

## ***Apologetics & Outreach***

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Covenant Theological Seminary

### **Course Information**

#### **I. Course Description**

An analysis of the philosophical, religious and scientific beliefs and ideas (deism, humanism, existentialism, Marxism, mysticism, and Christianity) which have shaped different cultures and which are now reshaping our multicultural and pluralistic society. Differences in attitudes to the value and purpose of life, sexual identity and roles, racial and cultural differences, God, good and evil, superstition, etc. are discussed. The lectures were recorded in Spring 2001.

#### **II. Objectives**

When students have completed this class they will be able to:

- \*better resist the world's pressures through a clearer understanding of our culture.
- \*live more faithfully as salt and light in our society.
- \*better help our children and fellow believers stand firm as we and they are challenged by the ideas and life-patterns of our time.
- \*give an account of the hope that we have, and make a more adequate defense of our Christian faith.
- \*articulate and implement biblical principles of evangelism.

#### **III. Themes and Key Words**

Understanding, outreach, worldview, postmodernism, modernism, humanism, deism

#### **IV. Texts**

These books can be purchased from most Christian booksellers, or you can order them online from the Covenant Seminary bookstore by visiting [www.covenantseminary.edu](http://www.covenantseminary.edu) or by calling the bookstore at 314-434-0110 (toll-free 877-213-3353).

- \*Appignanesi, Richard. *Introducing Postmodernism*, 2<sup>nd</sup> ed. New York, NY: Totem Books, 2001.
- \*Green, Michael. *Evangelism in the Early Church*. Grand Rapids, MI: Eerdmans, 1970.
- \*Keyes, Dick. *Chameleon Christianity*. Grand Rapids, MI: Baker Books, 1999.
- \*Barrs, Jerram. *The Heart of Evangelism*. Wheaton, IL: Crossway Books, 2001.
- \*Strohmer, Charles. *The Gospel and the New Spirituality*. Nashville, TN: Thomas Nelson, 1996.

#### **V. Class Calendar**

Class lectures are approximately one hour and fifteen minutes.

Lecture 1—Introduction: Course Information

Lecture 2—Postmodernism A: Style

Lecture 3—Postmodernism B: Language & Literary Criticism

Lecture 4—Postmodernism C: Epistemology; Postmodernism D: Consequences I, Part 1

Lecture 5—Postmodernism D: Consequences I, Part 1 (cont.)

Lecture 6—Postmodernism D: Consequences I, Part 2

Lecture 7—Postmodernism D: Consequences I, Part 3; Postmodernism D: Consequences II, Part 1

Lecture 8—Postmodernism D: Consequences II, Part 1 (cont.)

Lecture 9—Postmodernism D: Consequences II, Part 2

- Lecture 10—Postmodernism D: Consequences II, Part 3
- Lecture 11—Postmodernism D: Consequences III, Part 1
- Lecture 12—Postmodernism D: Consequences III, Part 2
- Lecture 13—Acts: A Challenge to Mission for Every Age of the Church
- Lecture 14—Acts: A Challenge to Mission for Every Age of the Church, Part 2
- Lecture 15—Acts: A Challenge to Mission for Every Age of the Church, Part 3
- Lecture 16—Acts: A Challenge to Mission for Every Age of the Church, Part 4
- Lecture 17—Acts: A Challenge to Mission for Every Age of the Church, Part 5
- Lecture 18—Paul Among the Pagans: All Things to All People
- Lecture 19—All Things to All People: Principles of Communication
- Lecture 20—All Things to All People: Principles of Communication, Part 2
- Lecture 21—All Things to All People: Principles of Communication, Part 3; Appendix (Paul's Areopagus Address)
- Lecture 22—All Things to All People: Principles of Communication, Part 4
- Lecture 23—All Things to All People: Principles of Communication, Part 5
- Lecture 24—Overview of Deism; Appendix (Deism quotes)
- Lecture 25—Overview of Idolatry
- Lecture 26—Overview of the New Age; Appendix (New Age quotes)
- Appendix A—Humanism & Existentialism
- Appendix B—Humanism Quotes
- Appendix C—Existentialism Quotes
- Appendix D—Pathways for the Gospel

### **About the Professor**

Professor Barrs joined the Seminary faculty in 1989 after 18 years with L'Abri Fellowship in England, where he also pastored the International Presbyterian Church. Professor Barrs brings a special sensitivity toward those outside the Christian faith and is in great demand as a speaker in the United States and abroad. He has recently been seeking to develop a more biblical approach to evangelism by studying Jesus' conversations with unbelievers. Other interests include the arts and literature. Professor Barrs' publications include *Being Human; Shepherds and Sheep; Who Are the Peacemakers?; The Great Rescue; Building Bridges to the Gospel; and The Heart of Evangelism.*