



CHRISTIAN HERITAGE COLLEGE

**CS315**

## **CHRISTIANITY AND WORLDVIEWS**

This sample unit outline is provided by CHC for prospective and current students to assist with unit selection.

Elements of this outline which may change with subsequent offerings of the unit include Content, Required Texts, Recommended Readings and details of the Assessment Tasks.

Students who are currently enrolled in this unit should obtain the outline for the relevant semester from the unit lecturer.

<b>Unit code</b>	CS315
<b>Unit name</b>	Christianity and Worldviews
<b>Associated higher education awards</b>	Bachelor of Applied Social Science Bachelor of Counselling
<b>Duration</b>	One semester
<b>Level</b>	Advanced
<b>Core/elective</b>	Core
<b>Weighting</b>	Unit credit points: 10 Course credit points: Bachelor of Applied Social Science 240 Bachelor of Counselling 240
<b>Delivery mode</b>	Face-to-face on site External
<b>Student workload</b>	<p><i>Face-to-face on site</i></p> <p>Contact hours 39 hours Reading, study, and preparation 59 hours Assignment preparation 52 hours <b>TOTAL 150 hours</b></p> <p><i>External</i></p> <p>Engagement with study materials 90 hours Assignment preparation 60 hours <b>TOTAL 150 hours</b></p> <p>Students requiring additional English language support are expected to undertake an additional one hour per week.</p>
<b>Prerequisites/ co-requisites/ restrictions</b>	<i>Prerequisite</i> CS215 Contours for a Bible-based Christ-centred Worldview
<b>Rationale</b>	<p>This unit seeks to lay a foundation for the ongoing development of a Christian worldview as a paradigm that guides professional life.</p> <p>At the heart of all learning is the challenge of making sense and meaning of the world. To assist in this task, every person interprets reality through a <i>Weltanschauung</i>, or worldview. Such a worldview is based on ultimate faith commitments about the meaning of our lives, our values, our destiny and the world in which we live so that it is in this sense an all-encompassing system of belief that operates within each person.</p> <p>Students will be able to compare the effects of a Christian worldview as a perspective on the implications of alternative stories and ideas that have impacted upon both western and eastern thought and practice down the centuries. Furthermore, as those who are preparing to work in a number of professional fields, it is essential that students understand the influential narratives that shape the experiences of those with whom they work and the professional disciplines with which they engage.</p>

<b>Prescribed text(s)</b>	<p>Wilkins, S., &amp; Sanford, M. L. (2009). <i>Hidden worldviews: Eight cultural stories that shape our lives</i>. Downers Grove, IL: IVP Academic.<sup>1</sup></p> <p>Sire, J. W. (2009). <i>The Universe next door: A basic worldview catalog</i> (5th ed.). Downers Grove, IL: Intervarsity Press.<sup>1</sup></p>
<b>Recommended readings</b>	<p><b>Books</b></p> <p>Batholomew, C. &amp; Goheen, M. (2013). <i>Christian philosophy: A systematic and narrative introduction</i>. Grand Rapids, IL: Baker Academic.</p> <p>Kenny, A. (2012). <i>A new history of western philosophy</i>. Oxford, UK: Oxford University Press.</p> <p>Middelton, R. (2014). <i>A new heaven and a new earth: Reclaiming biblical eschatology</i>. Grand Rapids, IL: Baker Academic.</p> <p>Provan, I. (2014). <i>Seriously dangerous religion: What the Old Testament says and why it really matters</i>. Wayco, TX: Baylor University Press.</p> <p>Sire, J. (2015). <i>Naming the elephant: Worldview as a concept</i> (2nd ed.). Downers Grove, IL: IVP.</p> <p>Smith, J. (2013). <i>Imagining the kingdom: How worship Works</i>. Grand Rapids, IL: Baker Academic.</p> <p>Strom, M. (2014). <i>Lead with wisdom: How wisdom transforms good leaders into great leaders</i>. Brisbane, AUS: Wiley.</p> <p>Walton, J. (2015). <i>The lost world of Adam and Eve: Genesis 2-3 and the human origins debate</i>. Downers Grove, IL: IVP Academic.</p> <p><b>Journals</b></p> <p><i>Journal of Pastoral Care &amp; Counselling</i></p> <p><i>Journal of Psychology &amp; Christianity</i></p> <p><i>Journal of Psychology &amp; Theology</i></p> <p>In addition to the resources above, students should have access to a Bible, preferably a modern translation such as The Holy Bible: The New International Version 2011 (NIV 2011) or The Holy Bible: New King James Version (NKJV).</p> <p>These and other translations may be accessed free on-line at <a href="http://www.biblegateway.com">http://www.biblegateway.com</a>. The Bible app from LifeChurch.tv is also available free for smart phones and tablet devices.</p>
<b>Specialist resource requirements</b>	Nil
<b>Content</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Revisiting Christian Theism and its philosophical origins and expressions</li> <li>2. Deism</li> <li>3. Naturalism and Humanism</li> <li>4. Nihilism</li> <li>5. Existentialism and Post-modernism</li> <li>6. New Age/Eastern Influences</li> <li>7. Indigenous worldviews</li> <li>8. Hidden worldviews</li> <li>9. Zeitgeist of our current age</li> </ol>

<sup>1</sup> Seminal text

<b>Learning outcomes</b>	<p>On completion of this unit, students will have demonstrated that they have:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Understood the implications of a Christian worldview for the individual and society;</li> <li>2. Evaluated the varying expressions of a Christian worldview;</li> <li>3. Reflected on their engagement with the claims of Jesus within a Christian worldview;</li> <li>4. Critically reviewed and synthesised information on significant western and non-western worldviews and cultures;</li> <li>5. Analysed their own worldview in the light of their understanding of a Christian worldview;</li> <li>6. Applied their own worldview to their intended professional life; and</li> <li>7. Communicated at an appropriate tertiary standard with special attention to correct grammars, punctuation, spelling, vocabulary, usage, sentence structure, logical relations, style, referencing, and presentation.</li> </ol>
<b>Assessment tasks</b>	<p><b>Task 1: Worldview Analysis</b></p> <p>Complete three journals that demonstrate your understanding of worldview perspectives.</p> <p>Word Length/Duration: 3,000 words</p> <p>Weighting: 60%</p> <p>Learning Outcomes: 4-7</p> <p>Assessed: Weeks 5, 7, 9</p> <p><b>Task 2: Reflective Essay</b></p> <p>Outline the key aspects of a chosen worldview or philosophy and critique it from your understanding of a Christian worldview.</p> <p>Word Length/Duration: 1,500 words</p> <p>Weighting: 40%</p> <p>Learning Outcomes: 1-3, 5-7</p> <p>Assessed: Week 13</p>
<b>Unit summary</b>	<p>This unit seeks to lay a foundation for the ongoing development of a Christian worldview as a paradigm that guides professional life.</p>