

### **Equip Biblical Institute**

Church Planting \* Team Leadership \* Pastors Institute

2100 Greenfield Drive, El Cajon, CA 92019



# **Introduction to Apologetics**

Professor:

**Training Center City:** 

Semester and Year:

#### **Course Description**

This course focuses on how to teach the major arguments in support of the Christian faith so that people can come to Christ in a postmodern world. Topics include teaching to change lives, expository preaching, arguments for apologetics, reasons for believing in God, reasons for believing in Christ, reasons for believing in miracles, and philosophy. Students will create visual projects and applications for transformational discipleship and leadership.

#### **Course Design**

This 14-week course is designed to equip pastors, church planters, and next-generation leaders with Bible knowledge, Christian character, servant leadership, and disciple-making skills with the goal of life change. It addresses the learning styles of adults through active discussion, charts, visuals, Internet resources, team-building, and presentations. To ensure transfer of credit, changes to this course syllabus must be approved by both Equip Biblical Institute and Southern California Seminary. Over 1,200 leaders have completed EBI courses. Suggestions for improving course design are appreciated.

#### **Required Textbooks**

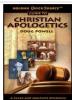
- Apologetics Study Bible for Students. Holman Christian Standard Bible. Notes by Sean McDowell. Nashville, TN: Holman, 2010. <u>CBD</u> 9781433614835
- Doug Powell. Guide to Christian Apologetics. Nashville, TN: Holman Reference, 2006. CBD \$14 9780805494600
- 3. Pastor Mark Mittelberg. *The Questions Christians Hope No One Will Ask.* Carol Stream, IL: Tyndale House, 2010. CBD 9781414315911
- 4. Holman Illustrated Bible Dictionary. Edited by Chad Brand. Nashville, TN: Holman Reference, 2015. CBD or 9780805499353

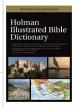
## Additional Books for Pastors, Leaders, and Advanced Students

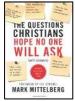
- God's NOT Dead DVD. <u>CBD</u> www.voutube.com/user/GodsNotDeadTheMovie
- 6. Lee Strobel 3-disc film collection: *The Case for Christ, The Case for Faith, The Case for Creation*. CBD Amazon

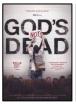
Internet Resources - 4truth.net \* bible.org \* blueletterbible.org \* carm.org/apologetics \* gotquestions.org \* helpmewithbiblestudy.org \* jeremiahstudybible.com \* leestrobel.com \* lifeway.com \* ministrygrid.com \* www.namb.net \* nextgenleader.net \* wayofthemaster.com/













Professors – Click here to receive the Notes by email. The purpose of this course is to help you realize your full potential in God, so you can become the exemplary leader God intends you to be—studying the Bible inductively, viewing the world biblically, sharing the Good News enthusiastically, making disciples intentionally, and serving the Church faithfully in the power of the Holy Spirit.



### **Learning Outcomes**

The student who successfully completes this course will be able to implement 2 Timothy 2:2:

- 1. Apply and teach how faith and reason come together in apologetics.
- 2. Apply and teach how to answer questions about God's existence.
- 3. Apply and teach how to answer questions about the reliability of the Old and New Testaments.
- 4. Apply and teach how to answer questions about the claims of Christ.
- 5. Apply and teach how to answer questions about prophecy and miracles.
- 6. Apply and teach how to answer questions about evolution and the problem of evil.
- 7. Apply and teach how to answer questions about abortion, homosexuality, hypocrisy, and hell.
- 8. Apply and teach how to ask the questions our friends need us to ask them.
- 9. Participate in a group or individual presentation, mini-sermon, project, PowerPoint, mind-map, visuals, webpage, or YouTube video on a chapter in one of the textbooks.
- 10. Type a 10- to 15-page term paper titled "Applications from Apologetics for Leadership and Character Development."
- 11. Coach leaders to develop Christian character through our identity in Christ, gratitude for the Gospel, the spiritual disciplines, personal revival, the fruit of the Spirit, the armor of God, the mind of Christ, and the seven virtues with the goal of transformational discipleship and leadership (Romans 12:1).

