



12629 Ridgely Rd., Greensboro, MD. 21639 / President: Dr. Phillip E. Connatser, B.C.M., M.C.M., D.R.E.
www.chesapeakebiblecollege.com / Office Phone: 1-410-634-9005

T301/ T521 / T721

The Defense of the Faith

Course Description & Syllabus

This course is designed to present critical information and concepts of Christian apologetics – otherwise known as defending the faith. One's defense of the faith is a vital aspect for every believer as we are commanded in 1 Peter 3:15, "But sanctify the Lord God in your hearts, and always be ready to give a defense to everyone who asks you a reason for the hope that is in you, with meekness and fear." The purpose of this course is to arm you, the student, with sufficient information with which to strengthen your faith in the Rock of Ages. The Bible is reliable. You can trust your whole soul with it. This course can be taken on an undergraduate level of study (T521 - toward a Bachelor's degree), or it can be taken on a graduate level of study (T521/T721 - toward a Masters or Doctors degree), providing the course requirements are met as explained in this course syllabus.

OBJECTIVES:

ACADEMIC--- To provide the student with a basic knowledge and understanding of Christian apologetics.

ATTITUDINAL--- To help the student realize that one's faith is not simply a garment to be worn only at certain times, or on certain days; but that it is something that is to have a direct influence on his or her everyday life.

BEHAVIORAL--- To turn the student's firsthand knowledge of his faith into an effective instrument for the propagation of Christianity throughout the world.



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COURSE GRADING:

Chesapeake Bible College and Seminary uses a four-point grading system to calculate both semester and cumulative grade point averages. Point grades for all quizzes, exams, projects, and/or papers in any given course will be averaged to determine the final letter grade for the course, as applicable.

GRADING: - Description of Letter / Points

Work of an exceptional quality – A / 93 - 100%

Work of a commendable quality – B / 85 - 92%

Work of an acceptable quality – C / 78 - 84%

Work of minimal but passing quality – D / 70 - 77%

Failing work, no credit given – F / 0 - 69%

NOTE: Students are strongly advised to make copies of all course work submitted to Chesapeake Bible College & Seminary for grading.



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COURSE REQUIREMENTS

REQUIRED TEXT: **The Bible (NKJV or KJV)** where Scripture passages, unless otherwise noted, are from the New King James Version of the Holy Bible.

STUDY TEXT: **The accompanying required textbooks for this course are the following.**

McDowell, Josh. *The Best of Josh McDowell: A Ready Defense*. Nashville: Thomas Nelson Publishers. 1990. ISBN: 0840744196.

The supplemental textbooks for this course are the following.

Zacharias, Ravi. *Jesus Among Other Gods*. Nashville: W Publishing Group. 2000. ISBN: 0849943272.

CBCS credits this course's multiple writers and editors over time who prepared all study content and course materials contained herein as offered with permission by Chesapeake Bible College & Seminary faculty and staff. A very special thanks goes to Dr. Phillip E. Connatser Jr. who will serve as your course instructor as part of the CBCS Online student community.

Additional information from this course is from Dr. William M. Comfort's Apologetics Library. Dr. Comfort was a missionary to servicemen for nine years. During that time, he witnessed face to face with unbelievers of all descriptions. He was forced to learn the reasons for the hope that resides in the believer. It was his prayer for students to become a sharper instrument in the power of the Holy Spirit, so that the student's winsome defense of the faith would bring people to a saving knowledge of Jesus Christ.

Additional Thanks for Editorial Assistance from: Loretta M. Iannicelli, M.Div., D.R.E., Senior Pastor, President and CEO Equip Services, Inc. Wellesley Massachusetts & Equip Academy, Chesapeake Bible Institute-Boston who serves as Dean of Admissions and Academic Development-Chesapeake Bible College & Seminary, Greensboro, Maryland; and the Equip Academy academic team members including Rev. Marie Parma, MTS, Robert Knox, and Rev. Ruth Strait, MTS along with online content development by Todd Jennings. Special thanks to Dr. Kerry Fink, MTS, D.R.E., President, TYG Media, Inc. Palm Bay Florida; Director of Operations, Chesapeake Bible College & Seminary, Greensboro, Maryland.

