Note:

Course content may be changed, term to term, without notice. The information below is provided as a guide for course selection and is not binding in any form, and should **not** be used to purchase course materials.
COURSE SYLLABUS
APOL 104
CONTEMPORARY WORLDVIEWS

COURSE DESCRIPTION
This is a study in the development and application of the Biblical/Christian Worldview. This course will include an introduction and application of critical thinking skills, as well as a study of religious and philosophical worldviews, the nature of tolerance and basic apologetic methodology.

RATIONALE
APOL 104 is designed to deepen and broaden the student’s understanding of the core fundamentals of the Biblical/Christian Worldview and to equip the student to present that view in the face of competing worldviews. The goal is to enable the student to think more clearly and critically about Christianity and truth. It is also the goal to equip Christians to become more effective witnesses and participate more constructively in the larger socio-cultural debate. In order to accomplish this goal, we must (1) understand the essentials of Christian truth, (2) understand the historical opponents to Christianity and truth, and (3) present a biblical, logical, and reasonable defense of Christianity. Through studying worldviews, the student can better understand the nature of humanity and individual conduct so that he or she is prepared to address relevant questions in a culture of relativism. As the apostle Paul states, “Let your conversation be always full of grace, seasoned with salt, so that you may know how to answer everyone” Col. 4:6 (NASB). By understanding worldviews, one acquires a powerful form of wisdom that characterized the sons of Issachar, “men who understood the times, with knowledge of what Israel should do…” 1 Chron. 12:32 (NASB).

I. PREREQUISITE
For information regarding prerequisites for this course, please refer to the Academic Course Catalog.

II. REQUIRED RESOURCE PURCHASE
Click on the following link to view the required resource(s) for the term in which you are registered: http://bookstore.mbsdirect.net/liberty.htm

III. ADDITIONAL MATERIALS FOR LEARNING
A. Computer with basic audio/video output equipment
B. Internet access (broadband recommended)
C. Microsoft Office
D. Windows Media Player
IV. **MEASURABLE LEARNING OUTCOMES**
Upon successful completion of this course, the student will be able to:

A. Apply critical thinking strategies and identify informal logical fallacies commonly used in argumentation.
B. Define the term worldview and identify components of a Biblical/Christian Worldview.
C. Identify important people and principles of major contemporary moral philosophies and religious worldviews that have helped shape modern society.
D. Examine the Christian gospel and describe and assess common perceptions of the Christian gospel.
E. Employ strategies to communicate the Christian gospel to a person from a non-Christian Worldview.

V. **COURSE REQUIREMENTS AND ASSIGNMENTS**

A. Textbook readings, selected articles and websites, and presentations
B. Course Requirements Checklist
   After reading the Course Syllabus and Student Expectations, the student will complete the related checklist found in Module/Week 1.
C. Discussion Board Forum 1
   Discussion boards are collaborative learning experiences. Therefore, the student is required to provide a thread in response to the provided topic for each forum. Each thread must be 50–100 words for each question (100–200 words total). In addition to the thread, the student is required to reply to at least 2 other classmates’ threads. Each reply must be 50–100 words. All forums must be supported by course content, outside materials, and/or Scripture references using current APA, MLA, or Turabian formatting (whichever corresponds to the student’s degree program). (MLO: Pre-test assignment)
D. Discussion Board Forums 2 and 3
   Discussion boards are collaborative learning experiences. Therefore, the student is required to provide a thread in response to the provided topic for each forum. Each thread must be 250–500 words. In addition to the thread, the student is required to reply to at least 2 other classmates’ threads. Each reply must be 150–300 words. All forums must be supported by course content, outside materials, and/or Scripture references using current APA, MLA, or Turabian formatting (whichever corresponds to the student’s degree program). (MLO: A, C, D)
E. Worldview Paper
   The student will submit a 450–900-word paper. This assignment is designed to assess the student’s understanding of worldview following the content taught in the course. The topic of this assignment is to answer questions about the student’s current understanding of “worldview.” The student is required support his or her
answers with course content, outside materials, and Scripture references using current APA, MLA, or Turabian formatting (whichever corresponds to the student’s degree program). A minimum of 3 different sources is required. At least 2 of the sources must be outside of the materials used in this course. (MLO: B)

F. Critical Thinking Paper

This assignment is designed to assess the student’s critical thinking skills in the area of problem solving. The student will submit a paper consisting of 500–1,000 words answering questions using critical thinking skills addressed in this course. The student is required to support his or her answers with course content and outside materials using current APA, MLA, or Turabian formatting (whichever corresponds to the student’s degree program). A minimum of 3 different sources is required. At least 2 of the sources must be outside of the materials used in this course. (MLO: A, B, E)

G. Tests (8)

Each module/week, the student will complete an open-book/open-notes test that consists of 20 multiple-choice and true/false questions based on the Reading & Study information. The student will have 30 minutes to complete each test. (MLO: A, B, C)

VI. COURSE GRADING AND POLICIES

A. Points

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Requirement</th>
<th>Points</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Course Requirements Checklist</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Discussion Board Forums</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Threads (1 at 20 pts, 2 at 50 pts ea)</td>
<td>120</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Replies (1 at 20 pts, 2 at 50 pts ea)</td>
<td>120</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Worldview Paper</td>
<td>140</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Critical Thinking Paper</td>
<td>140</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tests (8 at 60 pts ea)</td>
<td>480</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>1010</strong></td>
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</table>

B. Scale

A = 900–1010  B = 800–899  C = 700–799  D = 600–699  F = 0–599

C. Late Assignment Policy

If the student is unable to complete an assignment on time, then he or she must contact the instructor immediately by email.