#### **Methods of Instruction**

Instruction emphasizes active learning, problem-based learning, project-based learning, presentation-based learning, team-based learning, reflection, discussion, interactive lecture, collaboration, visuals, term papers, and exams, with the goal of long-term and real-world learning that results in life-change and leadership skills. The major pedagogical premise of this course is that students should be treated like the servant-leaders they are becoming.

Dr. Gary C. Woods has served as the Bible Department Chairman and Registrar at Southern California Seminary. Dr. Woods has taught for Liberty University, Luther Rice Seminary, San Diego Christian College, and Southern California Seminary. He has a Doctor of Education in Technology and Learning from Alliant International University, a Master of Divinity in Missions from Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, and a Bachelor of Science in Cross-Cultural and Pastoral Ministry from Liberty University. He has served as a pastor and church planter with the North American Mission Board, and as an elected governing board member of GUHSD with over 20,000 high school students.

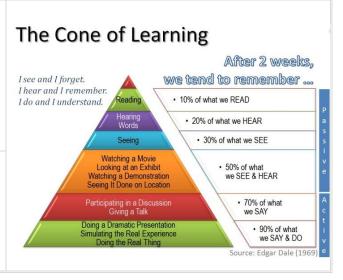


### **Accelerated Adult Learning Strategies**

Authentic learning involves observation, interpretation, and application. The goal of balanced instruction is to address the learning strengths of adult learners, including verbal, visual, musical, logical, kinesthetic, reflective, interpersonal, natural, and spiritual. Student-centered instruction is most effective when it impacts the mind, will, and emotions.

### **TEAM-based Active Learning Principles**

Students are encouraged to study in teams to develop application skills, leadership/relational skills, and presentations. Students are not to give answers to co-learners, but help them learn how to find the answers. **TEAM** = **Together Everyone Accomplishes More.** 



### **Student Requirements**

**First**, answer the **questions** in the **portfolio** before class. This will assist student-leaders in focusing on core information and developing the time-on-task study skills and writing skills essential to effective learning and long-term memory. Each student must do his or her own work.

**Second**, maintain the **journal** in the portfolio. (1) What is God teaching you in this session? (2) How are you going to apply these concepts to your life, family, and ministry? (3) How can your church apply these concepts to making disciples and developing leaders? This will assist student-leaders in developing reflection, application, and decision-making skills essential to spiritual growth.

**Third**, participate in the **discussion** of the questions and applications in the portfolio during class. Through discussion students learn from one another and sharpen one another as iron sharpens iron. This will assist student-leaders in developing the relational, speaking, and creative/critical thinking skills essential to effective teaching and servant-leadership.

**Fourth**, complete the **midterm exam**. This will assist student-leaders in developing long-term memory through multiple reviews of the core material.

**Fifth**, participate in an individual or **group presentation** on one of the chapters in the textbooks. The ability to make engaging presentations will multiply your influence, leadership, teaching, and preaching. Discuss applications found in that book. This presentation can be a PowerPoint, drama, role-play, charts, or drawings. This will assist student-leaders in developing the creative/critical thinking and teamwork skills essential to effective teaching and servant-leadership. Week 13

**Sixth**, type a 10- to 15-page **term paper** titled "Applications from Apologetics for Leadership and Character Development." The ability to write well will multiply your influence, leadership, teaching, and preaching. Footnote all the ideas, paraphrases, and direct quotes in your paper, whether from books or the Internet. Font should be Times New Roman 12. Include illustrations and charts. This will assist student-leaders in developing the creative/critical thinking and writing skills essential to effective biblical teaching, preaching, and servant-leadership. Week 13

**Seventh**, complete the **final exam** in the portfolio. This will assist student-leaders in developing long-term memory through multiple reviews of the core material and in focusing on transformational leadership and teaching skills. Week 14

#### **Course Objective Is Life Change**

Our mission is to bring glory to God by assisting local churches to equip believers to live and minister biblically based on the inerrant Word of God. This equipping includes Bible knowledge, Christian character, and ministry skills. The objective is to take student-leaders from where they are and move them to where they need to be. Students will learn how (1) to read with their brains; (2) to remember what they have read; (3) to sharpen their thoughts through journaling; (4) to speak effectively before others; (5) to work as learning teams of leaders; and (6) to biblically apply what they are learning to life, family, and ministry.

