

**WAYLAND BAPTIST UNIVERSITY  
PLAINVIEW CAMPUS  
SCHOOL OF MATHEMATICS & SCIENCES**

**Wayland Mission Statement:**

Wayland Baptist University exists to educate students in an academically challenging, learning-focused, and distinctively Christian environment for professional success and service to God and humankind.

**Course Title and Number:**

MSCI 3101-VC01; Faith & Science Seminar

**Term:**

Spring 2023 2<sup>nd</sup> 8-week

**Name of Instructor:**

Robert L. Moore, Ph.D.

**Office Phone and WBU Email Address:**

806-291-1125                      rmoore@wbu.edu

**Office Hours, Building, and Location:**

Moody Science Building 029  
TBD

**Class Meeting Time and Location:**

Four virtual discussions will be scheduled as best meets class availability.

**Catalog Description:**

A survey of the interactions between the Christian faith and modern science. Topics covered will include worldview, science history, logic and reason, origins, scientific ethics and other contemporary issues involving science and Christian faith.

**Prerequisites:**

Any 4 hour lab science

**Required Materials:**

Readings will be posted on the course Blackboard site. Students are required to log onto Blackboard regularly for messages, assignments, and handouts.

**Course Outcome Competencies:**

Students will be able to:

- recognize the importance of an individual's worldview as it relates to the way in which scientific research is conducted;
- understand the role that religion has played in the development of science and the scientific method;
- apply critical analysis on issues where faith and science interact;
- discuss and defend a position on the integration of faith and science in various fields.

**Attendance Requirements:**

All students are expected to attend and participate in all sessions and are responsible for knowing the material covered.

**Statement on Plagiarism and Academic Dishonesty:**

Wayland Baptist University observes a zero tolerance policy regarding academic dishonesty. Per university policy as described in the academic catalog, all cases of academic dishonesty will be reported and second offenses will result in suspension from the university.

**Disability Statement:**

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA), it is the policy of Wayland Baptist University that no otherwise qualified person with a disability be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subject to discrimination under any educational program or activity in the university. The Coordinator of Counseling Services serves as the coordinator of students with a disability and should be contacted concerning accommodation requests at (806) 291-3765. Documentation of a disability must accompany any request for accommodations.

**Course Requirements and Grading Criteria:**

1. Class Participation: Each student will be expected to participate in discussions. Being able to state and defend a position is vital to critical thinking. The student will not be graded on the position taken, but will be graded on the ability to articulate a response, to develop the idea, and to defend his or her position.
2. Assignments: This course will be reading intensive. Each week there will be one to several papers assigned and there may be videos to watch. Students are expected to complete all weekly assignments before the end of Saturday.
3. Discussions: A discussion board in Blackboard will be used to engage students in ongoing discussion of each topic before they are covered in a virtual discussion. Instructions will be provided at the time such discussion topics are assigned.
4. Virtual Discussion: Every other week we will meet virtually as a class to discuss three topics. This will be scheduled to allow for maximum participation. In lieu of participating, students may write a 3-page reflection on the three topics.
5. Research Paper: Students will select a topic from a range of issues discussed in the course and prepare a well-researched and documented paper on their chosen issue. Specific instructions for this paper will be provided separately.
6. Oral Presentation: Students will present their research paper as a 10 to 15 minute virtual presentation that you will record and post on BlackBoard. Viewing and commenting on each other's presentations will be required and part of your discussion grade.

**Grading:**

- 30% Virtual Discussions
- 30% Blackboard Discussions / Assignments
- 30% Research Paper
- 10% Oral Presentation

A: 90 – 100 B: 80 – 89 C: 70 – 79 D: 60 – 69 F: Below 60

Students shall have protection through orderly procedures against prejudices or capricious academic evaluation. A student who believes that he or she has not been held to realistic academic standards, just evaluation procedures, or appropriate grading, may appeal the final grade given in the course by using the student grade appeal process described in the Academic Catalog. Appeals may not be made for advanced placement examinations or course bypass examinations. Appeals are limited to the final course grade, which may be upheld, raised, or lowered at any stage of the appeal process. Any recommendation to lower a course grade must be submitted through the Executive Vice President/Provost to the Faculty Assembly Grade Appeals Committee for review and approval. The Faculty Assembly Grade Appeals Committee may instruct that the course grade be upheld, raised, or lowered to a more proper evaluation.

**Tentative Schedule:**

The following is a tentative class schedule. Changes will be announced in class or posted on Blackboard.

<b>Week</b>	<b>Dates</b>	<b>Topics</b>	<b>Moderator</b>
1	March 27 – April 1	Introduction	Moore
		Critical Thinking	Hahn
2	April 2 – April 8	Perspectives and Worldviews	Franklin
		Scientific Method	Gray
3	April 9 – April 15	Virtual Discussion	
		Pick Paper Topics	
4	April 16 – April 22	Genesis & Origins	Givens
		Evolution	Dyson
5	April 23 – April 29	Intelligent Design	Reinhart
		Virtual Discussion	
6	April 30 – May 6	Bioethical Issues	Reinhart
		Creation Care	Allen
7	May 7 – May 13	Miracles	Givens
		Virtual Discussion	
8	May 14- May 20	Student Talks	

**Academic Honesty:**

University students are required to conduct themselves according to the highest standards of academic honesty. Any student guilty of plagiarism or other forms of academic dishonesty may be assigned a grade of F for the entire course. University policy requires that all incidents of cheating or academic dishonesty be reported to the Dean of Math and Science and WBU administration.

**Course Communication Policy:**

Wayland email is the official method of communication between instructors and students taking courses through Wayland Baptist University. Students are required to establish and activate their Wayland email account. Instructors reserve the right to deny email from other sources.

This syllabus is only a plan. The teacher may modify the plan during the course. The requirements and grading criteria may be changed during the course if necessary. Proper notice of any changes will be given to the class.

Rev. 01/24/18