T301 - (DIPLOMA – ASSOCIATE - BACHELOR) – 3 CREDIT - DEGREE REQUIREMENTS

For Students taking this course as an undergraduate, (4) credit course, an additional six (6)-page essay is required to be submitted on researching the basic differences between your faith, and at least one other example of a faith tradition, which contrasts your faith. This six (6)-page essay includes a cover page & bibliography page.

The essay is to be typed double spaced, in New Times Roman type font, 12 font size. The instructions for essay/assignment submission are as follows: Coursework may be electronically uploaded into the Online Student Portal (if taking the course as an Online Student); submitted to the overseeing Instructor (if taking the course as part of a Distance Learning (DLC) Center); or electronically emailed to Assignment@chesapeakebiblecollege.com.

1. Maintain a minimum of a "C" average for the course.
2. Read all materials assigned.
3. Study the review materials.
4. Before taking the final examination, the student will: *Submit a minimum four-page defense of your faith essay which answers how you would defend that The Lord Jesus Christ is The Messiah.* This will constitute one-half (50%) of your grade for the course. The essay submitted must have a course title page and may be submitted as outlined in the T301 Degree Requirement description above.
5. Successful completion of the Mid-term (25%) and Final (25%) examinations will constitute the remainder of your grades for the course.

T521 - (MASTERS) – 4 CREDIT - DEGREE REQUIREMENTS

For students taking this course on a master's level, the student must:

1. Maintain a minimum of a "B" average for the course.
2. Read all materials assigned.
3. Study the review materials.
4. Before taking the final examination, the student will: *Submit a ten (10)- page research paper rich with Scriptures and references on any topic of choice from the course content or an essay on how and when you may have defended your faith practically as part of your faith journey. The student should list references used, including Bibles, Concordances, articles, books, etc. as the student contrasts examples and/or provides information for the need to accurately defend the Christian faith.*

This ten (10)- page research paper should include a cover page with: Student name, address, phone number, email address, and date along with the name of overseeing instructor, the course/degree program (T301, T521, T721) and include a bibliography page at the end. The research essay is to be typed double spaced, in New Times Roman type font, 12 font size. The instructions for

essay/assignment submission are also outlined in the Assignment section of the online course and are as follows: The research paper should be electronically uploaded into the Online Student Portal (if taking the course as an Online Student); submitted to the overseeing Instructor (if taking the course as part of a Distance Learning (DLC) Center); or electronically emailed to Assignment@chesapeakebiblecollege.com. The research paper will constitute one-half (50%) of your grade for the course. Neatness, grammar, spelling, content, context, and bibliography will be considered.

5. Successful completion of the Mid-term (25%) and Final (25%) examinations will constitute the remainder of your grades for the course.

T721 - (DOCTORS) – 4 CREDIT - DEGREE REQUIREMENTS

For students taking this course on a Doctor's level, the requirements are the same as the master's degree (see above) except the student must write a twenty (20)-page essay, instead of a ten (10)- page essay. This twenty (20)-page essay includes a cover page & bibliography page. The essay may be submitted as outlined in the T521 Degree Requirement and the Master's degree descriptions above.



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T301 / T521 / T721

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Course Syllabus

COURSE INTRODUCTION

Read the required text Foreword (if available) and online Course Introduction.

Lesson 1 – Bible Identity: What Is It and Where Did It Come From?

- Read the accompanying lessons and topics outlined within the course work
- Read required text material from McDowell
 - *The Uniqueness of the Bible*
 - *Who Decided What to Accept into the Bible?*
- Read and reflect on accompanying Scriptures as relevant to the course work
- Review study materials, appendices, or other information applicable all lessons
- Reflect on the lesson reflection question(s) and explore how your learning applies today in the church, in various marketplace settings, and/or to you personally
- Complete any supervision or supplemental readings applicable to course of study

Section 1 – The Uniqueness of the Bible: A Book Above All Others

Section 2 – The Bible Canon: Who decided What?

Section 3 – Facts About the Old Testament Canon

Section 4 – The Hebrew Canon

Lesson 2 – Sources and Reliability: Can We Trust the Bible?

