

210.615 FAITH HAS ITS REASONS: CHRISTIAN APOLOGETICS TODAY
Course Outline

NQF Level: 6
Credit Value: 15

DELIVERY MODE

Christchurch

COURSE DESCRIPTION

Christian apologetics is the constructive defence of the Christian faith, especially in the face of doubt and unbelief. This course looks at such issues as: the appeals to reason, evidence, revelation and faith in apologetics; the role of 'points of contact'; popular excuses for avoiding or rejecting Christianity; the existence of God; the problems of evil and suffering; alternatives to the Christian faith in a pluralist world; the relationship of the faith to the wider spheres of human knowledge – especially history, the social sciences and scientific method; the debates over creation and evolution; the central roles of Christ and Christian Scripture. The course aims both at answering objections and also at building bridges for the Gospel of Christ.

LEARNING OUTCOMES

At the end of the course the student should be able to:

- (a) state the nature, purpose, necessity, relevance and limits of Christian apologetics;
- (b) identify, evaluate and respond in a well-informed, constructive and balanced way to some of the challenges to and alleged defeaters of a Christian worldview;
- (c) restate the traditional Christian appeals to Christ, Scripture, faith and experience in the light of contemporary challenges to a Christian worldview.