#### **Accelerated Adult Learning Techniques**

Adults learn in unique ways and so this course incorporates multiple learning styles. According to the **Cone of Learning**, writing, discussing, and applying concepts are the keys to accelerated adult learning. The portfolio is foundational to learning because students remember more of what they write, discuss, and apply. By applying these principles of champion learners, students will experience transformational growth. Welcome to the accelerated disciple-making process!

Session	Date	Professor Responsibilities	Student Responsibilities
1		What is apologetics? Does God exist? The Cosmological Argument Go over this syllabus and the portfolio. Preview the study guides for the exams. Discuss the appendix. Discuss portfolio questions and journal applications. Demonstrate how to get the most out of the Topical Index in the Jeremiah Study Bible, the Holman Illustrated Bible Dictionary, and the textbooks. Ask students to share an article related to this course from the Holman Illustrated Bible Dictionary or the Jeremiah Study Bible. Group activity: Create a visual summary or mind-map of one of these chapters. View God's NOT Dead DVD. Review in class one of the resources for Bible knowledge, character development, and discipleship ministry coaching at: http://carm.org/evangelism.www.4truth.net, www.gotquestions.org/, www.leestrobel.com, www.theopedia.com/, www.theopedia.com/, www.sbc.net, www.wayofthemaster.com/. It is imperative that professors help students improve their term papers and character through coaching, feedback, encouragement, examples, and rubrics. These are crucial learning and leadership skills. Go over the Transformational Discipleship Covenant.	<ul> <li>Print 230 Introduction to Apologetics portfolio.</li> <li>Pay the honorarium to the director.</li> <li>Skim the textbooks and be prepared to discuss how these books are unique as learning tools.</li> <li>Study chapters 1-2 in Guide to Christian Apologetics.</li> <li>Explore for 15 minutes the Internet resources on this topic at <a href="http://carm.org/evangelism">http://carm.org/evangelism</a>, www.4truth.net, www.gotquestions.org/, www.sbc.net, www.wayofthemaster.com/.</li> <li>Type the answers to the portfolio questions and journal applications in preparation for the discussion and group activity.</li> <li>Begin writing the term paper.</li> <li>Review the study guide.</li> <li>Read the Baptist Faith and Message in Resources at www.sbc.net.</li> <li>Disciple-making: share what you are learning with young leaders and apprentice disciples and invite them to class.</li> </ul>
2		Does God exist? The Argument from Design  Does God exist? The Moral Argument  Welcome guests and encourage students to share what they have learned so far.  Discuss portfolio questions,	<ul> <li>Study chapters 3-4 in Guide to Christian Apologetics.</li> <li>Explore <a href="http://www.4truth.net/">http://www.4truth.net/</a> for 15 minutes.</li> <li>Type the answers to the portfolio.</li> <li>Work on the term paper and bring to class for coaching.</li> </ul>

