

**270.715 Worldviews and Ways of Life**  
**Course Assessment and Delivery Outline**

**Campus:** Distance Learning

Semester 2, 2015  
NQF Level: 7, 15 credits

**CONTENT OVERVIEW**

1. Worldviews and Ways of Life
2. Ways of Life and Worldviews
3. Worldviews and the Bible
4. The Roots and Growth of Modernity
5. The Heights of Modernity to Postmodernity
6. Worldviews - Maori
7. Worldviews - Pasifika
8. Worldviews - Asia
9. Living at the Crossroads - Missional Responses Around the World
10. Specific Issues in Public Life
11. Living at the Crossroads - Missional Responses in Aotearoa New Zealand
12. Specific Issues in Public Life in Aotearoa New Zealand

**ASSESSMENT TASKS AND DUE DATES**

**1. Participation in Online Discussion Forums**

<i>Learning outcomes:</i>	1, 2, 3, 4
<i>Due dates:</i>	Midnight Sunday at the end of semester weeks 1, 2, 3, 6, 8, 9 and 11
<i>Percentage weighting:</i>	25%
<i>Length:</i>	300 words initial post, followed by at least one 50 word response

The online discussion requires you to engage with various themes and topics. These tasks will require you to prepare an initial post of 300 words, followed by at least one further response, of at least 50 words, to another student's post. Specific instructions will accompany each online discussion task. Students are expected to complete all online discussions in a timely manner.

**2. Interview**

<i>Learning outcomes:</i>	1, 2
<i>Due date:</i>	Midnight Sunday at the end of semester week 5
<i>Percentage weighting:</i>	25%
<i>Length:</i>	2000 words

Interview a person from a different culture or generation in order to explore the contours of their worldview. Use Hiebert's model for analyzing worldviews as a framework for your investigation. In a written summary of the interview data, compare and contrast their worldview with yours. (See Appendix 1 in Hiebert for an example).

**3. Essay**

<i>Learning outcomes:</i>	1, 3, 4
<i>Due date:</i>	Midnight Sunday at the end of study week 1

Percentage weighting: 50%  
Length: 3500 words

Select a worldview theme from this list (or negotiate a different theme with your tutor):

- Shopping
- Technology
- Food
- Sexuality
- Art
- Science
- Disability
- The human body
- Fashion
- Beauty
- Asylum seekers/refugees
- Wholeness
- Personal growth/self-actualization
- Self-worth
- Racial/ethnic diversity
- Community
- Identity
- Personhood
- Place/Land
- Work
- Business
- Progress
- Knowledge
- Success
- The environment
- Education
- Justice

Examine the theme from the following perspectives:

- Your own worldview
- The worldview of a cultural group other than your own
- The worldview promoted within popular culture in New Zealand

Then develop a missional response to your chosen theme.

Remember to use specific examples as you develop your critique and throughout your work. Evaluate all of these perspectives through a grid of biblical understanding and beliefs.

## **CRITERIA FOR ASSESSMENT**

### **Participation in Online Discussion Forums**

Before beginning your first online discussion, please see the “Online Discussions grading guide and indicative mid-semester feedback” on Moodle for further details on how these criteria will be applied.

- Engagement with material
- Constructive engagement with others
- Structure and presentation
- Timeliness

## Interview

- Insightfulness: Distil and interpret worldview assumptions
- Critical thought: Analyse and discuss similarities and differences in worldviews
- Structure: Clear and logical arrangement of ideas; valid conclusions

## Essay

- Insightfulness: Explain and evaluate worldview concepts from self, others and popular culture
- Critical thought: Incisively evaluate and discuss the various worldview assumptions through a grid of biblical understanding
- Missional response clearly articulated and discussed
- Structure: Clear and logical arrangement of ideas; valid conclusions
- Communication & Presentation: Clarity, format, spelling, grammar; annotation and bibliography

## LEARNING HOURS

270.715 is a 15 credit course consisting of 150 learning hours. The assignment tasks and learning hours are as follows.

