



## BBL 408: Foundations of Christian Thought

### Student Syllabus for the Adult Degree Programs

#### Course Description

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This course explores the phenomenon of “worldview” as the assumptions that everyone has about reality – a vision for life that drives how people view the nature of the world, the remedy for the world, and the future of the world. This course challenges students to critique their own worldview in light of the worldview presented in the Bible. At the end of the course, students will be equipped to examine their own life and work in light of the biblical worldview.

#### Course Introduction

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In this course, students will be introduced to a biblical worldview. Furthermore, students will be challenged to identify the major themes of the Biblical meta-narrative and to provide a framework for making sense of and living in God’s world. More specifically, the life of Jesus Christ will be explored, and the implications of His claims to Lordship will be considered within a comprehensive Christian framework for life.

#### Course Outcomes

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

1. Define the concept of worldview.
2. Describe the importance and impact of a worldview.
3. Identify and discuss the main points of the Christian worldview narrative.
4. Identify and discuss how the Christian worldview answers major worldview questions.
5. Evaluate the Christian worldview.
6. Critique his or her worldview in light of the Christian worldview.
7. Discuss themes and life implications from the ministry of Jesus.
8. Apply the Christian worldview to daily life.

#### Course Texts

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Anderson, T. J., Clark, W. M., & Naugle, D. K. (2017). *An introduction to Christian worldview: Pursuing God’s perspective in a pluralistic world*. InterVarsity Press.

ISBN-13: 978-0830851232

ISBN-10: 0830851232

*ESV value thinline Bible.* (2016). Crossway.

ISBN-13: 978-1433550652

ISBN-10: 1433550652

Keller, T. (2013). *Jesus the king: Understanding the life and death of the son of God.* Riverhead Books.

ISBN-13: 978-1594486661

ISBN-10: 1594486662

### Textbook Disclaimer

The textbooks for this course were chosen because their primary content directly relates to the objectives of this course. At times, there may be items or issues that are not presented from a proper Christian worldview. As such, the textbooks do not represent an endorsement by Geneva College or the relevant academic department at Geneva College.

## Archiving of Online Courses

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In order to provide the best service and to eliminate bandwidth bottlenecks, online courses will be removed from Moodle according to a scheduled archiving process. Students will have access in Moodle to courses taken during the current academic year and one previous academic year. Once a course is removed from Moodle, students will no longer have access to their coursework for the archived course. In preparation for the archiving of online courses, students are advised to save copies of their papers and other important coursework offline on a personal computer or other file storage location. Geneva College is not responsible for student files once a course has been archived offline.

## Learning and Physical Disabilities Policy

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Geneva College values diversity and inclusion and recognizes disabilities as an aspect of diversity. Our shared goal is to create learning environments that are accessible, equitable, and inclusive, ultimately leading to the success of our students in and beyond college. Therefore, Geneva College complies with the ADA as well as Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act by affording reasonable accommodations to qualified students with disabilities. Any student with a disability who needs academic accommodations should contact Geneva's Student Success Center (SSC) to arrange a confidential appointment with the Director of the SSC before or during the first week of classes. (Some accommodations may take time to put into place, so it is advised to request this appointment as early as possible.) Legally, no retroactive accommodations can be provided.

Accommodations for disabilities are available only as recommended by the SSC. For more details, visit the [Student Success Center website](#), call 724-847-5005, or stop by the SSC office. The SSC is located on the second floor of the Student Center. Students who have questions about their right to benefits or have grievances under these statutes should contact the Director of the SSC.

## The Grading System in the Adult Degree Program

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The grading scale for the Adult Degree Program is A, B, C, D, and F. Geneva includes pluses (+) and minuses (-) in the determination of the grade point average (GPA). Grade points are assigned for each semester hour of credit earned according to the following system:

