

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

PHIL 240

CHRISTIAN EVIDENCES

COURSE DESCRIPTION

A survey of the evidences for the central truths of Christianity; the existence of God, the deity and resurrection of Christ and the authority and truth of the Bible.

RATIONALE

With Christians living in an environment increasingly antagonistic towards the truth claims of Christianity, it is imperative that Christians be equipped to “give a ready defense to everyone who asks for a reason for the hope that is in you” (1 Peter 3:15). Christian apologetics can be used as a tool of the Holy Spirit to buttress the faith of believers and to prepare the minds of unbelievers. Those preparing for vocational Christian ministry, lay ministry, or academic ministry must be familiar with the evidences for the Christian faith and the effective use of apologetics in the Christian and in the secular arena.

I. PREREQUISITES

PHIL 201

II. REQUIRED RESOURCE PURCHASES

Click the following link to view the required resources for the term in which you are registered: <http://bookstore.mbsdirect.net/liberty.htm>

III. RECOMMENDED RESOURCE PURCHASE

Strobel, L. *The Case for Christ*. Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan, (1998). ISBN: 0310209307.

IV. ADDITIONAL MATERIALS FOR LEARNING

- A. Computer with basic audio/video output equipment
- B. Internet access (broadband recommended)
- C. Microsoft Word and PowerPoint
(Microsoft Office is available at a special discount to Liberty University students.)

V. MEASURABLE LEARNING OUTCOMES

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

- A. Demonstrate a grasp of the evidence given in support of theism in general and the Christian faith in particular.

- B. Provide a rationale for the use of apologetics in affirming personal faith and for sharing such faith through evangelism.
- C. Develop a detailed argument in support of the historicity of Jesus Christ and the reliability of the New Testament.
- D. Provide a detailed apologetic support for the resurrection of Jesus Christ.
- E. Present a biblical case of the deity of Jesus Christ.
- F. Articulate a proper response to the standard objections raised by skeptics against Christianity.

VI. COURSE REQUIREMENTS AND ASSIGNMENTS

- A. Textbook readings and presentations
- B. Group Discussion Board forums (3)

The student will participate in three Group Discussion Board forums in this course. Each initial thread should be 250-300 words and is due by 11:59 p.m. (ET) on Thursday of Modules/Weeks 2, 3, and 6. The student must reply to four other students' posts consisting of 100-150 words each. Replies are due by 11:59 p.m. (ET) on Monday of the same modules/weeks.

- C. Essay Sets (2)

The student will complete two essay sets, each set consisting of three distinct essay prompts designed to stimulate the student's thinking and assess the knowledge gleaned from the textbook readings. Each essay response should be 2-3 pages, totaling 6-9 pages per essay set. The first essay set is due by 11:59 p.m. (ET) on Monday of Module/Week 4, and the second essay set is due by 11:59 p.m. (ET) on Friday of Module/Week 8.

- D. Quizzes (8)

The student will take weekly quizzes consisting of 25 true/false and multiple-choice questions from the textbook readings and presentations. Quizzes are 30 minutes, open book/open notes and must be completed by 11:59 p.m. (ET) on Monday of Modules/Weeks 1 – 7, excluding Quiz 8 which must be completed by 11:59 p.m. (ET) on Friday of Module/Week 8.

VII. COURSE GRADING AND POLICIES

- A. Points

Group Discussion Board forums (3 at 100 pts ea)	300
Essay Sets (2 at 250 pts ea)	500
Quizzes (8 at 25 pts ea)	200
Total	1000

B. Scale

A = 960–1000 A- = 940–959 B+ = 920–939 B = 890–919 B- = 870–889
C+ = 850–869 C = 820–849 C- = 800–819 D+ = 780–799 D = 750–779
D- = 730–749 F = 729 and below

C. 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.

COURSE SCHEDULE

PHIL 240

Textbooks: Craig, *On Guard: Defending your Faith with Reason and Precision* (2010).
 Habermas & Licona, *The Case for the Resurrection of Jesus* (2004).
 Komoszewski et al., *Reinventing Jesus: How Contemporary Skeptics Miss the Real Jesus and Misdemean Popular Culture* (2006).

WEEK/ MODULE	READING & STUDY	ASSIGNMENTS	POINTS
1	Craig: chs. 1-3 1 presentation	Course Requirements Checklist Class Introductions Quiz 1	0 0 25
2	Craig: chs. 4-7 Habermas & Licona: ch. 11 1 presentation	Group DB Forum 1 Quiz 2	100 25
3	Komoszewski et al.: chs. 1-3, 9-11 2 presentations	Group DB Forum 2 Quiz 3	100 25
4	Komoszewski et al.: chs. 4-8 2 presentations	Essay Set 1 Quiz 4	250 25
5	Craig: ch. 8 Habermas & Licona: ch. 10 Komoszewski et al.: chs. 12-15 1 presentation	Quiz 5	25
6	Craig: ch. 10 Komoszewski et al.: chs. 16-18 1 presentation	Group DB Forum 3 Quiz 6	100 25
7	Craig: ch. 9 Habermas & Licona: chs. 1-4 1 presentation	Quiz 7	25
8	Habermas & Licona: chs. 5-9, 12-13 1 presentation	Essay Set 2 Quiz 8	250 25
TOTAL			1000

DB = Discussion Board

NOTE: Each course week (except 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 week ends at 11:59 p.m. (ET) on Friday.