01%7Caccollins2%40liberty) (<https://nam04.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwiki.os.liberty.edu%2Fdisplay%2FIE%2FUnofficial%2BWithdrawals&data=02%7C01%7Caccollins2%40liberty>)).

[.edu%7Cd91431fa6ac547056b5408d833029e1a%7Cbaf8218eb3024465a9934a39c97251b2%7C0%7C0%7C637315433613729132&sdata=MoMvZdPfa69InuhVHMHAVgu59ZP0Fw45xJTU9PIBrU%3D&reserved=0](https://www.liberty.edu/7Cd91431fa6ac547056b5408d833029e1a%7Cbaf8218eb3024465a9934a39c97251b2%7C0%7C0%7C637315433613729132&sdata=MoMvZdPfa69InuhVHMHAVgu59ZP0Fw45xJTU9PIBrU%3D&reserved=0)). Students wishing to withdraw from courses after the official start date should familiarize themselves with the [withdrawal policy](#).

Grading Scale

A	B	C	D	F
900-1010	800-899	700-799	600-699	0-599

For courses with a Pass/NP final grade, please refer to the Course Grading section of this syllabus for the assignment requirements and/or point value required to earn a Passing final grade.

Add/Drop Policy

The full policy statement and procedures are published in the [Policy Directory](#) (<https://wiki.os.liberty.edu/display/IE/Dropping+and+Adding+Online+Classes>).

Honor Code

Liberty University comprises a network of students, Alumni, faculty, staff and supporters that together form a Christian community based upon the truth of the Bible. This truth defines our foundational principles, from our Doctrinal Statement to the Code of Honor. These principles irrevocably align Liberty University's operational procedures with the long tradition of university culture, which remains distinctively Christian, designed to preserve and advance truth. Our desire is to create a safe, comfortable environment within our community of learning, and we extend our academic and spiritual resources to all of our students with the goal of fostering academic maturity, spiritual growth and character development.

Communities are predicated on shared values and goals. The Code of Honor, an expression of the values from which our Doctrinal Statement was born, defines the fundamental principles by which our community exists. At the core of this code lie two essential concepts: a belief in the significance of all individuals, and a reliance on the existence of objective truth.

While we acknowledge that some may disagree with various elements of the Code of Honor, we maintain the expectation that our students will commit to respect and uphold the Code while enrolled at Liberty University.

Adherence to the principles and concepts established within facilitates the success of our students and strengthens the Liberty community.

The Code of Honor can be viewed in its entirety at <http://www.liberty.edu/index.cfm?PID=19155> (<http://www.liberty.edu/index.cfm?PID=19155>).

Schedule

When	Topic	Notes
Course Overview	Student Acknowledgements	Course Requirements Checklist
	Technology Integration Set-Up	Faithlife Student Resources
Module 1: Week 1	Learn	Read: 4 items Watch: 3 items
	Apply	Discussion Thread: Beliefs Quiz: Christian Apologetics
Module 2: Week 2	Learn	Read: 6 items Watch: 1 item

When	Topic	Notes
	Apply	Discussion Replies: Beliefs Quiz: Critical Thinking
Module 3: Week 3	Learn	Read: 8 items Watch: 1 item
	Apply	Worldview Research Paper Assignment Quiz: Biblical Worldview
Module 4: Week 4	Learn	Read: 9 items Watch: 1 item
	Apply	Discussion Thread: Gospel Message Perceptions Quiz: Salvation and the Gospel Message
Module 5: Week 5	Learn	Read: 5 items Watch: 1 item
	Apply	Discussion Replies: Gospel Message Perceptions Quiz: Religious Worldviews
Module 6: Week 6	Learn	Read: 6 items Watch: 1 item
	Apply	Critical Thinking Research Paper Assignment Quiz: Philosophical Worldviews
Module 7: Week 7	Learn	Read: 6 items Watch: 1 item
	Apply	Discussion Thread: Gospel Message Friendships and Barriers Quiz: Sharing the Gospel
Module 8: Week 8	Learn	Read: 6 items Watch: 2 items
	Apply	Discussion Replies: Gospel Message Friendships and Barriers Quiz: Truth and Tolerance