

**Note:**

**Course content may be changed, term to term, without notice. The information below is provided as a guide for course selection and is not binding in any form, and should not be used to purchase course materials.**

## ***COURSE SYLLABUS***

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### **CRST 290 HISTORY OF LIFE**

#### **COURSE DESCRIPTION**

An interdisciplinary study of the origin and history of life in the universe. Faculty of the Center for Creation Studies will draw from science, religion, history, and philosophy in presenting the evidence and arguments for creation and against evolution. This course is required for all Liberty students.

#### **RATIONALE**

This course is designed to instill in our students a clear understanding of the relationship between science and Scripture as it pertains to the study of origins. In particular, it is designed to help students develop a clear and consistent biblical creationist worldview and defend it.

#### **I. PREREQUISITES**

Successful completion of a college science course

#### **II. REQUIRED RESOURCE PURCHASE**

Click on the following link to view the required resource for the term in which you are registered: <http://bookstore.mbsdirect.net/liberty.htm>

#### **III. ADDITIONAL MATERIALS FOR LEARNING**

- A. Computer with Internet access (broadband or cable recommended)
- B. Online Presentations with audio are provided with purchase of the ePack.
- C. Microsoft Word  
(Microsoft Office is available at a special discount to Liberty University students.)
- D. Videos may be viewed free online with purchase of the ePack or they can be purchased separately as DVDs:
  - 1. Icons of Evolution [www.coldwatermedia.com](http://www.coldwatermedia.com)
  - 2. Thousands not Billions produced by [www.icr.org](http://www.icr.org)
  - 3. Evidences II: Tale of the Trilobite [www.grisda.org](http://www.grisda.org)
  - 4. Lucy, she's no lady [www.answersingenesis.org](http://www.answersingenesis.org)
  - 5. Genesis: Key to unlocking the culture [www.answersingenesis.org](http://www.answersingenesis.org)

Please note that the cost for the DVDs if purchased separately will be >\$80 plus shipping, but they can be viewed online for free with the purchase of the ePack.

- E. Worldview assessment pretest and post-test are provided with purchase of the ePack.

#### **IV. MEASURABLE LEARNING OUTCOMES**

Upon successful completion of this course, the student will be able to:

- A. Discuss and contrast creation science and evolution worldviews.
- B. Discuss the creation science view from biblical accounts and rebut creation compromise views.
- C. Discuss the theories of natural selection and evolution.
- D. Discuss scientific evidences in support of a recent creation.
- E. Discuss the evidence of the fossil record and its implications of origins.
- F. Discuss evidence for the unique creation of man.
- G. Discuss evidence for creation using concepts such as irreducible complexity.
- H. Discuss the importance of the biblical creation message in understanding major doctrines and application for personal evangelism.

#### **V. CORE COMPETENCY LEARNING OUTCOMES**

Upon successful completion of this course, the student will be able to:

- A. Evaluate information to determine if it is supported by the evidence.
- B. Determine the relevance of information in evaluating an argument or conclusion.
- C. Recognize flaws and logical inconsistencies in an argument.
- D. Generate conclusions based on credible research, analysis, and interpretation.
- E. Know the difference between a biblical and secular worldview.

#### **VI. COURSE REQUIREMENTS AND ASSIGNMENTS**

- A. Textbook readings and lecture presentations/notes
- B. Discussion Board forums (6)

In Modules/Weeks 1-6, students will answer various questions relating to the course material. Students should post a thread answering the question by 11:59 p.m. (ET) on Friday of the module/week in which each forum is assigned. Then they should reply to at least one classmate's thread by 11:59 p.m. (ET) on Monday of the same module/week. Students will have to read, research, or view specific sources so that they can fully answer the questions presented in the forums.

