**12th Grade Bible:   
Biblical Worldview and Spiritual Identity**

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**“If it can be verified, we don't need faith.... Faith is for that which lies on the other side of reason. Faith is what makes life bearable, with all its tragedies and ambiguities and sudden, startling joys.” ~Madeline L’Engle**

## Course description:

This class is designed for senior-level students who are at the height of the psychosocial stage of identity development. We will take a critical examination of the nature of worldviews and ultimately explore how the Christian worldview seeks application of the Truth in our lives as citizens of a 21st century world through contemporary issues and questions.

In this course students will come to understand the ways in which the Christian worldview and its expression in faith transcends the boundaries of religion, culture, time, and definitions as a dynamic and organic relationship-centric journey encompassing the three core relationships of (1) God and humans, (2) humans and humans and (3) humans and nature.

In order to accomplish the course objectives, the class will be explored through 3 major units:

* **Worldviews:** Everyone has a worldview: a collection of paradigms, perspectives, expectations, and stories that shape the way we see and make sense of our world. In this part of the course, we will overview the anatomy of a worldview, and explore several general types which we may encounter in our lives. Along they way we’ll explore how different groups would answer questions about God, Love, Beauty, Truth, Humanity, and Purpose in life. This will pave the way for our longer, more finite discussion of the Biblical Christian worldview in theory and in practice in the next two sections of this course.
* **The Bible as a Meta-narrative:** Through the use of scriptures, a text (*God’s Big Picture*), and discussion, we will explore the Bible as a meta-narrative which helps us understand the history of not only the Jews and early Christians, but the history and central conflicts of all human-kind. Moving from creation into the crisis of human’s fall (severing the relationships between God and humans, humans and humans, and humans and nature) into God’s ceaseless mercy in offering opportunities for us to re-build what has been destroyed, culminating in the life of Jesus, we will ultimately explore what it means to be a person of spiritual integrity in the 21st century
* **Contemporary Spirituality:** We will utilize the book *Adventures in the Missing Point* by Brian McLaren and Tony Campolo to explore numerous current global issues with a contemporary Christian lens. We will openly discuss topics relating to our relationships with God, members of society, and our natural environment. Along the way, students will be challenged to openly reflect on their own beliefs and spiritual journey and will be given a chance to take positions clearly for the purpose of breaking through and reaffirming.

## Course Objectives:

* Enable students to understand and utilize the Bible as a dynamic and living narrative, in the 21st century.
* Enable students to recognize the core aspects of humanity, which unite us across time, cultures, religions, and worldviews: in our attempt to define and understand God and his role in humanity.
* Provide opportunity to briefly explore church history.
* Encourage students to take action as ambassadors of God in allowing Him to work through them to re-unify God to humans, humans to humans, and humans to nature.
* Provide the opportunity to explore contemporary issues from a pro-active standpoint in which the students come to recognize the role they can play in shaping the world in which we live.
* Enable students to openly and honestly reflect on their own beliefs and the reasons for their beliefs in a safe and encouraging environment.
* Prepare students to face “life after high school” with a strong sense of spiritual identity and purpose.

## Assessment: In alignment with the objectives and aims of the course, the following formative assessments will be used in class.

* Class discussion
* Written reflections/weekly journals
* Homework
* Socratic Seminars

In alignment with the objectives and aims of the course, the following summative assessments will be used in class.

Quarter One

* Worldviews Exam
* My Worldview Project

Quarter Two & Three

* Meta-narrative Exams
* Meta-Narrative Group Project

Quarter Four

* An Essay on one of the contemporary global issues
* Capstone project: “Spiritual Identity” Presentations
* Semester one final
* End of the year final
* Final Thoughts: As the teacher of this course, I pledge to give each student every opportunity to grow academically, socially, and spiritually for the duration of the time I have him or her. Students and parents are encourage to contact me via email if there are any questions or concerns at any time, and I will do my all to respond in a timely manner. I am excited to be working in this course, in Korea, and with these students. God bless!