Session	Date	Professor Responsibilities	Student Responsibilities
		applications, and resolutions.  Coach students on how to improve their term papers and transformational gratitude and apologetic skills in class.  Group activity: Create a visual summary or mind-map of one of these chapters.  View The Case for Christ DVD.  Discuss with students the people and things that they are grateful for and how to pass it forward  Discuss with students of how being ambassadors of Christ and ministers of reconciliation impacts our apologetics and evangelism.	<ul> <li>Review the study guide.</li> <li>Character development: Create or add to a "Gratitude List" including the armor of God, attributes of God, family, freedom, friends, fruit of the Spirit, great exchange, health, heritage, mentors, opportunities, pastor, parents, salvation, teachers, those who have equipped and encouraged you, etc.</li> <li>Go on an evangelistic visit during the course with your pastor, deacon, church leader, Sunday school worker, or friend.</li> <li>Share what you are learning with your apprentice disciples.</li> <li>Invite friends and apprentice disciples to see how the course works.</li> </ul>
3		Which God exists? What was the origin of the New Testament? Discuss portfolio questions, applications, and resolutions. Coach students on how to improve their term papers and transformational gratitude and apologetic skills in class. Group activity: Create a visual summary or mind-map of one of these chapters.	<ul> <li>Study chapters 5-6 in <i>Guide to Christian Apologetics</i>.</li> <li>Explore <a href="http://www.4truth.net/">http://www.4truth.net/</a> and/or other apologetics resources Internet for 15 minutes.</li> <li>Type the answers to the portfolio.</li> <li>Work on the term paper and bring to class for coaching.</li> <li>Review the study guide.</li> <li>Pray for those on your reach list.</li> <li>Share what you are learning with your apprentice disciples.</li> </ul>
4		How reliable is the New Testament? How reliable is the Old Testament? Discuss portfolio questions, applications, and resolutions. Coach students on how to improve their term papers and transformational gratitude and apologetic skills in class. Group activity: Create a visual summary or mind-map of one of these chapters.	<ul> <li>Study chapters 7-8 in <i>Guide to Christian Apologetics</i>.</li> <li>Explore <a href="http://www.4truth.net/">http://www.4truth.net/</a> and/or other apologetics resources Internet for 15 minutes.</li> <li>Type the answers to the portfolio.</li> <li>Work on the term paper and bring to class for coaching.</li> <li>Review the study guide.</li> <li>Pray for those on your reach list.</li> <li>Share what you are learning with your apprentice disciples.</li> </ul>
5		Do miracles exist? What place does prophecy occupy? Was the resurrection real? Discuss portfolio questions, applications, and resolutions.	<ul> <li>Study chapters 9-11 in <i>Guide to Christian Apologetics</i>.</li> <li>Explore <a href="http://leestrobel.com/">http://leestrobel.com/</a> and/or other apologetics resources Internet for 15 minutes.</li> </ul>

Session	Date	Professor Responsibilities	Student Responsibilities
		Coach students on how to improve their term papers and transformational gratitude and apologetic skills in class.  Group activity: Create a visual summary or mind-map of one of these chapters.  View <i>The Case for Faith</i> DVD.	<ul> <li>Type the answers to the portfolio.</li> <li>Work on the term paper and bring to class for coaching.</li> <li>Review the study guide.</li> <li>Pray for those on your reach list.</li> <li>Share what you are learning with your apprentice disciples.</li> </ul>
6		Did Jesus say that He was God? The only way? Why does God permit evil? Methodology Discuss portfolio questions, applications, and resolutions. Coach students on how to improve their term papers and transformational gratitude and apologetic skills in class. Group activity: Create a visual summary or mind-map of one of these chapters. Review for the midterm exam.	<ul> <li>Study chapters 12-14 in <i>Guide to Christian Apologetics</i>.</li> <li>Explore <a href="http://leestrobel.com/">http://leestrobel.com/</a> and/or other apologetics resources Internet for 15 minutes.</li> <li>Type the answers to the portfolio.</li> <li>Work on the term paper and bring to class for coaching.</li> <li>Review the study guide.</li> <li>Pray for those on your reach list.</li> <li>Share what you are learning with your apprentice disciples.</li> </ul>
7		Midterm Exam Give the midterm exam. Preview the second half of the course. Coach students on how to improve their term papers. Make corrections to the term paper in class. Discuss who would benefit from the EBI leadership training program. Order textbooks for next semester. Request next semester portfolios and notes by email at gwoods@socalsem.edu.	<ul> <li>Review the study guide in the notes to prepare for the midterm exam. Four hours of study are recommended.</li> <li>Work on the term paper and bring to class for coaching.</li> <li>Pay for textbooks for the next courses.</li> <li>Be involved in the small group and/or Sunday School ministry of your church.</li> </ul>
8		What makes you so sure that God exists at all?  Didn't evolution put God out of a job?  Welcome guests and encourage students to share what they have learned.  Discuss portfolio questions, applications, and resolutions.  Coach students on how to improve their term papers and transformational gratitude and	<ul> <li>Study chapters 1-2 in The Questions Christians Hope No One Will Ask.</li> <li>Explore <a href="http://carm.org/apologetics">http://carm.org/apologetics</a> and/or other apologetics resources Internet for 15 minutes.</li> <li>Type the answers to the portfolio.</li> <li>Work on the term paper and bring to class for coaching.</li> <li>Review the study guide.</li> <li>Pray with people on your reach list.</li> <li>Share what you are learning with</li> </ul>