- Read the accompanying lessons and topics outlined within the course work
- Read required text material from McDowell
 - *Is the Bible Reliable?*

- *Old Testament Prophecy Fulfilled in History*
- Read and reflect on accompanying Scriptures as relevant to the course work
- Review study materials, appendices, or other information applicable all lessons
- Reflect on the lesson reflection question(s) and explore how your learning applies today in the church, in various marketplace settings, and/or to you personally
- Complete any supervision or supplemental readings applicable to course of study

Section 1 – Old Testament Apocrypha and Sources

Section 2 – Is the Bible Reliable?

Section 3 – Old Testament Prophecy Fulfilled in History

MID TERM EXAM

Lesson 3 – The New Testament: Inspired and Reliable

- Read the accompanying lessons and topics outlined within the course work
- Read required text material from McDowell
 - *Is the New Testament Historically Reliable?*
- Read and reflect on accompanying Scriptures as relevant to the course work
- Review study materials, appendices, or other information applicable all lessons
- Reflect on the lesson reflection question(s) and explore how your learning applies today in the church, in various marketplace settings, and/or to you personally
- Complete any supervision or supplemental readings applicable to course of study

Section 1 – Historical Reliability of the New Testament

Section 2 – Holy Inspired Authorship

Lesson 4 – Archeological Support: There's Treasure in Those Hills!

- Read the accompanying lessons and topics outlined within the course work
- Read required text material from McDowell
 - *Archaeological Evidence for the Reliability of the Old Testament*
 - *Archaeological Evidence for the Reliability of the New Testament*
- Read and reflect on accompanying Scriptures as relevant to the course work
- Review study materials, appendices, or other information applicable all lessons
- Reflect on the lesson reflection question(s) and explore how your learning applies today in the church, in various marketplace settings, and/or to you personally
- Complete any supervision or supplemental readings applicable to course of study

Section 1 – Archeological Evidence

Section 2 – Bible Treasures

Section 3 - Scientific Proofs of the Bible

Lesson 5 – Supplemental Reading

- The student is encouraged to read the following chapters of 'A Ready Defense' for material that is important in Christian apologetics and their own faith journey.
 - *How Can You Believe the Miracles in the Bible?*
 - *What About Contradictions?*

COURSE OUTLINES or ESSAY ASSIGNMENT DUE: Students should reference the above degree section as it relates to your degree program assignment instructions.

The instructions for essay/assignment submission are as follows: Coursework may be electronically uploaded into the Online Student Portal (if taking the course as an Online Student); submitted to the overseeing Instructor (if taking the course as part of a Distance Learning (DLC) Center); or electronically emailed to Assignment@chesapeakebiblecollege.com.

FINAL EXAM DUE

APPENDIX LISTING

Appendix A – Genesis/Revelation Comparison Chart
Appendix B – Stages in the Development of the New Testament Canon
Appendix C – Literary Comparison Chart - Summary
Appendix D – Abbreviated Chart of Fulfilled Prophecy
Appendix E – Abbreviated Chart of Fulfilled Prophecy Concerning Jesus Christ
Appendix F – Author Comparison Chart
Appendix G – The Value of the Dead Sea Scroll Discoveries
Appendix H – Early Church Father Accounts
Appendix I – The Four Great Truths and Eightfold Path
Appendix J – Description of Daniel 9:24-27
Appendix K – "I AM" and The Gospel According to Matthew
Appendix L – Authors of New Testament
Appendix M – Books Authored by Paul
Appendix N – Paul's Timeline
Appendix O – The 400 Silent Years
Appendix P – Mere Apologetics (Dulles, Jun/Jul 2005)
Appendix Q – Global Faith
Appendix R – The Theology of Torture
Appendix S – On the Fault Line
Appendix T - Word Studies and Additional Learning

For Independent Correspondent Students (ICS) or Distance Learning Center (DLC)

students who are not utilizing the Online Student Portal for coursework materials and/or Quizzes. In lieu of the online Lesson engagement constituting the Mid and Final exams, the student must submit a well-presented essay as a list of ten (10) reasons why they believe the Bible is the Word of God. This should not be a simple numerical list. Rather, the ten reasons should be incorporated into a flowing narrative essay following similar instructions as above including using references, Bibles, Concordances, articles, books, etc. This will constitute one-half (50%) of your grade for the course. The narrative submitted must have a course title page.

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