

APOLOGETICS: FINAL ESSAY

11th Grade Bible: 2017-2018

Content Description:

Your final essay will be written in the form of a chapter book or a magazine.* The purpose of chapters/magazine vs a traditional essay is to allow the opportunity to address a wide variety of common apologetic questions as well as student chosen questions in shorter more concise answers. All apologetic answers point back to the same truths and are in defense of the same ideas, but each can have unique qualities and types of answers. Separating the questions into chapters/articles will allow students to form clear and concise responses that leave less room for confusion or cyclical and nonrelated responses. **The overall book/magazine should work together as a guide to apologetics.**

* There will be a class period dedicated to formatting your essay into a chapter book.

Student Learning Objective:

The chapter book/magazine allows students to document the knowledge gained throughout the semester in a concise well-edited version. The main objective is to write clear and well-documented responses or answers to the apologetic rhetoric. The book/magazine needs to be written in an active and authoritative voice so the reader has greater confidence in the content presented as evidence. First person writing should be limited or not at all.

Students should understand and identify the chapters at the beginning of the semester so that they can gather information throughout the semester. Journal entries and book annotations will prove invaluable in this process. A suggested method for success would be to write chapters as they are covered in class. I.E. if the weekly topic is “The Problem of Evil?” it would serve you well to spend time over the weekend writing a rough draft for that chapter while the information is fresh. Ultimately, this is a college level class it is up to you how to prepare.

Grade:

200 points based on the below criteria:

- 60 pts
 - Writing Conventions:
 - Grammar, Bibliography, Citations, Quotations
 - Format help can be found at
 - <https://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/>
 - An additional rubric/ guide will be provided to ensure alignment with SCS English Department standards in essay writing and design expectations for magazines.

- 20 pts
 - Content Length and Formatting
 - Length is 5-7 Chapters/articles (10 pts)
 - Chapter should be 2-3 (full 8.5" x 11") double spaced size 12 font
 - The sum total of content pages (does not include cover, chapter titles or table of contents) should be between 10-21 pages double spaced size 12 font (full 8.5" x 11")
 - Calibri, Helvetica, or Times New Roman font should be used
 - Book Formatting (10 pts)
 - Final size is 8.5" x 6.5" (letter size folded on the long side)
 - Cover includes:
 - Title
 - Author
 - Class Information
 - Table of Contents:
 - Chapter titles match up with content
 - Clearly Organized
 - Chapters
 - Always start on a new page
 - Title is bold size 18 or greater font centered
 - Paragraphs are justified with indent on first paragraph only
- 20 pts
 - Chapter Content and Topics
 - Your 1st chapter must address
 - What is Apologetics and why do we need it?
 - You must include a chapter on
 - Jesus' Life and/or The Resurrection
 - You must include at least 1 of the below topics as a chapter
 - How we know Christianity is true
 - The Absurdity of Life Without God
 - The Existence of God
 - Historical Evidence for Christianity
 - Miracles
 - You must include at least 1 of the below topics as a chapter
 - The Problem of Evil
 - Sex, LGBT, and/or Transgender
 - Social Justice and/or Race
 - Politics, Religious Freedom and/or Money
 - You must include 1-3 additional chapters
 - Topics can be chosen from above or from other apologetic topics

- 100 pts
 - Chapter Clarity, Content, References and Individual Voice (25-15 pts per chapter)
 - Clarity
 - Topic is obvious
 - Explanations are concise
 - Enough information is provided for understanding or additional resources are cited for further study where needed
 - Content
 - The information is original thought and persuasive
 - It is well organized and easy to follow
 - Statement are written in active voice
 - References
 - Use of quotation is supportive of the content and not out of place
 - Additional information furthers your content not distracts from it
 - Scripture is used in context of its original meaning and intent
 - Individual voice
 - Content is clearly the personal understanding of the writer
 - Although based on facts and research, there is evidence of the person's voice amidst references and citations