Task	Hours
Learning guide and readings	55 hours
Online discussion	25 hours
Interview	25 hours
Essay	<u>45 hours</u>
	150 hours

Although this guideline regarding learning hours is not intended to be applied rigidly, it should help ensure a balanced workload.

## TEXTBOOKS

The two following textbooks **are required** for this course:

Goheen, Michael W. and Bartholomew, Craig G. *Living at the Crossroads: An Introduction to Christian Worldview*. Grand Rapids, MI: Baker Academic, 2008.

Hiebert, Paul G. *Transforming Worldviews: An Anthropological Understanding of How People Change*, Grand Rapids, MI: Baker Academic, 2008.

In addition, all students will be provided with access to the Worldviews and Ways of Life course area in Moodle.

## BIBLIOGRAPHY

In order to ensure a genuine appreciation of the range of writings concerned with the relationship between worldviews and cultures, especially recommended additional works are:

### ***Worldviews: General***

- Goheen, Michael, W. The Urgency of Reading the Bible as One Story. *Theology Today*, 2006, 4, 469-483.
- Goheen, Michael W. and Bartholomew, Craig G. *Living at the Crossroads: An Introduction to Christian Worldview*. Grand Rapids, MI: Baker Academic, 2008.
- Heslam, Peter Somers and Abraham Kuyper. *Creating a Christian Worldview: Abraham Kuyper's Lectures on Calvinism*. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1998.
- Hiebert, Paul G. *Transforming Worldviews: An Anthropological Understanding of How People Change*, Grand Rapids, MI: Baker Academic, 2008.
- Kuyper, Lester Jacob. *Lectures on Calvinism*. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 2002.
- Naugle, David K. *Worldview: The History of a Concept*. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 2002.
- Pearcey, Nancy. *Total Truth: Liberating Christianity from its Cultural Captivity*. Wheaton: Crossway Books, 2004.
- Plantinga Jr., Cornelius. *Engaging God's World: A Christian Vision of Faith, Learning, and Living*. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 2002.
- Sire, James W. *Naming the Elephant: Worldview as a Concept*. Downers Grove: InterVarsity Press, 2004.
- Smith, James K.A. *Desiring the Kingdom: Worship, Worldview, and Cultural Formation*. Grand Rapids: Baker Academic, 2009.
- Walsh, Brian. "Transformation: Dynamic worldview or repressive ideology?" *Journal of Education and Christian Belief*, 2000, 4(2), 101-114.
- Wilkins, Steve and Mark L. Sanford. *Hidden Worldviews: Eight Cultural Stories that Shape our Lives*. Downers Grove: IVP, 2009.
- Wolters, Albert M. *Creation Regained: Biblical Basics for a Reformational Worldview*. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1985.

### **Modernity**

- Descartes, Rene. *Discourse on Method and The Meditations*. London: Penguin, 1968.
- Gay, Craig M. *The Way of the Modern World - or Why it's Tempting to Live as Though God Doesn't Exist*. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1998.
- Tarnas, Richard. *The Passion of the Western Mind*. New York: Ballantine Books, 1991.
- Young, C. "Ayn Rand at 100" at <http://www.reason.com/news/show/36527.html>

### **Postmodernity**

- Grenz, Stanley J. *A Primer on Postmodernism*. Grand Rapids, MI: Eerdmans, 1996.
- Walsh, Brian J. and Richard J. Middleton. *Truth is Stranger Than it Used to be: Biblical Faith in a Postmodern Age*. Downers Grove: InterVarsity Press, 1995.
- Smith, James K.A. *Who's Afraid of Postmodernism? Taking Derrida, Lyotard, and Foucault to Church*. Grand Rapids: Baker Academic, 2006.

### **New Zealand**

- Bluck, John. *Killing us Softly: Challenging the Kiwi Culture of Complaint*. Christchurch: Shoal Bay Press, 2001.