Letter Grade	Percentage	GPA	Explanation
<b>A</b>	<b>93.00% - 100.00%</b>	<b>4.0</b>	<b>Excellent</b>
<b>A-</b>	<b>90.00% - 92.99%</b>	<b>3.7</b>	
<b>B+</b>	<b>87.00% - 89.99%</b>	<b>3.3</b>	
<b>B</b>	<b>83.00% - 86.99%</b>	<b>3.0</b>	<b>Good</b>
<b>B-</b>	<b>80.00% - 82.99%</b>	<b>2.7</b>	
<b>C+</b>	<b>77.00% - 79.99%</b>	<b>2.3</b>	
<b>C</b>	<b>73.00% - 76.99%</b>	<b>2.0</b>	<b>Satisfactory</b>
<b>C-</b>	<b>70.00% - 72.99%</b>	<b>1.7</b>	
<b>D+</b>	<b>67.00% - 69.99%</b>	<b>1.3</b>	
<b>D</b>	<b>63.00% - 66.99%</b>	<b>1.0</b>	<b>Less than Satisfactory</b>
<b>D-</b>	<b>60.00% - 62.99%</b>	<b>0.7</b>	
<b>F</b>	<b>&lt; 60.00%</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>No Credit Given</b>
<b>WX, WP, WF</b>			<b>Withdrawal</b>

## Policy on Academic Honesty

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Because honesty is expected in all college relationships, any form of cheating on exams or any plagiarism in formal written work is punishable by failure in the course. Repeated violations may result in expulsion from the college. Please read the Academic Integrity Guidelines in Appendix A of the ADP Student Handbook.

Students may appeal any disciplinary action by following the procedure laid out in the Academic Integrity Guidelines in the ADP Student Handbook.

Students are encouraged to visit [www.plagiarism.org](http://www.plagiarism.org) in order to clarify what constitutes plagiarism as well as a number of other academic standards. This website also provides directives as to how to avoid committing this act and how to properly cite academic sources.

## Turnitin Policy

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Students agree that by taking this course all required papers may be subject to submission for textual similarity review to [Turnitin.com](https://www.turnitin.com) for the detection of plagiarism. All submitted papers will be included as source documents in the Turnitin reference database solely for the purpose of detecting plagiarism of such papers. Students must agree to the End User License Agreement (EULA) for Turnitin. Use of the Turnitin service is subject to the Usage Policy and Privacy Pledge posted on Turnitin.com. Assignments that are not submitted through Turnitin will not be graded and will not receive credit.

## Participation Policy

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In the online environment, **participation is marked by the completion of an academic event in each session (week) of the course.** Academic events include, but are not limited to, submission of a class assignment, participation in class discussion forum, or completion of a quiz/exam.

**If no academic event is completed within the first session (Week 1) of a course, the student will be administratively withdrawn from the course.** Beyond the first session, if no academic event is completed for a class session, the student will be considered as having not participated in that week of class, which in some cases may result in zeros on the missed assignments and a half-letter grade deduction from the student's final course grade.

**If a student does not complete an academic event for two consecutive sessions, the student will either be administratively withdrawn from the course or will receive a final course grade of F,** depending on how much of the course has transpired at the time of the second week of nonparticipation. For more details, please review Geneva's Student Handbook ([Undergraduate](#) and [Graduate](#)).

## Academic Grievance Policy

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For grievances related to grading and other course academic policies, the student should follow the published Grievance and Appeal Process in the ADP Student Handbook.

## Course Evaluation

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Criteria	Points Breakdown	Points
Discussion Forums (8)	30 points each	240 points
Written Assignments (7)	60 points each	420 points
Quizzes (8)	20 points each	160 points
Worldview Analysis Paper	One Submission	120 points
Total		940 points

## Assignment Descriptions

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### Discussion Forums

Class participation is monitored by postings and responses in the discussion forum. Typically, class participation is composed of two parts:

- a. Part 1 – Requires you to go to your discussion forum and post a response to a question or prompt that is written in your syllabus by 11:55 pm (EST) Wednesday of your scheduled session week. Your instructor will generally respond to your post within 24 hours. Depending on the nature of the assignment, the instructor may have a follow up question for you, ask you for clarification or further details, or direct your conversation to someone else for rebuttal.
- b. Part 2 – Respond back to your instructor’s post. In addition, post a response to at least two of your fellow classmates’ postings, using 1 or 2 paragraphs. Your response should further the discussion (e.g., ask a question, provide further information or examples, or introduce a different opinion). In particular, one response to a classmate **MUST** be in the form of a question that seeks to further the conversation. Your question must be posed by 11:55 pm (EST) Friday of the scheduled session week so that your classmate has adequate time to answer it.