Session	Date	Professor Responsibilities	Student Responsibilities
		apologetic skills in class. Group activity: Create a visual summary or mind-map of one of these chapters. View <i>The Case for Creation</i> DVD.	your apprentice disciples  Invite your friends and apprentice disciples to see how the course works.
9		Why trust the Bible? Why try to make Jesus into the Son of God? Discuss portfolio questions, applications, and resolutions. Coach students on how to improve their term papers and transformational gratitude and apologetic skills in class. Group activity: Create a visual summary or mind-map of one of these chapters.	<ul> <li>Study chapters 3-4 in The Questions Christians Hope No One Will Ask.</li> <li>Explore <a href="http://carm.org/apologetics">http://carm.org/apologetics</a> and/or other apologetics resources Internet for 15 minutes.</li> <li>Type the answers to the portfolio.</li> <li>Work on the term paper and bring to class for coaching.</li> <li>Review the study guide.</li> <li>Pray with people on your reach list.</li> <li>Share what you are learning with your apprentice disciples.</li> </ul>
10		How could a good God allow so much evil, pain, and suffering? Why is abortion such a line in the sand for Christians? Discuss portfolio questions, applications, and resolutions. Coach students on how to improve their term papers and transformational gratitude and apologetic skills in class. Group activity: Create a visual summary or mind-map of one of these chapters.	<ul> <li>Study chapters 5-6 in The Questions Christians Hope No One Will Ask.</li> <li>Explore         www.gotquestions.org/Christian-         apologetics.html and/or other         apologetics resources Internet for 15         minutes.</li> <li>Type the answers to the portfolio.</li> <li>Work on the term paper and bring to         class for coaching.</li> <li>Review the study guide.</li> <li>Let your light shine by doing acts of         kindness for people on your list.</li> <li>Share what you are learning with your         apprentice disciples.</li> </ul>
11		Why do you condemn homosexuality when God loves all people the same? How can I trust Christianity when so many Christians are hypocrites? Discuss portfolio questions, applications, and resolutions. Coach students on how to improve their term papers and transformational gratitude and apologetic skills in class. Group activity: Create a visual summary or mind-map of one of these chapters.	<ul> <li>Study chapters 7-8 in The Questions Christians Hope No One Will Ask.</li> <li>Explore www.wayofthemaster.com/ I and/or other apologetics resources Internet for 15 minutes.</li> <li>Type the answers to the portfolio.</li> <li>Work on the term paper and bring to class for coaching.</li> <li>Review the study guide.</li> <li>Let your light shine by doing acts of kindness for people on your list.</li> <li>Share what you are learning with your apprentice disciples.</li> </ul>

