

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 and should not be used to purchase course materials.

COURSE SYLLABUS

DBFA 600

FAMILY, FAITH AND THE FUTURE: WORLDVIEW

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course examines conflicting worldviews regarding marriage and family and provides an opportunity for students to apply evaluative research in considering the implications of human services from a Judeo-Christian perspective when biblical worldviews and cultural worldviews conflict. Philosophical, political or legal influences, ethical concerns, and multicultural factors are also considered.

RATIONALE

By examining the history and current landscape of conflicting worldviews, this course provides opportunities to frame concerns with the preservation of traditional Judeo-Christian values and develop a framework for supporting family well-being in a shifting world.

I. PREREQUISITE

For information regarding prerequisites for this course, please refer to the [Academic Course Catalog](#).

II. REQUIRED RESOURCE PURCHASE

Click on the following link to view the required resource(s) for the term in which you are registered: <http://bookstore.mbsdirect.net/liberty.htm>

III. ADDITIONAL MATERIALS FOR LEARNING

- A. Computer with basic audio/video equipment
- B. Internet access (broadband recommended)
- C. Blackboard [recommended browsers](#)
- D. Microsoft Word

(Microsoft Office is available at a special discount to Liberty University students.)

IV. MEASURABLE LEARNING OUTCOMES

Upon successful completion of this course, the student will be able to:

- A. Discuss why philosophy and worldviews matter and describe the various worldviews prevalent today.
- B. Defend a Christian worldview and the biblical definition of marriage and family.
- C. Describe the philosophical and theological impediments to an adequate understanding of the biblical worldview of marriage and family such as dualism, postmodernism, ethical relativism, utilitarianism, and egoism.

- D. Explain how cohabitation, divorce, fatherlessness, illegitimacy and same sex unions are impacting social and financial institutions in America.
- E. Explain how to live from a foundation of empirically and biblically healthy courtship, marriage and parenting.
- F. Defend biblical Christianity as a complete philosophical system that embraces the whole of reality and every aspect of human life, as well as grasp its intellectual validity, existential satisfaction, and practical applicability as a credible belief system for marriage and family.

V. COURSE REQUIREMENTS AND ASSIGNMENTS

A. Textbook readings and lecture presentations/notes

B. Course Requirements Checklist

After reading the Course Syllabus and [Student Expectations](#), the student will complete the related checklist found in Module/Week 1.

C. Discussion Board Forums (4)

Following the specific instructions for the Discussion Board Forums posted in the Blackboard course site, students will post an original thread during the first week of the forum answering specific questions with a minimum 400-word count based on the module/week's readings and video/audio content. The student will be post a minimum of two (2) replies of 200 words each to other students' threads during the second week of the forum.

D. Familial Worldview Reports (3)

The student will conduct three firsthand interviews, which must be at least 3 pages long, not including the title page or reference page, related to any of the following topics:

- Divorce
- Same sex attraction
- Same sex lifestyle
- Adult child who grew up without a father
- Foster parents of children who do not know biological parents
- Heterosexual couple living in cohabitation
- Married couple who cohabited before marriage
- Remarriage
- Blended Family
- LGBT advocate
- A politician advocating for traditional marriage
- A politician advocating for an expanded view of marriage

E. Research Paper

Following the specific instructions posted in the Blackboard course site, students will complete a research paper including a:

1. **Topic** - The student will submit a topic with a 300-word rationale detailing why the topic is relevant to the course and contemporary 21st century worldview dilemmas/ controversies. Include at least five supporting sources
2. **Outline** - The student will submit an outline for the paper,
3. **Finished submission** - The paper should be at least 10 pages in length (not including Title Page and References page) and follow APA guidelines, with at least 10 references from current sources (half must come from research/journal articles). The paper can address any philosophical, moral, cultural or societal dilemma related to the course (e.g., divorce and its impact on society; fatherlessness; illegitimacy; homosexuality and the political, philosophical and biblical issues it presents; a course of action to defend traditional family values; a compare/contrast approach presenting all sides of an argument and the student's intellectual viewpoint and debate of each of the other worldviews, etc.). Completed papers should address theoretical and empirical aspects of the topic selected, as well as practical applications.

