

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

CRST 290

HISTORY OF LIFE

COURSE DESCRIPTION

An interdisciplinary study of the origin and history of life in the universe. Faculty will draw from science, religion, history, and philosophy in presenting the evidence and arguments for creation and against evolution. The online course is 3 semester hours credit.

RATIONALE

This course is designed to instill in the student a clear understanding of the relationship between science and Scripture as it pertains to the study of origins. The course will help the student develop a more consistent biblical/Christian worldview and equip him or her to defend it.

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. Videos may be viewed free online with purchase of the ePack, or they can be purchased separately as DVDs:
 - 1. *Icons of Evolution* www.coldwatermedia.com
 - 2. *Thousands...Not Billions* www.icr.org
 - 3. *Evidences II: The Tale of a Trilobite* www.grisda.org
 - 4. *Human Origins, a Trip to the Smithsonian*
 - 5. *Genesis: The Key to Reclaiming the Culture* www.answersingenesis.org

IV. MEASURABLE LEARNING OUTCOMES

Upon successful completion of this course, the student will be able to:

- A. Recognize the presuppositions of the evolution and creation models for the origin of life, species, the universe, and the solar system.
- B. Distinguish from various creation compromise views and identify objections to each.
- C. Evaluate the scientific evidences for the creation and evolution frameworks, and integrate Scripture with science as it relates to the topic of origins.
- D. Distinguish between examples of microevolution and macroevolution.

V. CORE COMPETENCY LEARNING OUTCOMES

Upon successful completion of this course, the student will be able to:

- A. Evaluate information to determine if it is supported by the evidence.
- B. Determine the relevance of information in evaluating an argument or conclusion.
- C. Recognize flaws and logical inconsistencies in an argument.
- D. Generate conclusions based on credible research, analysis, and interpretation.
- E. Know the difference between a biblical and secular worldview.

VI. COURSE REQUIREMENTS AND ASSIGNMENTS

- A. Textbook readings and lecture presentations/notes
- 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 Forums (3)

Discussion boards are collaborative learning experiences. Therefore, the student will submit a thread in response to the provided prompt for each forum, answering various questions relating to the course material. The student will have to read, research, or view specific sources so that he or she can fully answer the questions presented. Each thread must be at least 250 words and demonstrate course-related knowledge. For each thread, the student will support his or her assertions with at least 1 citation in current APA format. In addition to the thread, the student will reply to the threads of at least 2 classmates. Each reply must be at least 150 words and incorporate at least 1 citation in current APA format. Acceptable sources include the course textbook, the Bible, and scholarly journals.

- D. Worldview Pre-Test and Post-Test

The student will take a brief worldview assessment survey before the beginning of the course and also at the end of the course. The student must take the ungraded pre-test before Module/Week 1. Completion of BOTH the pre-test before starting Module/Week 1 and the post-test after all coursework is completed is required to

receive the points at the end of the course. Failure to complete both tests in this format will result in no credit.

E. Interview Paper

The student will interview 3 friends, relatives, and/or teachers and ask them about their views on various topics related to origins. Then, the student will write a 1,000–1,500-word paper describing his or her interviews and how he or she did or could respond to the people interviewed. The paper must use current APA format.

F. Exams (7)

The student will take exams covering the lessons from the assigned modules/weeks. Each exam is open-book/open-notes, contains 28–31 questions, and has a time limit of 45 minutes. Test questions will include true/false, multiple-choice, fill-in-the-blank, short answer, and essay questions. Questions will be presented 1 at a time with no backtracking.

G. Core Competency Assessment

The student will take an assessment testing the areas covered in the Core Competency Learning Outcomes. This assessment is open-book/open-notes, contains 20 multiple-choice questions, and has a time limit of 25 minutes.

H. Final Exam

The student will take a final exam covering all of the lessons in the course. This exam is open-book/open-notes, contains 50 questions, and has a time limit of 1 hour. Test questions will include true/false and multiple-choice questions. Questions will be presented 1 at a time with no backtracking.

VII. COURSE GRADING AND POLICIES

A. Points

Course Requirements Checklist		10
Discussion Board Forums (3 at 15 pts ea)		45
Worldview Pre-Test		0
Worldview Post-Test		50
Interview Paper		50
Exam 1	(Lessons 1–4)	100
Exam 2	(Lessons 5–7)	100
Exam 3	(Lessons 8–10)	100
Exam 4	(Lessons 11–13)	100
Exam 5	(Lessons 14–16)	100
Exam 6	(Lessons 17–19)	100
Exam 7	(Lessons 20–21)	100
Core Competency Assessment		55
Final Exam	(Lessons 1–23)	100
	Total	1010

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

CRST 290

Textbook: DeWitt, *History of Life Course ePack* (2012).

MODULE/ WEEK	READING & STUDY	ASSIGNMENTS	POINTS
1	Creation Curriculum Materials DeWitt: chs. 1–2 5 presentations Lessons 1–4	Course Requirements Checklist Worldview Pre-Test DB Forum 1 Exam 1	10 * 15 100
2	Creation Curriculum Materials DeWitt: chs. 3–4 1 presentation Lessons 5–7	Exam 2	100
3	Creation Curriculum Materials DeWitt: ch. 5 1 presentation Lessons 8–10 2 websites	DB Forum 2 Exam 3	15 100
4	Creation Curriculum Materials DeWitt: chs. 6–7 1 presentation Lessons 11–13	Exam 4	100
5	Creation Curriculum Materials DeWitt: ch. 8 1 presentation Lessons 14–16	DB Forum 3 Exam 5	15 100
6	Creation Curriculum Materials DeWitt: ch. 9 2 presentations Lessons 17–19	Exam 6	100
7	Creation Curriculum Materials DeWitt: chs. 10–11 1 presentation Lessons 20–21 1 website	Interview Paper Exam 7	50 100
8	Creation Curriculum Materials DeWitt: ch. 12 1 presentation Lessons 22–23 1 website	Worldview Post-Test Core Competency Assessment Final Exam	50 55 100
TOTAL			1010

DB = Discussion Board

*Completion required to receive credit for Worldview Post-Test

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**.