



# Bethesda University

730 North Euclid Street, Anaheim, California 92801 Tel: (714)517-1945, Fax: (714)683-1440

## GTH 551 CHRISTIAN APOLOGETICS SPRING SEMESTER 2015

Dr. Ken Walters	
Class Hour: THURSDAYS, 4:00 – 6:30 PM	Class Room: <a href="#">Click here to enter text.</a>
Office: 308	Phone: 714-683-1372
Office Hours/ Consultation: By appointment	E-mail: <a href="mailto:krwalters@buc.com">krwalters@buc.com</a>
TA: TBA (To Be Arranged)	Credit Unit: 3

### A. Bethesda University Mission Statement

Bethesda University is a Christ-centered community of higher education preparing Korean/English speaking men and women with professional competence, academic excellence, and spiritual integrity to be servant leaders in the Church, community, and global society.

### B. Relationship of Course to Bethesda University's Mission

The Bible instructs us to be ready with a defense for the hope that lies within us. This course aims to equip the student to do just that, thus enabling them to clearly present the gospel in this world and help believers understand the reasons for their faith.

### C. Course Description

This course examines the various evidences for the truth of the Bible and the existence of God as described in the Bible by examining philosophical and scientific reasons to accept and believe these truths.

### D. Course Objectives & Student Outcomes

Students will be able to understand and explain the reasonableness for and reasons behind the Christian faith and be able to communicate those reasons to others, both within the church and without..

	Expected Student Outcomes	Assessment Used to Measure Outcomes
Spiritually	Have a more complete understanding of their faith and its reasonableness	Class Discussion
Intellectually	Be able to explain the reasons for the truth of the Bible in light of contemporary philosophical and scientific thought and discoveries as	Tests and Papers



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	they impact our faith	
Socio-Emotively	Gain more confidence in the truth of the Bible	Class Discussion
Vocationally	Be prepared to teach to others	Tests and Papers

## E. Teaching/Learning Methods

Learning will be accomplished through reading assigned material, discussing that material in class with other students and the professor, and independent research as demonstrated by the submission of research papers.

## F. Required Textbook(s)

No.	Title	Author	Publisher	Library code	Year
1	<i>Christian Apologetics, 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition</i>	Norman L. Geisler	Baker Academic	ISBN-978-0801048548	2013
2	<i>20 Compelling Evidences That God Exists, New Edition</i>	Robert M. Bowman and Ken Boa	David C. Cook	ASIN: B00FNCBCE	2013
3	<i>On Guard: Defending Your Faith with Reason and Precision, New Edition</i>	William Lane Craig	David C. Cook	ISBN 978-1434764881	2010
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## G. Recommended Reading and Other Course Resources (All reserved for reading)

Please, provide at least 5-10 recommended book on the subject and prioritize by importance and popularity. The library will try to buy those books if not already there.

No.	Title	Author	Publisher	Library code	Year
1	<i>Five Views on Apologetics</i>	Cowan, Steven B.	Zondervan	ISBN 978-0310224761	2000
2	<i>Handbook of Christian Apologetics</i>	Kreeft, Peter & Ronald K. Tacelli	Intervarsity	ASIN: B0038BR1UK	1994
3	<i>The Case for Faith: A Journalist Investigates the Toughest Objections to Christianity</i>	Lee Strobel	Zondervan	ISBN 0310220157	2009
4	<i>Simply Christian</i>	NT Wright	Harper San Francisco	ASIN: B00E291EBO	2006



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5	<i>Reasonable Faith (3rd edition): Christian Truth and Apologetics</i>	William Lane Craig	Crossway	ISBN 978-1433501159	2008
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## H. Course Calendar/Schedule, include the following

N	Date	Theme	Reading	Assignments
1	February 26	Introduction, What is a Apologetics?	Craig, ch. 1 – What is Apologetics?	Read for next week: Craig 2 & 3, Boa and Bowman 1-3
Last Day to Request Add/Drop is Friday of First Week				
2	March 5	Why Apologetics?	Craig 2 & 3, Boa and Bowman 1-3	Be prepared to discuss this material, and read for next week: Geisler chapters 1-3
3	March 12	Methodology I	Geisler chapters 1-3	Be prepared to discuss this material, and read for next week: Geisler chapters 4-6
4	March 19	Methodology II	Geisler chapters 4-6	Be prepared to discuss this material, and read for next week: Geisler 7-9
5	March 26	Methodology III	Geisler 7-9	First Research Paper Due. Be prepared to discuss this material, and read for next week: Geisler 16, Craig 4 & 5
6	April 2	Christian Apologetics I	Geisler 16, Craig 4 & 5	1 <sup>st</sup> Paper Due. Be prepared to discuss this material, and read for next class: Boa and Bowman 4-7, Geisler 17
7	April 9	Easter Break		
8	April 16	Christian Apologetics II	Boa and	Be prepared to discuss



