

Apologetics Syllabus

Description

This course is intended to help students fulfill the Great Commission through the use of Apologetics, or defending the Christian faith. Included in this study, is an in depth study of Scripture, its application, and proclamation to a Post-Christian world. At the conclusion of this class, the student will display a thorough Biblical understanding of the world around him/her, and how to best impact that world for the Kingdom of God.

Class Website

www.kingdomapologetics.com

Chris Henderson
Fort Bend Christian Academy
1250 Seventh Street
Sugar Land, TX. 77478
281.263.9199
chenderson@fortbendchristian.org

Organization

This class, dealing heavily with a large range of simple to difficult Biblical principles and abstract principles, is a bit different than typical classes at FBCA. Class discussions, debates, and roll playing will play large parts in the mastering of this class' content.

Methodology

The teacher will employ the following methods of instruction in order to accomplish the goals of this course:

Apologetics

1. *Lecture* - Some lessons will include the basic lecturing format in order to convey vital information to the students in order to ensure their readiness for the assigned material.
2. *Discussion* - Much of class time will be devoted to a round-table style discussion in which the teacher will guide the students' learning by employing the socratic method and other targeted pedagogical methodologies.
3. *Outside Reading* - Students will be required to complete reading assignments from Scripture, their textbook, as well as supplemental texts, as directed by the teacher. These readings will help facilitate the class discussions, as well as provide a rich learning experience outside of class.
4. *Debates/Presentations* - Throughout the year, students will participate in debates and presentations that will require a good deal of research, proper structuring of Biblical knowledge as well as apologetically oriented arguments, and working within a group dynamic in order to develop the skills needed to maximize students' impact for the Kingdom of God. Each debate will be graded based upon a student's demonstrated understanding the topic chosen, ability to articulate each topic's key points, and proficiency in critically analyzing and responding to counter-arguments.

Grading

This class will follow the FBCA Handbook's policy regarding grades.

Major assignments will be worth 60% of the student's total grade.

Minor assignments will be worth 40% of the student's total grade.

Each quarter will be worth 40% of the semester grade.

The Final Exam will be worth 20% of the semester grade.

Major grades will include presentations and assigned papers

Apologetics

Minor grades will include daily participation and forum participation

Apologetics

Texts

(Primary)

The Bible

(Secondary)

An assortment of readings will be provided to the students (*Partial List*)

Simply Christian by N.T. Wright

New Testament and the People of God by N.T. Wright

Summa Theologica by Thomas Aquinas

Proslogion by Anselm

In Defense of the Faith by Cornelius Van Till

The Story of Christian Theology by Roger Olsen

An Enquiry Concerning Human Understanding by David Hume

Assorted reading from *Mere Creation* edited by William A. Dembski

Contemporary Perspectives on Religious Epistemology by Geivett and Sweetman

Christian Theology by Millard Erickson

Course Outline:

Defense Of The Kingdom

- 1. The Great Commission**
 - a. Matthew
- 2. The Apologetic of the Early Church**
 - a. Acts
- 3. The Question of God**
 - a. Ecclesiastes

- b. Atheism
- c. Agnosticism
- d. Pantheism/Panentheism
- e. Deism
- f. Personal Theism
- 4. The Question of Evil**
 - a. Job
 - b. Theodicy
- 5. The Question of Faith and Science**
 - a. Genesis
 - b. The Nature and Age of the Universe Debate
 - c. The Creation/Evolution/Anthropological Debate
- 6. The Question of Scripture**
 - a. I Timothy
 - b. The Historicity of the Writers
 - c. The Historicity of the Oral Tradition
 - d. The Historicity of the Written Text
 - e. The Historicity of the Canon
- 7. The Question of Jesus**
 - a. Matthew and Acts
 - b. The Historical Jesus
 - c. Jesus in Scripture
- 8. The Question of the Spirit and the Church**
 - a. Acts
 - b. The Councils and Church Doctrine
 - c. The Orthodox, Catholic, and Protestant Divide

FBCA Department of Theology and Philosophy Mission Statement

The Department of Theology and Philosophy at Fort Bend Christian exists to be a tool used by the Holy Spirit to help each student become a disciple of Jesus Christ. In order to accomplish this task, we create an environment that aids the student to develop a dynamic relationship with Christ that is fueled by a growing knowledge of Scripture, a study of the history of the faith, growth in critical thinking, and a passion to become a servant-leader who seeks to disciple others and change the culture.