

HU 412C - Introduction to Apologetics

SYLLABUS

3 Hour Course

Description

This course is designed to introduce the student to the subject of Christian Apologetics. Students will study most of the key questions that have arisen over the centuries to challenge the validity of biblical Christianity. By the end of the course, the student will be better prepared to answer challenges to his or her faith and also learn how to press the point for a reassurance of biblical faith.

Objectives

By taking this course, the student will:

1. Develop a biblically-based, philosophically detailed defense and statement of Christian theism and belief in God.
2. Be aware of the basic arguments for and against Christian theism.
3. Explore concepts drawn from both classical and contemporary sources.
4. Demonstrate critical thinking in giving a defense of the faith.

Materials

The following books are required for this course:

Has Christianity Failed You? Ravi Zacharias, Zondervan, 2010
ISBN: 978-0-310-26955-7
<http://amzn.to/k1Kant>

When Skeptics Ask: A Handbook of Christian Evidence
Norman Geisler & Ron Brooks, Baker, 1995
ISBN: 0801011418
<http://amzn.to/iqIQdU>

A Pocket Style Manual, 5th edition
Hacker, Diana. Boston, MA: Bedford/ St. Martins.
ISBN: 031266480X
<http://amzn.to/jUqLk7>

Learning Experiences

1. This independent course is built around reading two popular and current Christian apologetists—Norman Geisler and Ravi Zacharias.
2. A normal classroom experience at the under graduate level requires about 120 chair hours (40 hours for classroom and double that for homework). To duplicate this experience this course is divided into 4 units in which it is

expected that the student will put in a minimum of 30 hours of study and writing for each unit.

3. Read and interact with the two textbooks.
4. A paper (in the 4th unit) will be submitted that will demonstrate that the student understands how to critically evaluate any current apologetics, issue and integrate what was learned in the course.

Bibliography

A complete bibliography is included in the Geisler textbook.

Grading

Grades will be assessed according to the following criteria:

Textbook Reading/Answering Questions	50%
Point/Counterpoint Paper	50%