Session	Date	Professor Responsibilities	Student Responsibilities
12		Why should I think that heaven really exists—and that God sends people to hell?  The questions our friends need us to ask them.  Discuss portfolio questions, applications, and resolutions.  Coach students on how to improve their term papers and transformational gratitude and apologetic skills in class.  Group activity: Prepare for next week's student presentations.	<ul> <li>Study chapters 9-10 in The Questions Christians Hope No One Will Ask.</li> <li>Explore www.wayofthemaster.com/ I and/or other apologetics resources Internet for 15 minutes.</li> <li>Type the answers to the portfolio.</li> <li>Work on the term paper and bring to class for coaching.</li> <li>Review the study guide.</li> <li>Invite someone on your list to come with you to small group or church.</li> <li>Share what you are learning with your apprentice disciples.</li> </ul>
13		Student Presentations and Term Papers  Welcome guests and disciples. Livestream student presentations on the church Facebook page.  Post cell phone videos of student presentations on the church and association webpages to increase their impact.  Coach students on how to improve their presentations.  Coach students on how to improve their term papers.  Group activity: Peer-review and make corrections to the term paper in class.  Review for the final exam.	<ul> <li>Prepare to participate in a group or individual presentations on a chapter in the books.</li> <li>Work on the term paper and bring to class for peer review and corrections.</li> <li>Review the study guide.</li> <li>Community service: invite someone on your list to come with you to small group or church.</li> <li>Disciple-making: invite your friends and apprentice disciples to watch student presentations.</li> </ul>
14		Final Exam and Course Evaluation Give final exam. Collect completed portfolio for review. Collect revised term paper for review. Students will debrief by sharing how they are using and sharing what they have learned. Discuss how to recruit students who would benefit from the EBI leadership development. Distribute the textbooks, syllabi, portfolios, notes, and promotional materials for the next course. Time of fellowship.	<ul> <li>Review the study guide for the final exam.</li> <li>Complete the portfolio.</li> <li>Revise the term paper.</li> <li>Community service: as a disciple-maker share and/or email your revised term paper to pastors, deacons, small-group leaders, apprentice disciples, and friends to multiply your ministry in obedience to 2 Timothy 2:2-3.</li> <li>Discipleship is teaching others about what you are learning. Pass on the baton of discipleship by sharing what you are learning each week. To be a disciple you need to be making disciples (Matthew 28:18-20).</li> </ul>

Session	Date	Professor Responsibilities	Student Responsibilities

EBI holds to the *Baptist Faith and Message*. The inclusion of articles, books, or external links in this course does not imply that the opinions expressed represent the official position of EBI.

### **Holman Bibliography**

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- Holman QuickSource Guide to Christian Apologetics. Edited by Doug Powell. Nashville, TN: Holman Reference, 2006. 9780805494600
- Holman QuickSource Guide to Understanding Creation. Edited by Mark Whorton and Hill Roberts. Nashville, TN: Holman Reference, 2008. 9780805494860
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# **Transfer of Credits to Southern California Seminary**

### **Attendance Policy**

Attending class on time is important to receive the most out of the course. Entering class late disrupts the learning process of all students. Students are permitted three absences for a 14-week semester course. For the semester (28 classroom hours plus 68 homework hours) courses, more than 10 minutes late is a *tardy;* more than 20 minutes late is an *absence*. Two tardies count as one absence. College credit cannot be transferred to Southern California Seminary when a student misses four or more class sessions. A grade of AU (Audit) will be recorded when a student is auditing the course, misses four sessions, does not complete coursework on time, or earns less than 700 points.

### **Class Time and Homework Policy**

To transfer <u>Carnegie</u> credits to Southern California Seminary, each 2-unit course must include at least 28 hours of class time discussion and 68 hours of portfolio homework during the 14-week semester. Courses with less than 28 hours of class time do not meet EBI requirements. Since "time plus focus equals learning," increased classroom time and active learning result in increased learning—and learning is the key to leadership and service. Courses start the first week of January, May, and September. For maximum learning, it is recommended that working students take 2 courses per semester or 6 courses per year. Students who plan to transfer must keep copies of portfolios and term papers to present to Equip Biblical Institute and Southern California Seminary upon request

### **Late Work Policy**

Completing work on time is an important habit for leaders to develop. Homework should be completed weekly before the class discussion and application. The grade for work that is between 1 and 7 days late is lowered by 20%. Work that is over 7 days late will not be accepted. Professors are to send to the EBI offices the grade sheet within 15 days of the end of each course so that transcripts can be updated each semester.