VI. COURSE GRADING AND POLICIES

A. Points

Course Requirements Checklist	10
Discussion Board Forums (4 at 100 pts. ea.)	400
Familial Worldview Report #1	150
Familial Worldview Report #2	150
Research Paper	
Topic	50
Outline	50
Finished submission	200
Total	1010

B. Scale

A = 940–1010 A- = 920–939 B+ = 900–919 B = 860–899 B- = 840–859
 C+ = 820–839 C = 780–819 C- = 760–779 D+ = 740–759 D = 700–739
 D- = 680–699 F = 0–679

C. Dual Relationship

The faculty is responsible to interact with counseling students in a supervisory capacity/role. As such, faculty may provide students professional principles, guidance, and recommendations as it relates to the context of the student-client setting. The faculty is responsible to avoid dual relationships with students such as entering a student-counselor or student-pastor relationship. Thus, the faculty does not provide personal counseling addressing student personal problems. If a faculty member perceives that a student needs personal or professional counseling, then that faculty member will recommend that the student pursue either pastoral or professional assistance from a counselor in their community.

D. Limits of Confidentiality

In the event of a student's disclosure, either verbally or in writing, of threat of serious or foreseeable harm to self or others, abuse or neglect of a minor, elderly or disabled person, or current involvement in criminal activity, the faculty, staff, administrator, or supervisor will take immediate action. This action may include, but is not limited to, immediate notification of appropriate state law enforcement or social services personnel, emergency contacts, and notification of the appropriate program chair or online dean. The incident and action taken will become part of the student's permanent record.

E. Disability Assistance

Students with a documented disability may contact Liberty University Online's Office of Disability Academic Support (ODAS) at LUOODAS@liberty.edu to make arrangements for academic accommodations. Further information can be found at www.liberty.edu/disabilitysupport.

COURSE SCHEDULE

DBFA 600

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MODULE/ WEEK	READING & STUDY	ASSIGNMENTS	POINTS
1	Bennett: ch. 1 Moreland & Craig: Invitation, ch. 1 Sire: chs. 1–2 5 presentations 1 PDF	Course Requirements Checklist Class Introductions DB Forum 1 – Thread	10 0 50
2	Bennett: ch. 2 Moreland & Craig: ch. 2 Sire: chs. 3–4 5 presentations 1 PDF	Research Paper – Topic DB Forum 1 – Replies	50 50
3	Bennett: ch. 3 Moreland & Craig: chs. 6, 11 Sire: chs. 5–6 5 presentations 1 PDF	Familial Worldview Report #1 DB Forum 2 – Thread	150 50
4	Moreland & Craig: chs. 12–13 Sire: chs. 7–8 4 presentations 1 PDF	Research Paper – Outline DB Forum 2 – Replies	50 50
5	Bennett: ch. 4 Moreland & Craig: chs. 19–20 Sire: ch. 9 4 presentations 1 PDF	Familial Worldview Report #2 DB Forum 3 – Thread	150 50
6	Moreland & Craig: chs. 21–22 Sire: ch. 10 4 presentations 1 PDF	DB Forum 3 – Replies	50

MODULE/ WEEK	READING & STUDY	ASSIGNMENTS	POINTS
7	Bennett: chs. 5–6 Sire: ch. 11 4 presentations 1 PDF	Research Paper – Final DB Forum 4 – Thread	200 50
8	Buckley & Dobson: chs. 1–6 4 presentations 1 PDF	DB Forum 4 – Replies	50
TOTAL			1010

DB = Discussion Board

NOTE: Each course module/week begins on Monday morning at 12:00 a.m. (ET) and ends on Sunday night at 11:59 p.m. (ET). The final module/week ends at 11:59 p.m. (ET) on Friday.