

Advanced Apologetics: Answering Atheists, Skeptics, & Other Objectors Semester 2 2012

January 30, 2012 – May 25, 2012

Winter break: February 18–26, 2012 / Spring break: March 31–April 8, 2012

Apologia Academy / Apologia Educational Ministries, Inc.
Tel: 704-752-3590 / Phone: (888)524-4724 / Fax: (765)608-3290
Email: larry@apologia.com Web: www.ApologiaAcademy.com

TITLE: Advanced Christian Apologetics: Answering Atheists, Skeptics, & Other Objectors
(Recommended age: 9th grade through adult)

Teacher:

Larry A. Blythe, M.A.A.
704-752-3590 / 704-299-4931
Email: larry@apologia.com

Monday 11:30 AM - 1:00 PM Eastern, or
Wednesday 9:45-11:15 AM Eastern

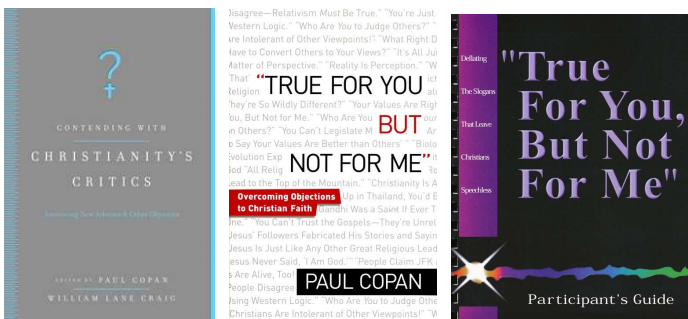
COURSE DESCRIPTION:

This class will address challenges from noted New Atheists like Richard Dawkins (The God Delusion) and other contemporary critics of Christianity concerning belief in God, the historical Jesus, and Christianity's doctrinal coherence. It will also teach the student good answers to recent controversial bestsellers such as God Is Not Great, The God Delusion, and Misquoting Jesus.

Arguments regarding the existence of evil, the historical Jesus, evolution, the Trinity, hell, morality, and others will be analyzed and learned by the student. Additionally the student will be able to answer skeptics of Christianity when they make statements like "who are you to judge me?," "Christians are intolerant bigots," "it's all a matter of perspective," "you can choose whichever religions you wish," "who are you to impose *your* morality on other?," "you can't legislate morality," "biological evolution explains morality," "we can be good without God," and many more ignorant rants.

REQUIRED TEXTS:

- *Contending with Christianity's Critics: Answering New Atheists and Other Objectors**, Paul Copan (Ed.), Craig, B & H Publishing Group, 2009, ISBN-10: 0805449361. ***(This book only is: OPTIONAL FOR 7-8th grades, REQUIRED for all others):**
- True for You, But Not for Me: (Revised) Overcoming Objections to Christian Faith**, Paul Copan, 2009, Bethany House, ISBN-10: 0764206508
- True For You But Not For Me - Participant's Guide**, CBD Stock No: WW562575X, ISBN: 1612562574, http://www.christianbook.com/true-but-not-for-participants-guide/paul-copan/9781612562575/pd/562575X?item_code=WW&netp_id=882179&event=ESRCG&view=details



(Make sure you order "Participant's Guide" NOT "Leader's Guide")

RECOMMENDED WEB SITES FOR RESEARCH, STUDY, & ANSWERS TO TOUGH QUESTIONS:

- <http://crossexamined.org>
- <http://www.dougbeaumont.org/SoulDevice/index.htm>
- <http://www.leaderu.com/orgs/probe/docs/bib-docu.html>
- <http://www.probe.org/>
- <http://www.equip.org/>
- <http://www.christiananswers.net>
- <http://www.carm.org/>
- <http://apologeticsindex.org/>
- <http://www.ankerberg.com/>
- <http://answers.org/>
- <http://www.letusreason.org>
- <http://str.org>
- www.gotquestions.org
- www.allaboutgod.com
- www.tektonics.org
- www.carm.org
- www.rationalchristianity.net
- www.christian-thinktank.com
- www.gotquestions.org
- www.tektonics.org/index2.html
- www.carm.org/bible_difficulties.htm
- www.rationalchristianity.net/apol_index.html
- <http://debate.org.uk/topics/apolog/contrads.htm>
- www.answering-islam.org/Bible/Contra/index.html
- www.christian-thinktank.com/hway.html
- <http://allaboutscience.org>
- [http://www.xenu.net/\(SCIENTOLOGY\)](http://www.xenu.net/(SCIENTOLOGY))
- <http://www.answersingenesis.org>
- <http://creation.com/>
- [http://www.icr.org/\(CREATION VS EVOLUTION\)](http://www.icr.org/(CREATION VS EVOLUTION))
- [http://www.drdino.com/\(CREATION VS EVOLUTION\)](http://www.drdino.com/(CREATION VS EVOLUTION))

The mission of Apologia Educational Ministries is to provide products, resources, and services that help homeschool students and families learn, live, and defend the Christian faith.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS for ALL Students (7th-12 Grades, College through Adults):