### Portfolio and Term Paper Policy for Transferring Students

To graduate or transfer credits from Equip Biblical Institute to Southern California Seminary, students must submit their portfolio and term papers at the end of each course to the Registrar for formative assessment. Upon successful completion of the Associate of Biblical Studies, students may transfer **60 units** into the Bachelor of Arts in Biblical Studies degree. If the portfolio or term papers are missing, the credits may not be transferable. Portfolios must be completed individually—not as couples.

Answers to portfolio questions are individual and subjective, so each student must do his or her own portfolio and term paper. As part of the EBI-SCS Articulation Agreement and to facilitate transfer of degrees to other schools, professors must submit the portfolios and term papers of transferring students to the EBI Registrar at <a href="mailto:gwoods@socalsem.edu">gwoods@socalsem.edu</a> at the end of each course. The goal is to assist students in being successful in their studies and in their ministries.

			Grade So	cale	
Grade		Percent	Points		
Α	=	95-100%	950-1,000	EBI	10-
A-	=	90-94%	900-949	CSBC Catherin Southern	
B+	=	87-89%	870-899	Regulary a Ambridge	
В	=	84-86%	840-869	The second second	
B-	=	80-83%	800-839	S FRI CO OF CAN	X E
C+	=	77-79%	770-799		
С	=	74-76%	740-769	Seminary	/.
C-	=	70-73%	700-739	ALMANDE FAIL CONTRACTOR	
AU	=	Below 70%	0-699		
Student Evalu	uation	l		Percent	Points
Portfolio/Gro	up Ac	tivities		55%	550
Midterm Exa	m			10%	100
Student Pres	10%	100			
	15%	150			
Final Exam .	10%	100			
				100%	1,000

Session 1	Session 2	Session 3	Session 4	Session 5	Session 6	Midterm 7	Session 8	Session 9	Session 10	Session 11	Session 12	Presen- tation 13	Term Paper 13	Final Exam 14	Points	Grade
50	50	50	50	50	50	100	50	50	50	50	50	100	150	100	1,000	ABC

	Course Grading Rubric	
Grade	Requirements	✓
Α	Exams, portfolio, presentation, and the 12- to 15-page term paper with zero errors.	
A-	Exams, portfolio, presentation, and the 10- to 11-page term paper with less than 2 errors.	
B+	Exams, portfolio, presentation, and the 9-page term paper with less than 4 errors.	
В	Exams, portfolio, presentation, and the 8-page term paper with less than 6 errors.	
B-	Exams, portfolio, presentation, and the 7-page term paper with less than 8 errors.	
C+	Exams, portfolio, presentation, and a 6-page essay are completed with less than 10 errors.	
С	Exams, portfolio, presentation, and a 5-page essay are completed but need corrections.	
C-	Exams, portfolio, presentation, and a 4-page essay and/or tutoring or peer coaching.	
AU	Audit. Student audited the course for personal spiritual enrichment or earned less than 700 points or missed more than 3 sessions. EBI has levels for all students/churches.	

Writing clarifies one's thoughts and is a key skill for an effective leader. Initially students may have difficulties in developing writing skills, but they will improve and gain confidence with each course they complete. It is important that professors help students improve their writing skills to maximize their thinking and leadership skills. Students should use the term paper rubric, sample term paper, and typeover template to write their term papers. Since students have different abilities, goals, responsibilities,

and schedules, students can choose the grade for which they are aiming. It is possible to earn a "C" by writing an essay rather than a term paper, but it is necessary to write a term paper to earn an "A" or "B".

