

Note:

**Course content may be changed, term to term, without notice.
The information below is provided as a guide for course selection
and is not binding in any form.**

MOODY DISTANCE LEARNING

Course Number, Name, and Credit Hours

IS-6600 Apologetics and World Religions, 3 credit hours

Course Description

The course is an introduction to the biblical, theological, and philosophical foundations of Christian Apologetics. It includes an examination of various apologetic methodologies. Attention is given to defending the Christian worldview in response to the challenges of the 21st century. This course also surveys the history, worldview, and theology of major world religions. It also includes a critical evaluation of these religions from a biblical perspective in order to develop a Christian response to them and site visits, where possible, to various houses of worship.

Course Objectives

After completing this course, the student will be able to...

1. Articulate the biblical, theological, key philosophical foundations, and methodologies in Christian Apologetics (Knowledge and Understanding).
2. Formulate answers to some of the major questions or assaults on the Christian faith from a secularistic, pluralistic, and increasingly anti-Christian world (Reflection and Critique; Judgment and Design).
3. Delineate points of contact or similarity between these non-Christian religions and Christianity so that they serve as conversation starters (Knowledge and Understanding; Judgment and Design).
4. Identify major points of tension or difference between these religions and Christianity so as to lovingly refute their claims and also as God provides the opportunity to share the Gospel (Judgment and Design; Engagement and Motivation)
5. Experience, reflect, and appropriately respond to the diversity, richness, and yet lostness of peoples of other major religions through site visits and their places of worship (Performance and Action; Commitment and Identity.)

Course Textbook(s) and/or Supplemental Information

Required textbooks for all Moody Online classes can be found on the [Required Textbooks](#) section of the Moody website.

Assignments (*what student does for a grade*)

Guideline for the Discussion Board: Post your initial response to the discussion question by mid-week (Friday, 11:59pm CST). Then read and respond to at least **TWO** of your classmates' initial posts by the end of the week (Monday, 11:59pm CST).

Standard for Written Papers: All papers must be in Turabian style. Each page should be approximately 300 words, 12-pt. Times New Roman font on double-spaced lines with 1" margins. (Therefore, a 2-page paper is approximately 600 words; a 3-page paper is approximately 900 words, etc.) Here is a guide to Turabian style: http://www.press.uchicago.edu/books/turabian/turabian_citationguide.html

Assignment 1-1 Reaction Paper 1: Write a two-page reaction paper to this week's reading.

Assignment 2-1 Reaction Paper 2: Write a two-page reaction paper on the role of truth in secularism and its consequences of the church being silent.

Assignment 3-1 Essay 1: Write a five-page essay on how Christ is unique in a growing culture and religious pluralism.

Assignment 4-1 Essay 2: Write a three-page essay paper in which you explain the advantages and disadvantages of postmodernism from a Christian standpoint.

Assignment 4-2 Final Paper Topic Selection: Decision on the topic for your final paper is due to be finalized.

Assignment 5-1 Reaction Paper 3: Write a 1-page reaction paper to the Dave Hunt debate.

Assignment 5-2 Essay 3: Write a 2-page essay on your visit to a mosque, Hindu temple, or Buddhist temple.

Assignment 5-3 Reflection Paper: Write a 2-page reflection paper on your visit to a mosque, Hindu temple or Buddhist temple. Be specific about any conversation you had and how this class applies in giving a good response.

Assignment 6-1 Essay 4: Write a 3-5-page essay that addresses why Zen Buddhism has permeated sports and Western popular culture.

Assignment 7-1 Essay 5: Write a 2-3-page essay on Allah vs. Yahweh.

Assignment 7-2 Final Paper: Write an 8-10 page research paper on the major challenges of presenting the gospel in a pluralistic society. The paper should include areas of Christian apologetics, Christian doctrine, changing values of society, and the role of the Christian in our present context.

Assessments

Assessments (# in parentheses)	% of Total
Discussions (7 weekly discussions)	20%
Field trip and Paper	15%
Reaction Papers	5%

COURSE SYLLABUS - IS-6600 Apologetics and World Religions

Essays	10%
Final Research Paper	50%
Total:	100%

Letter grades are determined by the following scale:

Letter Grade	Percentage Equivalent	Description
A	96 – 100	Exceptional work
A-	94 – 95	Excellent work
B+	92 – 93	Very good work
B	89 – 91	Good work
B-	87 – 88	Above average work
C+	83 – 86	Average work
C	79 – 82	Work needs improvement
C-	75 – 78	Minimally acceptable work
F	< 75	Unacceptable work

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