

PHILO 5483 Intelligent Design

William A. Dembski

[masters course; fall 2007]

What you believe to be true will control you whether it's true or not.
—Jeremy LaBorde

Course Description:

This course provides an overview of the broad cultural, intellectual, and scientific movement known as intelligent design as well as of its chief antagonist, the view that cosmological and biological origins are best explained as the result of an accidental evolutionary process.

Course Objective:

The goal of this course is to help students understand how evolutionary theory and intelligent design fit within a Christian worldview.

Reading List:

- [WmAD] William A. Dembski, *The Design Revolution: Answering the Toughest Questions about Intelligent Design* (Downers Grove, Ill.: InterVarsity, 2004).
- [D&K] William Dembski and James Kushiner, eds., *Signs of Intelligence: Understanding Intelligent Design* (Grand Rapids, Mich.: Brazos Press, 2001).
- [F&G] Barbara Forrest and Paul R. Gross, *Creationism's Trojan Horse: The Wedge of Intelligent Design* (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2004).
- [PEJ] Phillip E. Johnson, *Darwin on Trial*, 2nd ed. (Downers Grove, Ill.: InterVarsity, 1993).
- [DOL] Denyse O'Leary, *By Design or by Chance? The Growing Controversy on the Origins of Life in the Universe* (Minneapolis: Augsburg, 2004).
- [LS] Lee Strobel, *The Case for a Creator* (Grand Rapids, Mich.: Zondervan, 2004).

Semester Grade:

- (1) Mid-term exam — 20 percent positive.
- (2) Comprehensive final exam — 40 percent positive.
- (3) 2,000- to 2,500-word critical review of F&G — 40 percent positive. Due last class meeting.

- (4) Active class participation — up to 10 percent negative.
- (5) Pop quizzes — up to 20 percent negative.
- (6) Single-page executive summary of YOU (with clearly recognizable picture of yourself) — minus 10 percent if not handed in. Due second class meeting.

Readings:

- (1) DOL, chs. 1-9
- (2) DOL, chs. 10-16
- (3) PEJ, pp. 1-87
- (4) PEJ, pp. 88-170
- (5) F&G, chs. 1-4.
- (6) F&G, chs. 5-7.
- (7) F&G, chs. 8-9.
- (8) WmAD, pts. 1 & 2.
- (9) WmAD, pts. 3 & 4.
- (10) WmAD, pts. 5 & 6.
- (11) LS, chs. 1, 2, 4; D&K, intro., chs. 1-4
- (12) LS, ch. 3; D&K, chs. 10, 11, 13, 14
- (13) LS, chs. 8, 9; D&K, chs. 7-9
- (14) LS, chs. 5-7, 10, 11; D&K, ch. 12

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Course: PHILO 5483

Term: Fall 2007

Time: 7:00 – 10:00 pm, Mondays.

Place: Central Baptist Church, College Station

Online: www.designinference.com/teaching/teaching.htm