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			Bowman 4-7, Geisler 17	this material, and read for next week: Boa and Bowman 9-12, Geisler 18 & 21
Last Day to Request Grade Withdrawal "W" is Friday of 8 <sup>th</sup> Week				
9	April 23	Christian Apologetics III	Boa and Bowman 9-12, Geisler 18 & 21	Class Discussion. Next Week: Geisler 19 & 20, Craig 8-10, Boa and Bowman 13- 17
10	April 30	Christian Apologetics IV	Geisler 19 & 20, Craig 8-10, Boa and Bowman 13-17	Class Discussion. Next Week: Geisler 9 & 10
11	May 7	Alternatives I	Geisler 9 & 10	Class Discussion. Next Week: Geisler 11 & 12
12	May 14	Alternatives II	Geisler 11 & 12	Class Discussion. Next Week: Geisler 13 & 14
13	May 21	Alternatives III	Geisler 13 & 14	Class Discussion. Next Week: Geisler 15
14	May 28	Alternatives IV	Geisler 15	Class Discussion. Next Week: Final Review; Second Paper Due
15	June 4	Final Review; Second Paper Due		2 <sup>nd</sup> Paper Due Study for Final
Last Day to Request Grade Incomplete "I" is Friday of 15 <sup>th</sup> Week				
16	June 11	Final		

## I.

### Assignments

In addition to reading all material and participating in all class discussions, there will be two papers due, one on the sixth week and one on the fourteenth week. The first paper should cover a topic of interest from either the methodology of Apologetics or answering the question, "Why do apologetics?" This paper is not to be a summary of the material covered on these subjects in class, but rather are to be independent research you have done using other sources looking at a subject of interest to you from within these categories. The second paper should deal with a particular area of Christian apologetics. Any of the areas reviewed in the class would qualify, but the research is to be much more in depth.



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## J. Evaluation/Assessment Rationale for Grade Determination

### 1. Grade Assessment

Students will be graded based on class attendance, preparation for class, participation in class discussions, quality of research papers and grade on final exam. The breakdown will be:

Attendance and Class Discussions – 40%

Papers – 15% each = 30%

Final Exam – 30%

### 2. Grade definition

- A Excellent
- B Good
- C Satisfactory
- D Poor
- F Failure

### 3. Grade scale

Letter Grade	Numeric Grade	Grade Points
A	95-100	4.0
A-	90-94	3.7
B+	87-89	3.3
B	84-86	3.0
B-	80-83	2.7
C+	77-79	2.3
C	74-76	2.0
C-	70-73	1.7
D+	67-69	1.3
D	64-66	1.0
D-	60-63	0.7
F	59 or below	0



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## **K. Course Policies**

### 1. Attendance, Preparation, and Participation:

Each student is expected to attend every class unless prior approval is sought from the professor or sickness. Students are to come prepared, having read the material for the week prior to class. Students are expected to participate in all class discussions.

### 2. Deadlines:

Reading is to be done prior to the class where the material is to be discussed. Two research papers are due, the first on April 2 and the second on June 4, 2015

### 3. Advance Assistance:

[Click here to enter text.](#)

### 4. Assignment Options:

All assignments are to be completed as assigned and on time. Late work will be accepted, but with a 5% deduction for every day late.

### 5. Make up work:

There is no make up work

### 6. Extra-credit work:

There is no extra credit available.

### 7. Emergency procedures:

In the event of an emergency, the student may email the professor at: [krwalters@buc.cedu](mailto:krwalters@buc.cedu). An absence is not excused due to an emergency unless the professor receives the email at least on half (1/2) hour prior to class.

### 8. Other policies on Withdrawal and Grade Permanence, Academic Integrity, and Appeals and Grievance procedures refer to the Student Handbooks and Catalog.

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## **L. Support Services**

[Click here to enter text.](#)



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**M. Bibliography**

See above.