

THE FOUR PAPERS

INSTRUCTIONS:

- (1) The central purpose of these papers is for YOU to develop YOUR views on the relationship between science & religion.
- (2) In writing these papers, **USE** the ideas found in the Class Notes, Class Handouts & Class Audio-Slides, and in doing so **DEMONSTRATE** to me that you grasp these concepts.
- (3) After describing your views, always defend them—that is, give me reasons why you believe in your view.
- (4) Always **RESPECT** the Maximum Word Limit for each paper.
- (5) Use Endnotes for citations & use the Chicago Manual of Style to format the Endnotes.

Paper 1. 1000 Word Maximum. 15%

Describe and Defend your definition of religion and your definition of science. Then point out similarities and differences between your two definitions. Also include your view of divine action and whether or not it is part of your two definitions. To close, state your personal worldview (eg, atheist, Muslim, Christian, etc.) and explain how it fits into your two definitions.

Paper 2. 1500 Word Maximum. 25%

Describe your **MODEL** of the relationship between science & religion. State the Thesis Statement (1 sentence only) for your **PERSONAL VIEW** of the relationship between science & religion. Defend your personal view of the relationship between science & religion. Also include your view on intelligent design and whether or not it is part of your personal view of the relationship between science & religion.

Paper 3. 2000 Word Maximum. 30%

Assume that you have a very good friend who is a young earth creationist and believes in the global flood of Noah. This friend also believes that it is impossible to be both a Christian and an evolutionist. Using the course material from the three historical sections (Astronomy & the Galileo Affair, Geology & the Biblical Flood, Evolution & Darwin's Religious Beliefs), encourage your friend that it is possible to be a Christian who accepts evolution.

Paper 4. 2000 Word Maximum. 30%

Describe and Defend your view of the relationship between Genesis 1-11 and the origin of the universe and life. Outline the hermeneutical principles that you find are critical for understanding Genesis 1-11. State your view of origins and in particular your view of human origins. Close the paper with your view on whether or not Adam was a real person in history and how this relates to your theodicy.

Bonus 3%

Write a *Post-Scriptum* outlining personal worldview insights that you discovered in this class (maybe even changes in your views?). To give you an idea what I mean, turn to page 56 in the Class Handouts. In the middle of the page, I have copied my Post-Scriptum at the end of masters degrees in theology. Challenge your professor on why his views are so horribly wrong! I'm a serious, because I find that I often learn a lot from my disagreements with others. Please send in *Post-Scriptum* with Paper 4.