

Description

This course is intended to be a comprehensive study of Christian ethics and will include biblical and theological foundations, historical developments, and modern issues of morality stemming from scientific and medical advancements. A special emphasis on the effective dialogue between church and culture will be emphasized as will the necessity of exemplifying authentic Christian praxis.

Topics will include a biblical analysis of, sexuality and gender, abortion, bioethics, business ethics, marriage, divorce, violence, war, the death penalty, social justice, feminism, racism, alcohol, drugs, and more.

Class Website

www.kingdomapologetics.com

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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:

- 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.

Grading

This class will follow the FBBA 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.

 $The {\it Final Exam will be worth 20\% of the semester grade}.$

Texts

(Primary)

- The Bible
- Moral Vision of the New Testament by Richard Hayes
- Kingdom Ethics by Glen Stassen

(Secondary)

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

- Simply Christian by N.T. Wright
- After You Believe by N.T. Wright
- The Politics of Jesus by John Howard Yoder
- Good God: Theistic Foundations of Morality by David Baggett and Jerry Walls
- Assorted topical readings

Course Schedule and Topics:

Biblical Foundations

The Ethics of The Old Covenant

- 1. The Ritual Decalogue
- 2. The Ethical Decalogue
- 3. Micah

The Ethics of Jesus

1. Matthew

The Ethics of The Church

- 1. James
- 2. Galatians
- 3. I John

Modern Ethics

- 1. The role of the Christian in culture and politics
- 2. Sexuality and Gender
- 3. Abortion and Reproduction
- 4. Bioethics
- 5. Business Ethics
- 6. Marriage and Divorce
- 7. "For the Greater Good"
- 8. Violence, War, and the Death Penalty
- 9. Social Justice, Feminism, and Racism
- 10. Alcohol and Drugs
- 11.Etc.

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.