Writing and journaling two of the most important skills that a leader can develop. As part of the academic agreement with Southern California Seminary, to earn an "A" students are required to email or mail a copy of their academic work to the EBI registrar. The first goal is to affirm students who are doing all the work. The second goal is help students do even better by analyzing the term papers and to preparing next-generation leaders for university level education and ministry by helping them improve their writing skills, thinking skills, and leadership skills.

The mission of Equip Biblical Institute is to bring glory to God by assisting local churches to equip believers of various cultures and languages to live and minister biblically based on the inerrant Word of God. This equipping includes building biblical knowledge, Christian character, and ministry skills. The goal is to provide leadership and teaching resources, intentional leadership development, disciple-making materials, Skype courses, YouTube videos, charts, notes, and visuals to pastors and churches around the world. EBI is equipping the next generation of pastors and leaders to multiply their influence by training leaders, creating videos, and writing books.

EBI is a religious exempt school and not accredited by the U. S. Department of Education; however, EBI Associate degrees are transferable to Southern California Seminary and other schools based on the EBI-SCS articulation agreement based on Carnegie Units, portfolios, and term papers.

One of the benefits of advanced training is that trained pastors do better and last longer in ministry than pastors with little or no training. Skills learned include administration, apologetics, attitude, belonging, biblical worldview, Bible interpretation, character development, church planting, college learning, communication, community development, counseling, creative thinking, critical thinking, disciple-making, encouragement, enrichment, equipping, ethical development, evangelism, faith-based, family-based disciple-making, financial intelligence, interaction, leadership, mentoring, ministry, motivational, online learning, organizational, parenting, pastoral ministry, people, project-based learning, preaching, relational, resilience, self-awareness, servant leadership, spiritual disciplines, spiritual gifts, spiritual growth, spiritual warfare, student success, strategic planning, teaching, technology, transformational learning, writing, and youth leadership skills. Every course assignment has a whole-brain learning rationale with the goal of life transformation. The goal is the effective ministry described in 2 Peter 1:2-8.

As students take each course, their brains will develop a multitude of new physical and chemical neural connections, increasing their ability to read with comprehension; make practical applications from what they are learning; and improve their communication, leadership, and writing skills.

EBI incorporates seminary success skills and transformational teaching, including <u>Adult</u> Learner Model, the Affective Neuroscience Learning Model, Bloom's Taxonomy of Learning Domains, the <u>Carnegie Unit and Student Hour</u> Rubric, the Cognitive <u>Neuroscience</u> Learning Model, the Seven Laws of Learning Model, the Learning Styles Model, Knowles's <u>Adult</u> Learner Model, the <u>Maslow</u> Pyramid of Needs, the <u>Multiple Intelligences</u> Model, the Professional Development Rubric, the <u>Quality Matters</u> Rubric, the Seven Principles of Good Practice in Undergraduate Education Model, the Teaching to Change Lives Model, the <u>Visual Learning</u> Model, and the <u>Working Memory</u> Model.

EBI utilizes the power of <u>Formative Assessment</u> rather than summative assessment. Formative assessment promotes students' learning by providing feedback on how to study better, develop integrity and leadership skills, and write better term papers. Summative assessment gives only a final grade or evaluation of proficiency (A, B, C, D, F).

Academic research indicates that when formative assessment is provided the amount of student learning is often double that of summative assessment. Formative assessment involves briefly reviewing portfolios each week to make sure students are not getting behind and assisting all students to improve their writing skills each week based on rubrics and samples of term papers.

Effective teachers enlist stronger students to help struggling students to improve. Rubrics help students gauge the quality of their work and see what else is needed to improve their writing and leadership skills. Samples of term papers demonstrate what is expected and required for leadership and character

### development.

Effective teachers have students compare and peer-review one another's papers in class during specified times. Formative assessment is about providing students with feedback or tips aimed at improving their writing and critical thinking skills—not just giving them a letter grade. Feedback is most effective when it explicitly communicates to students about some specific aspects of their performance relative to specific target criteria, and when it provides information that helps students progress toward meeting that criterion.

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