- Consedine, J. (2006). "Prison Numbers - a Growing Scandal" at <http://www.catholicworker.org.nz/rj/Prisons-ANationalDisgrace.doc>
- Crawshaw, John and Wayne Kirkland, eds. *New Zealand Made: Perspectives on Mission in Aotearoa*. Wellington: Signpost Communications, 1994.
- Elliott, S. and Gray, S., (2000), "Immigration Research Programme: Family Structures July 2000: A Report for the New Zealand Immigration Service" at: <http://www.dol.govt.nz/PDFs/Family%20Structures.pdf>
- King, Michael. *Being Pakeha Now: Reflections and Recollections of a White Native*. Auckland: Penguin Books, 1999.
- King, Michael. *The Penguin History of New Zealand*. Auckland: Penguin, 1999.
- Matthewman, Steve and Claudia Bell, eds. *Cultural Studies in Aotearoa New Zealand: Identity, Space and Place*. Victoria, Australia: Oxford University Press, 2004.
- Patrick, Bruce, ed. *The Vision New Zealand Congress*. Auckland: Vision New Zealand, 1993.
- Patrick, Bruce, ed. *The Vision New Zealand Congress 1997*. Auckland: Vision New Zealand, 1997.
- Patrick, Bruce, ed. *New Vision New Zealand*. Vol. 11. Auckland: Vision New Zealand, 1997.
- Patrick, Bruce, ed. *New Vision, New Zealand*. Vol. 111, Auckland: Tabernacle Books, 2008.
- Porter, Ruth, ed. *Pursuing Social Justice in New Zealand: 14 New Zealanders Share their Stories of Communities Helping People in Ways Government Cannot*. Auckland: Maxim Institute, 2007.

### **Maori Worldviews**

- Barlow, Cleve. *Tikanga Whakaaro: Key concepts in Maori culture*. Auckland, NZ: Oxford University Press, 1994.
- King, Michael, ed. *Te Ao Hurihuri: Aspects of Maoritanga*. Auckland: Reed Publishers, 1992.
- Martin, Lloyd. *One Faith, Two Peoples*. 3rd ed., Paraparaumu: Salt Company, 2002.
- Reed, A. W. *Myths and Legends of Maoriland*. Wellington: Reed Publishing, 1946.

### **Mission**

- Escobar, Samuel E. *A Time for Mission: The Challenge for Global Christianity*. Downers Grove: InterVarsity Press, 2003.
- Sine, Tom. *The New Conspirators*. Downers Grove: InterVarsity Press, 2008.
- Walls, Andrew F. and Catherine R. Ross., eds. *Mission in the 21st Century: Exploring the Five Marks of Global Mission*. Maryknoll: Orbis Books, 2008.
- Wright, Christopher. *The Mission of God: Unlocking the Bible's Grand Narrative*. Downers Grove: InterVarsity Press, 2006.

### **Contemporary Culture**

- De Marco, Donald. and Benjamin Wiker. *Architects of the Culture of Death*. San Francisco: Ignatius, 2004.
- Herrick, James A. *The Making of the New Spirituality: The Eclipse of the Western Religious Tradition*. Downers Grove: InterVarsity Press, 2003.
- Lealand, Geoff and Helen Martin. *It's All Done With Mirrors: About Television*. Palmerston North: Dunmore Press, 2001.

Postman, Neil. *Amusing Ourselves to Death: Public Discourse in the Age of Show Business*. London: Methuen, 1985.

Postman, Neil and Steve Powers. *How To Watch the TV News*. New York: Penguin, 2008.

### ***The Gospel in Contemporary Culture***

Kelly, Gerard. *Retrofuture: Rediscovering Our Roots, Recharting Our Routes*. Downers Grove: InterVarsity Press, 1999.

Marshall Paul A and Lela Gilbert. *Heaven is not my Home: Learning to Live in God's Creation*. Nashville: Word Publishing, 1998.

Newbigin, Lesslie. *The Other Side of 1984: Questions for the Churches*. Geneva: Risk Books, 1983.

Newbigin, Lesslie. *Truth To Tell: The Gospel as Public Truth*. London: SPCK, 1991.

Newbigin, Lesslie. *The Open Secret: An Introduction to the Theology of Mission*. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1995.

Ramachandra, Vinoth. *Subverting Global Myths: Theology and the Public Issues Shaping our World*. Downers Grove: InterVarsity Press, 2008.

