

## PHIL111: Contemporary Worldviews

### Course Syllabus (1, 2 or 3 credit hours)

This course is offered for college credit to summer conference participants through Summit's partnership with **Bryan College** in Dayton, TN. To learn more about Bryan College, their programs of study, and their historic commitment to the Christian worldview, please visit [bryan.edu](http://bryan.edu).

**Faculty of Record:** Dustin Jizmejian, M.A.

### Content Presenters

*(Not necessarily all of these speakers may present during the session. Other guest speakers will also be invited as opportunities arise. Summit will host 15-22 speakers per session.)*

Mike Adams, Ph.D.

Megan Almon, M.A.

Matt Lee Anderson, M.Phil.

Barry Asmus, Ph.D.

Travis Barham, J.D.

Michael Bauman, Ph.D.

Frank Beckwith, Ph.D.

Paul Boling, Ph.D.

Anne Bradley, Ph.D.

Bill Brown, Ph.D.

Kevin Brown, Ph.D.

Mark Christian, Ph.D.

Jenna Ellis, Ph.D.

Gary Hartenburg, Ph.D.

Craig Hazen, Ph.D.

Scott Klusendorf, M.A.

Kathy Koch, Ph.D.

Greg Koukl, M.A.

Brett Kunkle, M.A.

Tyson Langhofer, J.D.

Mike Licona, Ph.D.

Louis Markos, Ph.D.

Jennifer Marshall, Ph.D.

Casey Mattox, J.D.

Sean McDowell, Ph.D.

Mark Mittelberg, M.A.

Terry Moffitt, Ph.D.

Abdu Murray, J.D.

Jeff Myers, Ph.D.

Glenn Paauw, Ph.D.

Gary Phillips, Th.D.

Christen Price, J.D.

Jay Richards, Ph.D.

Fred Sanders, Ph.D.

Mary Jo Sharp, M.A.

Michael C. Sherrard

Alan Shlemon, M.A.

Joshua Smith, Ph.D.

Glenn T. Stanton, M.A.

John Stonestreet, M.A.

Del Tackett, Ph.D.

Frank Turek, Ph.D.

Ken Turner, Ph.D.

Jeff Ventrella, J.D.

J. Warner Wallace, M.A.

Richard Weikart, Ph.D.

Todd Wood, Ph.D.

Samuel Youngs, Ph.D.

Christopher Yuan, Ph.D.

### Course Description

PHIL 111 Contemporary Worldviews (1, 2 or 3 hours)

An exploration of the assumptions of contemporary approaches to issues in society. Includes the study of New Age, Marxism, Naturalism, and Theism. (This course is offered only in conjunction with Summit Ministries, Manitou Springs, Colorado)

The class features a range of guest speakers and content-experts with expertise in the following areas: theology, philosophy, ethics, science, psychology, sociology, political science, history, economics, and law.

### **Course Objectives — After completing this course, students will be able to:**

1. Articulate a factual foundation for their chosen worldview.
2. Understand several influential worldviews: Theism, Naturalism, Postmodernism, Secular Humanism, Islam, and New Age.
3. Develop basic skills of disciplined inquiry by comparing and contrasting the various worldviews.
4. Apply an understanding of worldviews to the natural sciences, the social sciences, the humanities, and biblical studies.

### **Textbook**

David A. Noebel & Jeff Myers, “Understanding the Times: A Survey of Competing Worldviews,” 2nd edition (Colorado Springs, CO: David C. Cook, 2016).

### **Course Requirements**

- Attendance—attendance at all virtual sessions is required, and unexcused absences or tardies will reduce your grade.
- Class Notes—you must take clear, concise, well-organized notes on all lectures.
- Comprehensive Exam—at the end of the course, you must pass a multiple-choice exam covering the material given during the lectures (The breakout sessions will not be a part of the exam).
  
- **1 credit hour**
  - Take a college credit **comprehensive exam** based on Summit Virtual lectures
- **2 credit hours**
  - Listen to an additional **10** hours of lectures after the session
  - Read **assigned** excerpts of *Understanding the Times*
  - Write a 2-page worldview **essay** (due 14 days after session ends)
  - Take a college credit **comprehensive exam** based on Summit Virtual lectures
- **3 credit hours**
  - Listen to an additional **15** hours of lectures after the session
  - Write a 2-page worldview **essay** (due 14 days after session ends)
  - Take a college credit **comprehensive exam** based on Summit Virtual lectures
  - Read **assigned** excerpts of *Understanding the Times*
  - Write a 12-page minimum research **paper** (due 30 days after session ends)

### **Essential Functions**

Participants must be able to do the following:

- Read and study at the college level.
- Effectively take exams.
- Complete assignments and projects within a deadline.

- Assimilate and report on information from lectures and readings.
- Communicate effectively in writing.

### Course Grading — This course will be graded on the following scale:

93% - 100%	A
90% - 92%	A-
87% - 89%	B+
83% - 86%	B
80% - 82%	B-
77% - 79%	C+
73% - 76%	C
70% - 72%	C-
69% or below	No credit

In a case where a student registers and pays for the three-credit option yet fails to submit the required research paper by the deadline, he or she will receive a grade of 0% for that portion of the course requirements. In most cases, this will cause the student's overall score to drop below 70%, resulting in a failing grade.

### Credit Hour Course Grading Breakdown

#### 1 credit hour option

- Comprehensive Exam (based on Summit Virtual lectures): 80% of course grade
- Active Engagement in Class, Small Group, Discussions: 20% of course grade

#### 2 credit hour option

- Comprehensive Exam (based on Summit Virtual lectures): 50% of course grade
- Worldview Essay: 30% of course grade
- Engagement/Participation: 10% of course grade
- Assigned Reading Completed: 10% of course grade

#### 3 credit hour option

- Comprehensive Exam (based on Summit Virtual lectures): 30% of course grade
- Worldview Essay: 20% of course grade
- Engagement/Participation: 10% of course grade
- Assigned Reading Completed: 10% of course grade
- Research Paper: 30% of course grade

### Honor Code

All students are to abide by the Bryan College honor code included in your Student Handbook or College Catalog. All assignments, quizzes and exams will be so pledged. If you should have any questions, Dustin Jizmejian can be reached at [dustin@summit.org](mailto:dustin@summit.org).

### Americans with Disabilities Act Statement

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For students with disabilities (as defined by Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended, and the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990), Bryan College takes an individual, holistic approach in providing, as required by law, reasonable accommodations.

Eligible students must formally notify the College of their disability, either at the time of admission or before accommodation is requested. The notification must be in writing, must include appropriate documentation, and must be submitted to the College ADA Coordinator.

Documentation required (to be obtained by the student at his/her expense) includes a formal

medical evaluation of what specific accommodations have been offered in the past, and what specific needs and services will be requested from Bryan College.

The campus ADA Coordinator for Bryan College is Ms. Hannah Schultz. She can be reached at [hschultz5419@bryan.edu](mailto:hschultz5419@bryan.edu). All requests for accommodations for this course or any school event are welcome from both students and parents. Accommodations are to be requested within the first ten (10) days of class and will not be considered after, unless a diagnosis is given after that date. Accommodations must be requested each semester. For current information, please visit <http://www.bryan.edu/asc/ags-de>.

### **Accreditation**

Bryan College (Dayton, Tennessee) is accredited by the Commission on Colleges of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools to award associate, baccalaureate, and graduate degrees; the Tennessee State Board of Education for teacher education and licensure; and the Association of Christian Schools International for teacher education and certification.