Course Title: PHILO 4483; Christian Faith and Science
Class Dates, Time, and Term: Monday morning, Spring 2010
Room: TBA
Professor: William A. Dembski

COURSE DESCRIPTION  A study of the relationship between faith and science, with special attention to issues relevant to Christian truth claims (e.g., the creation/evolution debate, the fine-tuning of the universe for human life). Prerequisite: PHILO 4313 or 4373. Three hours.

COURSE GOALS  This course will help students to reflect with theological accuracy, philosophical precision, and cultural sensitivity on the relation between science and Christian faith.

STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES  In this course the student will:
- Understand the main strategies for relating science and the Christian faith.
- Be able to summarize the main scientific challenges to the Christian faith.
- Learn to write critical reviews appropriate to the debate between science and religion.

COURSE TEXTS

Required

Recommended


**COURSE REQUIREMENTS**

1. Daily précis statements — 20 percent positive.
2. Midterm exam — 20 percent positive.
3. Final exam — 30 percent positive.
4. 2,000- to 2,500-word critical review of FC — 20 percent positive. Due last class meeting.
5. At least 10 posts defending aspects of the Christian worldview totaling at least 3,000 words on “hostile” websites — 10 percent positive.
6. Active class participation — up to 5 percent negative.
7. Pop quizzes – up to 5 percent negative.
8. Single-page one-sided executive summary of YOU (with clearly recognizable picture of yourself) — up to 5 percent negative if not handed in or carelessly done. Due second class meeting in hardcopy form as well as emailed to me.

**GRADES**

Grades will be determined by the following scale: 100-98 (A+); 97-93 = A; 92-90 (A-); 89-88 (B+); 87-83 (B); 82-80 (B-); 79-78 (C+); 77-73 (C); 72-70 (C-); 69-68 (D+); 67-63 (D); 62-60 (D-); Below 60 = F.

**ACADEMIC INTEGRITY**

Plagiarism is the misrepresentation of another's work as one's own. When the professor concludes that a student has plagiarized an assignment, the student will receive the grade of zero for the assignment, and the office of the Vice President for Student Affairs will be notified about the incident. The same actions apply to other acts of academic dishonesty such as cheating on examinations (see Ethical Conduct section in SWBTS catalog).

**SPECIAL NEEDS**

Individuals with documented impairments who may need special circumstances for exams, classroom participation, or assignments should contact the instructor at the beginning of the semester in order for special arrangements to be considered.

**CLASS SCHEDULE**

(1) F-V, chs. 1-5
(2) F-V, chs. 6-end
(3) BW, chs. 1-4
(4) BW, chs. 5-7
(5) BW, chs. 8-end
(6) JL, chs. 1-5
(7) JL, chs. 6-end
(8) FC, chs. 1-4
(9) FC, chs. 5-end
(10) WmD, intro., chs. 1-12
(11) WmD, chs. 13-end
(12) B-O, chs. 1-5
(13) B-O, chs. 6-10

COURSE BIBLIOGRAPHY