Webber, Robert E. *Who Gets to Narrate the World? Contending for the Christian Story in an Age of Rivals*. Downers Grove: InterVarsity Press, 2008.

Wolterstorff, Nicholas P. *Until Justice and Peace Embrace*. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1983

### ***The Gospel and Specific Issues in Contemporary Culture***

Bouma-Prediger, Steven. and Brian J. Walsh. *Beyond Homelessness: Christian Faith in a Culture of Displacement*. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 2008.

Clapp, Rodney, ed. *The Consuming Passion: Christianity and the Consumer Culture*. Downers Grove: InterVarsity Press, 1998.

Mackenzie, Alistair and Wayne Kirkland. *Where's God on Monday?* Christchurch: NavPress, 2002.

Mackenzie, Alistair and Wayne Kirkland. *Just Decisions: Christian Ethics Go To Work*. Christchurch: NavPress, 2008.

Mackenzie, Alistair and Wayne Kirkland. *Soul Purpose: Making A Difference in Life and Work*. Christchurch: NavPress, 2004.

Marshall, Christopher D. *Beyond Retribution: A New Testament Vision for Justice, Crime, and Punishment*. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 2001.

Winter, Richard. *Still Bored in a Culture of Entertainment: Rediscovering Passion and Wonder*. Downers Grove: InterVarsity Press, 2002.

### ***The Gospel and Non-Western Culture***

Dickson, John. *A Spectator's Guide to World Religions: An Introduction to the Big Five*. Sydney: Blue Bottle, 2004.

Hillman, Eugene. *Polygamy Reconsidered: African Plural Marriage and the Christian Churches*. Maryknoll: Orbis, 1979.

Hwa Yung. *Mangoes or Bananas: The Quest for an Authentic Asian Christian Theology*. Oxford: Regnum, 1997.

### **Non-Western Worldviews**

Morton, Helen. *Becoming Tongan: An Ethnography of Childhood*. Honolulu: University of Hawai'i Press, 1996.

Ng, J., (2003b), "A laundry background" at <http://www.stevenyoung.co.nz/chinesevoice/history/lanundrymay03.htm>

Zhiying, S. "Chapter IV: An Axial –Interpretation of the Confucian Ethical Spirit" at [http://www.crvp.org/book/Series03/III-12/chapter\\_iv.htm](http://www.crvp.org/book/Series03/III-12/chapter_iv.htm)

### **Other useful books, but not in Laidlaw Library**

Bartholomew, C., ed., *In the Fields of the Lord: A Calvin Seerveld Reader*. Toronto Puppent Press, 2000.

Fowler, S. *Living Worldviews: The Hidden Framework for Life and Learning*. Melbourne: Amani Educational Services, 2006.

Smart, S., ed., *A Spectator's Guide to Worldviews: Ten Ways to Understand Life*. Sydney: Blue Bottle Books, 2007.

Taylor, D. *Tell Me a Story: The Life-Shaping Power of Stories*. St. Paul: Bog Walk Press, 2001.

Grayling, A. C. *Descartes: The Life of Rene Descartes and Its Place in His Times*. London, Free Press, 2005.

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Karetu, T., Brougham, A. and A. Reed. *The Reed book of Maori Proverbs: Te Kohikohinga Whakatauki a Reed*. Auckland: Reed Publishers, 1999.

Pitama, D., G. Ririnui and A. Mikaere. *Guardianship, Custody and Access: Maori Perspectives and Experiences*. Wellington: Ministry of Justice and Department for Courts, 2002.

Goudzwaard, B., M. Vander Vennen, and D. Van Heemst. *Hope in Troubled Times: A New Vision for Confronting Global Crises*. Grand Rapids: Baker Academic, 2007.

Moltmann, J. *God for a Secular Society: the Public Relevance of Theology*. Minneapolis: Fortress Press, 1999.

Saint, S. *End of the Spear*. Carol Stream: Tyndale House Publishers, 2005.

Toren, C. *Mind, Materiality and History: Explorations in Fijian Historiography*. New York: Routledge, 1999.