



Apologetics and Public Theology
(ST80607)
6 Study Credits

DESCRIPTION

This course explores the questions, doubts and thinking of contemporary culture, in order to enable you to reasonably defend the Christian faith, and engage in persuasive evangelism using apologetics. The course also seeks to challenge your thinking in order to strengthen your faith.

OBJECTIVES

As a result of the student's successful participation in this discipline, s/he will:

<i>Cognitive</i>	Be able to understand modern secular culture and its worldviews Be able to understand and critique the arguments used against Christianity, in order to show the superiority of the Christian worldview Understand the shift required in apologetics, given the contemporary cultural mood.
<i>Behavioural</i>	Be able to articulate clear answers to the major apologetic questions and doubts Be able to engage with contemporary people and build bridges for the gospel through worldview evangelism
<i>Affective</i>	Have a deeper confidence in the truth of Christianity and less fear about answering hard questions in evangelism

TEXT BOOKS

Required Reading

Norman Geisler & Frank Turek *I Don't Have Enough Faith to be an Atheist* (2004, ISBN 9781433580758) (Available on: Amazon or '10 of Those')

Recommended Reading

Alistair McGrath *Mere Apologetics* (2012)
Michael Ots *Making Sense of Life* (2021)
Timothy Keller *The Reason for God* (2008)
Tim Keller *Making Sense of God* (2016)
John Lennox *God's Undertaker: Has Science Buried God?* (2007)
Norman Geisler *If God, Why Evil?* (2011)
William Lane Craig *Reasonable Faith* (2008)
C.S. Lewis *The Abolition of Man*

Other recommended resources

www.solas-cpc.org (short videos, especially on 'wondering' questions)



ASSIGNMENT

A written assignment of 1500 words:

Students must prepare a carefully researched (with footnotes) evangelistic apologetics talk that could be delivered to a sceptical & non-Christian audience. This must be on a topic that is relevant to the context that the student is / will be engaging. Topics for the assignment must be submitted to the lecturer in writing by the end of the 5th week of the course for approval. Students must use the template of IDENTIFICATION, PERSUASION and INVITATION.

Topic Submission Date: 9th February 2024

Assignment Submission Date: 12th April 2024

SCHEDULE

January 11	Introduction: Apologetics, evangelism, and culture
January 18	Truth & Relativism
January 25	Belief in God's Existence
February 1	Exclusivism, Pluralism, Other Religions
February 8	Science, Creation, and Evolution
<i>February 15</i>	<i>No Class</i>
February 22	The reliability of the Bible
February 29	The Historical Jesus, Miracles, and the Resurrection
March 7	Suffering and Evil
March 14	Morality and Sexual Ethics
March 21	Existential apologetics & Wondering Questions