- C. **Worldview Pre-test and Post-test**  
Students will take brief worldview assessment surveys before the beginning of the course and also at the end of the course. Students must take the ungraded Pre-test *before* Module/Week 1, and they must take the graded Post-test by 11:59 p.m. (ET) on Friday of Module/Week 8.
- D. **Interview Paper**  
Students will interview three friends, relatives, and/or teachers and ask them about their views on various topics related to origins. Then, they will write a 2–3 page paper describing their interviews and how they did or could respond to the people interviewed. This assignment is due by 11:59 p.m. (ET) on Monday of Module/Week 2.
- E. **Exams (7)**  
In each module (except for Module/Week 8), students will take an exam covering the lessons from that module. Each exam has 25 true/false and multiple-choice questions, is open book/open note, and must be completed in 30 minutes by 11:59 p.m. (ET) on Monday.
- F. **Core Competency Assessment**  
Students will take an assessment testing the areas covered in the Core Competency Learning Outcomes. This assessment contains 20 questions, is open-book, and must be completed in 25 minutes by 11:59 p.m. (ET) on Friday of Module/Week 8.
- G. **Final Exam**  
Students will take a final exam, covering all of the lessons in the course. The final exam contains 30 questions, is open-book/open note, and must be completed in 90 minutes by 11:59 p.m. (ET) on Friday of Module/Week 8.

**VII. COURSE GRADING AND POLICIES****A. Points**

Discussion Board forums (5 at 10 pts ea; 1 at 0 pts)		50
Worldview Pre-test		0
Worldview Post-test		100
Interview Paper		50
Exam 1	(Lessons 1-4)	100
Exam 2	(Lessons 5-7)	100
Exam 3	(Lessons 8-10)	100
Exam 4	(Lessons 11-13)	100
Exam 5	(Lessons 14-16)	100
Exam 6	(Lessons 17-19)	100
Exam 7	(Lessons 20-21)	100
Core Competency Assessment		40
Final Exam	(Lessons 1–22)	60

**Total** 1000**B. Scale**

A = 900–1000 B = 800–899 C = 700–799 D = 600–699 F = 0–599

**C. Late Policy**

Each assignment should be completed by the end of the module in which it is assigned. Without prior permission from the professor, no assignments will be accepted late without penalty. All late work will be assessed a deduction of 5% per day of the assignment's point value. In cases of documented medical emergency, military deployment, or other extenuating circumstances addressed by LUO policy, the late penalty does not apply.

**D. Disability Assistance**

Students with a documented disability may contact Liberty University Online's Office of Disability Academic Support (ODAS) at [LUOODAS@liberty.edu](mailto:LUOODAS@liberty.edu) to make arrangements for academic accommodations.

## ***COURSE SCHEDULE***

### **CRST 290**

Textbook: DeWitt, *History of Life Course ePack* (2012).

<b>WEEK/ MODULE</b>	<b>READING &amp; STUDY</b>	<b>ASSIGNMENTS</b>	<b>POINTS</b>
<b>1</b>	DeWitt: chs. 1 & 2 Lessons 1-4	Course Requirements Checklist	0
		Worldview Pre-test	0
		DB Forum 1	10
		Exam 1	100
<b>2</b>	DeWitt: chs. 3-4 Lessons 5-7	DB Forum 2	0
		Interview Paper	50
		Exam 2	100
<b>3</b>	DeWitt: ch. 5 Lessons 8-10	DB Forum 3	10
		Exam 3	100
<b>4</b>	DeWitt: chs. 6-7 Lessons 11-13	DB Forum 4	10
		Exam 4	100
<b>5</b>	DeWitt: ch. 8 Lessons 14-16	DB Forum 5	10
		Exam 5	100
<b>6</b>	DeWitt: ch. 9 Lessons 17-19	DB Forum 6	10
		Exam 6	100
<b>7</b>	DeWitt: chs. 10-11 Lessons 20-21	Exam 7	100
<b>8</b>	DeWitt: ch. 12 Lessons 22-23	Worldview Post-test	100
		Core Competency Assessment	40
		Final Exam	60
<b>TOTAL</b>			<b>1000</b>

DB = Discussion Board

**NOTE:** Each course week (except week 1) begins on Tuesday morning at 12:00 a.m. (ET) and ends on Monday night at 11:59 p.m. (ET). The final week ends at 11:59 p.m. (ET) on Friday.