

28677 Studies in Apologetics: A Primer on Intelligent Design Spring 2006

I count all things but loss for the excellency of the knowledge of Christ Jesus my Lord ... that I may know him, and the power of his resurrection, and the fellowship of his sufferings. Philippians 3

Course Description:

This course provides an overview of the broad cultural, intellectual, and scientific movement known as Intelligent Design. Of special interest here will be the reactions that this movement has elicited.

Course Objective:

The goal of this course is to help students understand how Intelligent Design fits within the larger cultural conversation.

Reading List:

- [WD1] William A. Dembski, *Intelligent Design: The Bridge Between Science and Theology* (Downers Grove, Ill.: InterVarsity, 1999).
- [WD2] 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, *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).
- [DOL] Denyse O'Leary, *By Design or by Chance? The Growing Controversy on the Origins of Life in the Universe* (Minneapolis: Augsburg, 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 the Forrest and Gross book — 40 percent positive. For details see <http://www.designinference.com/teaching/teaching.htm>.
- (4) Punctual class attendance — up to 10 percent negative.
- (5) Full class participation — up to 10 percent negative.
- (6) Pop quizzes — up to 20 percent negative.

Readings:

- (1) DOL, chs. 1-9.
- (2) DOL, chs. 10-16. D&K, ch. 2.

NOTE: (1) and (2) need to be read before the first class meeting.

- (3) WD1, pt. 1.
- (4) WD1, pt. 2.
- (5) WD1, pt. 3.
- (6) D&K, pp. 5-69.
- (7) D&K, pp. 70-127.
- (8) D&K, pp. 128-216 (omit my article).
- (9) F&G, chs. 1-4.
- (10) F&G, chs. 5-7.
- (11) F&G, chs. 8-9.
- (12) WD2, pts. 1 & 2.
- (13) WD2, pts. 3 & 4.
- (14) WD2, pts. 5 & 6.