1. **WEEKLY:** Class participation and Attendance: 5% of final grade.
All students be expected to participate in discussions, and q&a. For the preparation of each class period the student will be expected to have completed all assignments.
2. **WEEKLY:** Text reading assignments INCLUDING "TFY Participant Guide" completion: 25% of final grade (final grade given only after the Participant Guide is complete). **Reading CCC is optional for 7-8th grades.**
For the preparation of each class period the student must have read all assigned pages in the textbook(s). Prior to each class session students will post their reading completion on their student portal page. Texts are to be read according to the attached "details" chart.
3. **MONTHLY:** Apologetics Research Reports: 20% of final grade.
Monthly reports will consist of 1-2 page summaries (single-spaced) of research from the internet or other noted sources (full documentation of resources must be included). You may choose to report from one or both of the following (reports are to be emailed prior to the beginning of class on the due date - a sample will be available during the first class):
 - a. Topics found in your text books, and/or
 - b. Topics of apologetic value in which you have an interest.
4. **MID/END OF SEMESTER:** Open Book Mid-term exam and final exam: 40% of final grade.
The final exam will only cover the last half of the semester. (Please refer to "class details" chart.)
5. **END OF SEMESTER:** Field Work – Interviews - ALL students: 1 Interview, completed by TBA date: 10% of final grade. All students must identify a pastor and/or other Christian leaders whom they respect and along with your parent(s) interview them using the instructions on your portal.

ASSIGNMENTS, TOPICS, READING CHART

	TOPIC	WEEKLY READINGS	EXAMS
		("due today")	& Projects
	Answering Atheists, Skeptics, & Other Objectors	(readings and weekly lessons/lectures will NOT necessarily coincide) (CCC Optional for 7th & 8th grades)	
MISC INFORMATION >>	*CCC = Contending w/Christianity's Critics *TFY = True For You, But Not For Me *TFY/PG= Participant Guide	1. CCC 2. TFY 3. TFY/PG All homework is "DUE TODAY"	
Week 1 Jan 30 & Feb 1	Who is Richard Dawkins? True For You, Not me!	BY TODAY You Must have completed: 1. CCC: Chs 1 & 2 2. TFY: Chs 1 & 2 (CCC Optional for 7th&8th)	<u>REPORTS</u> Monthly=4 total
Week 2 Feb 6 & 8	How Many Universes??? Quite Judging me!!!	1. CCC: Ch 3 2. TFY: Chs 3 & 4 3. TFY/PG: Wks 1&2	
Week 3 Feb 13 & 15	Brain Trickery...Dawkins: Take your best shot! Intolerant Bigots...	1. CCC: Ch 4 2. TFY: Chs 5 & 6 3. TFY/PG: Wk 3	
BREAK (through Feb 26)	BREAK	BREAK Catch up on your reading if behind	BREAK
Week 4 Feb 27 & 29	The Jesus of History It doesn't matter what you believe, just believe something...	1. CCC: Ch 5 2. TFY: Chs 7 & 8 3. TFY/PG: Wk 4	Monthly Research #1
Week 5 Mar 5 & 7	Resurrection HIStory All religions are true...	1. CCC: Ch 6 2. TFY: Chs 9 & 10 3. TFY/PG: Wk 5	
Week 6 Mar 12 & 14	New Testament Corruption Relativism: No absolute truth	1. CCC: Chs 7 & 8 2. TFY: Chs 11 & 12 3. TFY/PG: Wk 6	
Week 7 Mar 19 & 21	Who did Jesus think He was? Don't force your beliefs on	1. CCC: Ch 9 2. TFY: Chs 13 & 14 3. TFY/PG: Wk 7	Monthly Research #2

	me!!!		
Week 8 Mar 26 & 28	MID-TERM REVIEW and What's a Theist? Evolution explains everything	1. CCC: Ch 10 2. TFY: Chs 15 & 16	MID-TERM EXAM
BREAK (through April 8)	BREAK	BREAK Catch up on your reading if behind	BREAK
Week 9 April 9 & 11	The Trinity Delusion You CAN'T legislate morality	1. CCC: Ch 11 2. TFY: Chs 17 & 18 3. TFY/PG: Wk 8	
Week 10 April 16 & 18	Why would a good God send people to hell?	1. CCC: Ch 12 2. TFY: Chs 19 & 20 3. TFY/PG: Wk 9	Monthly Research #3
Week 11 April 23 & 25	Does God know EVERYthing?	1. CCC: Ch 13 2. TFY: Chs 21 & 22 3. TFY/PG: Wk 10	
Week 12 April 30 & May 2	Who is Bart Ehrman and why should I care?	1. CCC: Ch 14 2. TFY: Chs 23 & 24 3. TFY/PG: Wk 11	
Week 13 May 7 & 9	(cont. of all above)	1. CCC: Ch 15 2. TFY: Chs 25 & 26 3. TFY/PG: Wk 12	
Week 14 May 14 & 16	(cont. of all above) Final Exam Preview	1. CCC: Ch 16 2. TFY: Chs 27 & 28	Last Report: Monthly Research #4 Interview Project Due Today
Week 15 May 21 & 23		1. CCC: Ch 17 (18 extra credit) 2. TFY: Chs 29 & 30 (31-33 Extra credit)	TFY Participant Guide Due FINAL EXAM DUE