Likewise, if a question is posed to you by Friday night, you are also required to answer it.

Part 2 of these online activities (response to instructor, response to classmates’ questions of you, and responses to your classmates) must be completed by 11:55 pm (EST) Saturday of each session.

**NOTE:** How to earn full credit in discussion forums:

1. Become familiar with the discussion forum rubric, which is available to you in all of your Moodle classroom discussion forums.
2. Be thoughtful in your responses and incorporate examples from your personal and professional experiences and references to the course material (e.g., readings, lecture, videos, audio clips, scripture, etc.) when appropriate. Remember to cite all sources and references according to proper APA style.
3. Respond to the discussion contributions of at least 2 peers and be sure to adequately address all posts your instructor may pose to you throughout the week. This level of participation is **REQUIRED** as the minimum in all discussion forums (see the rubric for more detail).

Your posting and responses will be graded by your instructor. For a detailed description of your responsibility in discussion forum postings, please see the “Interacting in the Online Environment” section in the ADP Student Handbook.

## Written Assignments

In the first seven weeks of the course, students will complete seven written assignments that will help them explore a biblical worldview. Specific instructions for completing these written assignments can be found in the course outline below.

- Session 1: Written Assignment 1
- Session 2: Written Assignment 2
- Session 3: Written Assignment 3
- Session 4: Written Assignment 4
- Session 5: Written Assignment 5
- Session 6: Written Assignment 6
- Session 7: Written Assignment 7

Each of these written assignments will be graded on content, style, and timeliness. They should adhere to all page length requirements and typical APA style and formatting (double spacing, proper APA citations, etc.).

All written assignments are due by 11:55 pm (EST) Saturday of the designated session week.

## Quizzes

During this course, there will be eight quizzes that cover essential elements of the course material. These quizzes will consist of multiple choice questions.

- Session 1 – Students will take an online quiz on the required material in Session 1 (20 points)
- Session 2 – Students will take an online quiz on the required material in Session 2 (20 points)
- Session 3 – Students will take an online quiz on the required material in Session 3 (20 points)
- Session 4 – Students will take an online quiz on the required material in Session 4 (20 points)
- Session 5 – Students will take an online quiz on the required material in Session 5 (20 points)
- Session 6 – Students will take an online quiz on the required material in Session 6 (20 points)
- Session 7 – Students will take an online quiz on the required material in Session 7 (20 points)
- Session 8 – Students will take an online quiz on the required material in Session 8 (20 points)

Students will be allowed to consult their text and notes when taking online quizzes. However, quizzes will be timed, and students will need to have a working knowledge of the material before taking the quiz. There will simply not be enough time to “look up” every answer in your text.

If a student does not take the quiz by Saturday at 11:55 pm (EST) of the designated session week, they will not have an opportunity to make it up.

## Worldview Analysis Paper

Throughout this course, we will explore the phenomenon of “worldview” and examine the biblical worldview response to the four core worldview questions. In Session 8, you will use the knowledge you gained in this course to address the following in a 4-5 page paper.

In total, your Worldview Analysis Paper should be 4-5 pages in length (not including cover sheet and reference page) and adhere to typical APA style and formatting (double spacing, proper APA citations, etc.).

The Worldview Analysis Paper is due by 11:55 pm (EST) Saturday Session 8.

## Professional Skills in Your Online Courses

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All courses in your Geneva College Online program will provide you with an opportunity to develop valuable skills that can positively influence your professional and career development. Each course at Geneva provides numerous opportunities to develop skills employers desire in their employees and job candidates in areas including, but not limited to, written communication, research, critical thinking, and decision-making. However, targeted skill sets are also developed through the learning in particular courses.

After successful completion of this course, you will be able to add these particular skills to your bank of professional assets:

### Synthesize/Integrate



Adept at forming structures, patterns, and connections from information, ideas, and images

### Problem Solving Skills

$$\sum_{i=1}^n i = \frac{n(n+1)}{2}$$

Ability to identify and define problems and solutions

### Categorizing/Classifying Skills



Skillful in compiling, organizing, and using data to enhance planning and effectiveness

### Decision-Making Skills



Skilled in initiating, structuring, and carrying out steps to complete projects and tasks