

BOYCE COLLEGE
PH108 WORLDVIEW ANALYSIS

YOUR NAME _____

PERSONAL WORLDVIEW SUMMARY



What is “worldview”?

A worldview is a set of pre-theoretical commitments or presuppositions (of which we may or may not be aware) formed in us by the experiences, communities, embodied habits, narratives, and metanarratives that have oriented our loves and enabled us to make sense of our lives.

METAPHYSICS AND ONTOLOGY

	What is your <i>present</i> pre-theoretical commitment?
What is prime reality?	
What is the nature of the cosmos?	
What is the nature of a human?	
What is the meaning of human history?	
Why does beauty exist?	

EPISTEMOLOGY

	What is your <i>present</i> pre-theoretical commitment?
Why do we know anything at all?	

ETHICS

	What is your <i>present</i> pre-theoretical commitment?
How do we know what is good?	

SOCIAL AND POLITICAL ORDER

	What is your <i>present</i> pre-theoretical commitment?
What is the nature and purpose of human community?	

METAPHYSICS AND ONTOLOGY

	What <i>should</i> your pre-theoretical commitment be?
What is prime reality?	
What is the nature of the cosmos?	
What is the nature of a human being?	
What is the meaning of human history?	
Why does beauty exist?	

EPISTEMOLOGY

	What <i>should</i> your pre-theoretical commitment be?
Why do we know anything at all?	

ETHICS

	What <i>should</i> your pre-theoretical commitment be?
How do we know what is good?	

SOCIAL AND POLITICAL ORDER

	What <i>should</i> your pre-theoretical commitment be?
What is the nature and purpose of human community?	

Select *one* particular historical creed, catechism, or confession of faith with which you find yourself in agreement.

Here are a few possibilities from which to choose:

- **Nicene Creed (325/381)**
- **Belgic Confession (1561)**
- **Heidelberg Catechism (1563)**
- **Westminster Confession (1647)**
- **Second London Baptist Confession (1689)**
- **Abstract of Principles (1858)**
- **The Baptist Faith and Message (2000)**

In the next table, copy clauses from *one* selected creed, catechism, or confession to summarize the beliefs that each of your pre-theoretical commitments has made possible.

A RULE OF FAITH

Moving from Worldview to Confession

	What statement from this confession does your pre-theoretical commitment make it possible for you to believe?
What is prime reality?	
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Why does beauty exist?	
Why do we know anything at all?	
How do we know what is good?	
What is the nature and purpose of human community?	

A WAY OF LIFE TODAY

Forming Your Worldview through Your Habits

	What embodied habits are <i>currently</i> aligning your desires with your worldview?
What is prime reality?	
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Why does beauty exist?	
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A WAY OF LIFE TOMORROW

Transforming Your Worldview through Your Habits

	What <i>future</i> habits might reorient aspects of your worldview that need to change?
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What is the meaning of human history?	
Why does beauty exist?	
Why do we know anything at all?	
How do we know what is good?	
What is the nature and purpose of human community?	

A LIFE-PHILOSOPHY*

Making Your Worldview More Memorable (Or, Fitting Your Worldview into Eight Fortune Cookies)

	What brief, memorable aphorism might summarize this aspect of your worldview?
What is prime reality?	
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What is the nature of a human being?	
What is the meaning of human history?	
Why does beauty exist?	
Why do we know anything at all?	
How do we know what is good?	
What is the nature and purpose of human community?	

* To understand what is intended by a life-philosophy expressed in a series of brief, memorable aphorisms, see the discussions regarding Nick Offerman and Jordan Peterson in "Philosophers, Martyrs, and Canoes" and "The Genius of Ancient Philosophy" in Jonathan Pennington, *Jesus the Great Philosopher* (Brazos Press, 2020).

NOTES

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