Assignments that are submitted after the due date without prior approval from the instructor will receive the following deductions:

1. Late assignments submitted within one week of the due date will receive a 10% deduction.

2. Assignments submitted more than one week late will receive a 20% deduction.
3. Assignments submitted two weeks late or after the final date of the course will not be accepted.

4. Late Discussion Board threads or replies will not be accepted.

Special circumstances (e.g. death in the family, personal health issues) will be reviewed by the instructor on a case-by-case basis.

D. Disability Assistance

Students with a documented disability may contact Liberty University Online’s Office of Disability Academic Support (ODAS) at LUOODAS@liberty.edu to make arrangements for academic accommodations. Further information can be found at www.liberty.edu/disabilitysupport.
COURSE SCHEDULE

APOL 104


<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>MODULE/WEEK</th>
<th>READING &amp; STUDY</th>
<th>ASSIGNMENTS</th>
<th>POINTS</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Caner &amp; Hindson: Selected Readings&lt;br&gt;Powell: ch. 1&lt;br&gt;Weider &amp; Gutierrez: Introduction, ch. 1&lt;br&gt;2 presentations</td>
<td>Course Requirements Checklist&lt;br&gt;Class Introductions&lt;br&gt;Contact Information Quiz&lt;br&gt;DB Forum 1 Thread&lt;br&gt;Test 1</td>
<td>10&lt;br&gt;0&lt;br&gt;0&lt;br&gt;20&lt;br&gt;60</td>
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<td>2</td>
<td>Caner &amp; Hindson: Selected Readings&lt;br&gt;Powell: chs. 2–3&lt;br&gt;Weider &amp; Gutierrez: chs. 2–3&lt;br&gt;1 presentation</td>
<td>DB Forum 1 Replies&lt;br&gt;Test 2</td>
<td>20&lt;br&gt;60</td>
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<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Caner &amp; Hindson: Selected Readings&lt;br&gt;Powell: chs. 6–8&lt;br&gt;Weider &amp; Gutierrez: chs. 4–5&lt;br&gt;2 presentations&lt;br&gt;1 article</td>
<td>Worldview Paper&lt;br&gt;Test 3</td>
<td>140&lt;br&gt;60</td>
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<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Caner &amp; Hindson: Selected Readings&lt;br&gt;Powell: chs. 11–12&lt;br&gt;Weider &amp; Gutierrez: chs. 6–7&lt;br&gt;1 presentation&lt;br&gt;1 article</td>
<td>DB Forum 2 Thread&lt;br&gt;Test 4</td>
<td>50&lt;br&gt;60</td>
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<td>5</td>
<td>Caner &amp; Hindson: Selected Readings&lt;br&gt;Powell: ch. 5&lt;br&gt;1 presentation&lt;br&gt;3 articles</td>
<td>DB Forum 2 Replies&lt;br&gt;Test 5</td>
<td>50&lt;br&gt;60</td>
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<td>6</td>
<td>Caner &amp; Hindson: Selected Readings&lt;br&gt;Powell: ch. 4&lt;br&gt;Weider &amp; Gutierrez: ch. 8&lt;br&gt;1 presentation&lt;br&gt;1 article</td>
<td>Critical Thinking Paper&lt;br&gt;Test 6</td>
<td>140&lt;br&gt;60</td>
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<td>7</td>
<td>Caner &amp; Hindson: Selected Readings&lt;br&gt;Weider &amp; Gutierrez: chs. 10–11&lt;br&gt;1 presentation</td>
<td>DB Forum 3 Thread&lt;br&gt;Test 7</td>
<td>50&lt;br&gt;60</td>
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### APOL 104 Course Schedule

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<tr>
<th>MODULE/WEEK</th>
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<th>POINTS</th>
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<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Caner &amp; Hindson: Selected Readings</td>
<td>DB Forum 3 Replies</td>
<td>50</td>
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<td>Powell: chs. 13–14</td>
<td>Test 8</td>
<td>60</td>
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<td>Weider &amp; Gutierrez: ch. 9</td>
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<td>1 presentation</td>
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**Total 1010**

DB = Discussion Board

**NOTE:** Each course module/week (except Module/Week 1) begins on Tuesday morning at 12:00 a.m. (ET) and ends on Monday night at 11:59 p.m. (ET). The final module/week ends at 11:59 p.m. (ET) on Friday.