Understanding the Times

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Text:	Understanding the Times: The Collision of Today's Competing Worldviews, David A. Noebel, Summit Press, 2006
Other Materials:	Understanding the Times Curriculum 4th edition, Summit Press. 2006. The curriculum includes a student manual and video presentations.
Course Description:	Understanding the Times is a one-semester course (1/2 unit). There are ten units to this curriculum plus an Introduction and Conclusion section. Understanding the Times is about ideas. A comparison of six worldviews is examined. The views are Christianity, Islam, Secular Humanism, Marxism-Leninism, Cosmic Humanism and Postmodernism. The worldviews are examined in the areas of theology, philosophy, ethics, biology, psychology, sociology, law, politics, economics, and history. Two hours of college credit may be received from Bryan College, an accredited university in Dayton Tennessee. Application and tuition must be submitted to Bryan College by May 1st.
Methods of Evaluation:	Homework, tests and a worldview paper are the methods of evaluation. While class discussion is not graded it is expected.
Pace of Instruction:	**August 14** Read Student Manuel *Preparation* **HW**- Read Intro 0.1 **August 15** Watch "Intro to Worldviews" **HW**- Q p 5 **August 18** Review "Intro to Worldviews" **HW-** Read Intro 0.2-0.3 Q p 6 **August 19** Review Intro 0.2-0.3 Receive study notes **August 20** Watch "Theology" Video **August 21** **TEST- Intro** **HW**- Read Theology 1.1-1.2 Q p 37

	August 22	Review Theology 1.1-1.2 **HW** Read Theology 1.3-1.4 Q p 37-38
	August 25	Review Theology 1.3-1.4 **HW** Read Theology 1.5-1.6 Q p 38
	August 26	Watch "Marks of the Cults" Video part one **HW**- Q #1 p 57
	August 27	Watch "Marks of the Cults" Video part two **HW**- Q #2-5 p 57
	August 28	Review Theology 1.5-1.6
	August 29	Review "Marks of the Cults" Video Questions Receive Study Notes
	October 1	Watch "Icons of Evolution" pt 1 **HW** Q p 124, #1-8
	October 2	Watch "Icons of Evolution" pt 2 **HW** Q p 124, #9-10
	October 3	Review "Icons of Evolution" Watch questions on video Receive Study Notes
	October 6	Watch "Psychology" video
	October 7	**TEST Unit Four** **HW** Read Psychology 5.1-5.2 Q p 139
	October 8	Review Psychology 5.1-5.2 **HW** Read Psychology 5.3-5.4 Q p 139-140
	October 9	Review Psychology 5.3-5.4 **HW** Read psychology 5.5-5.6 Q p 140

	October 10	Review Psychology 5.5-5.6 **HW** Read *Homosexuality, Fact or Fiction* p 141-148 in Student Manuel Q p149
	October 14 instructions p 158	IN COMPUTER LAB Write worldview paper
	October 15	PSAT Write Worldview paper
	October 16	IN COMPUTER LAB Write worldview paper
	October 17 *Fiction*	Review *Homosexuality, Fact or* **HW** Read Sociology 6.1-6.2 Q p 161
	October 20	Watch "Sociology" video **HW** Read Sociology 6.3-6.4 Q p 161-162
	October 21	Review Sociology 6.1-6.4 **HW** Read Sociology 6.5-6.6 Q p 162
	October 22	Review Sociology 6>5-6.6
	October 23 video 1	Watch "Love, Sex and Marriage" **HW** Q p 174
	October 24 video 2	Watch "Love, Sex and Marriage" **HW** Q p 174
	October 27 Marriage" videos	Review "Love, Sex and Receive Study Guides
	October 28	Watch "Law" video WORLDVIEW PAPER DUE

	October 29	**TEST Unit Six** **HW** Read Law 7.1-7.3 Q p 193
	October 30	Review Law 7.1-7.3 **HW** Read law 7.4-7.6 Q p 194
	October 31	Review Law 7.4-7.6
	November 3	Watch "Entertainment" video pt 1 HW Q p 198
	November 4	Watch "Entertainment" video pt 2 **HW** Q p 198
	November 5	Review "Entertainment" video Receive Study Notes
	November 6	Watch "Politics" video
	November 7	**TEST Unit Seven** **HW** Read Politics 8.1-8.4 Q p 217
	November 10	Review Politics 8.1-8.4 **HW** Read Politics 8.5-8.6
	November 11	Review Politics 8.5-8.6
	November 12 *Abortion Debate* p 225-231	Read *The Shifting Focus in the* **HW** Q p 232
	November 13 *Abortion Debate* essay essay p 233	Review *The Shifting Focus in the* **HW** Read *The Battle for Life* Q p 238
	November 14	Review *The Battle for Life* Receive Study Guide
	November 17	Watch "Economics" Video
	November 18	**TEST Unit Eight**

		HW Read Economics 9.1-9.3 Q p 243
	November 19	Review Economics 9.1-9.3 **HW** Read Economics 9.4-9.6 Q p 243-244
	November 20	Review Economics 9.4-9.6 **HW** Read *Principles of a Christian Environmental Ethic* Q 259-268 Q p 269
	November 21 *Environmental Ethic*	Review *Principles of a Christian*
	November 24 Samaritan" video	Watch "The Dangerous **HW** Q p 274
	November 25 Samaritan" video	Review "The Dangerous Receive Study Notes
	December 1	**TEST Unit Nine**
	December 2	Watch "History" video **HW** Read History 10.1-10.2 Q p 279
	December 3	Review History 10.1-10.3 Q p 279
	December 4	Review History 10.3-10.4 **HW** Read History 10.5-10.6 Q p 280
	December 5 281-286	Review History 10.5-0.6 **HW** Read *Censoring the Past* p Q p 287
	December 8	Review *Censoring the Past*
	December 9 video	Watch "The Historical Jesus"

		HW Q p 302 Receive Study Notes
	December 10	Review "The Historical Video"
	December 11	**TEST Unit Ten**
	December 12 video	Watch "Worldview Witness" Q p 309 **HW** Read Conclusion 11.3 Q p 310
	December 15 video	Review "Worldview Witness" **HW** Read Conclusion 11.4-11.5 Q p 310
	Exam covers all units	
Course Objectives:	The goal of this course is to open the students' eyes to the war of ideas competing for their hearts and minds. Students should understand that everyone has a worldview which is founded upon ideas. Students should be able to anticipate the response of a Muslim, Secular Humanist, Marxist, Postmodernist or Cosmic Humanist and see ideas from a Biblical perspective. After completing this course, students should be able to: articulate a factual foundation for their chosen worldview, develop basic skills of disciplined worldview inquiry, understand the similarities and differences between the worldviews they studied, and apply an understanding of the worldviews in the area of the natural sciences, the social sciences, the humanities, and biblical studies.	
Date completed:	September 27, 2008	