



**Nipawin Bible College**  
**GE2233: C. S. Lewis**  
**Fall 2022**  
**3 Credits**  
**Instructor: Mr. Richard Friedt**  
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## ***COURSE DESCRIPTION***

C.S. Lewis was one of the most prolific Christian writers of the 20<sup>th</sup> Century. He is known for both his theological and fictional works, and has shaped modern Christian thought extensively. This course will focus on three of Lewis' theological books and will challenge the student to think critically about their understanding of God and the Christian life, and their walk of faith.

## ***COURSE TEXTBOOKS***

Lewis, C. S., *Mere Christianity*, United Kingdom: Geoffrey Bles, 1952.

Lewis, C. S., *The Screwtape Letters*, United Kingdom: Geoffrey Bles, 1952.

Lewis, C. S., *The Problem of Pain*, United Kingdom: The Centenary Press, 1940.

Short Study Guides: <https://www.cslewis.com/us/resources/>

## ***COURSE OBJECTIVES***

By the end of the course, students will...

1. Think critically about major theological components of the Christian faith e.g. theology, Christology, soteriology, hamartiology, and a philosophy of grief and pain.
2. Be able to apply this critical thinking to situations in one's life so that the heart and outward expression of one's faith might be directly impacted by intellectual growth.
3. Understand the impact of C.S. Lewis' writings in the 20<sup>th</sup> Century.
4. Grow in the confidence and ability to communicate their faith to others more effectively.
5. Learn how to use Christian resources such as Lewis' writings to enhance personal, daily study of God's Word.

## ***COURSE ASSIGNMENTS***

### **Class Participation - 5%**

- Class Participation will consist primarily of open discussion. The student is encouraged to use the class discussion times to ask questions and clarify their understanding of what they

have read, and to benefit from the questions and perspectives of other students – while remaining attentive for the entire class.

### **Reading - 20%**

- Students will be required to read *Mere Christianity*, *The Screwtape Letters*, and *The Problem of Pain*. A reading declaration will be filled out on each day the reading is due.
- This assignment will equip students to meet Course Objectives 1 to 3.

***DUE: See the Course Schedule***

### **Completion of Study Guides - 25%**

- The student will be required to answer the study guide questions for each of the three books assigned in this class.
- This assignment will equip students to meet Course Objectives 1 to 3.

***DUE: See the Course Schedule***

### **Major Paper - part 1 - 5%, part 2 - 5%, part 3 - 20% (30% total)**

- The student will present the teacher an argument from their chosen book in the C.S. Lewis series (5%).
- The student will present an outline of their argument (5%).
- The student will write out their argument in essay format (20%). The essay must:
  - Be 8-10 pages in length.
  - Make a clear, concise argument or statement of why they agree or disagree with C.S. Lewis on their chosen topic.
  - Quote Lewis throughout using the institution standard citational method.
  - Use and apply the Bible throughout to defend their point.
- This assignment will equip students to meet Course Objectives 1 to 5.

***DUE: See the Course Schedule***

### **Final Exam - 20%**

- The final exam will consist of one essay question, 5 short answers, and 40 multiple choice. This exam will be based off of the readings and study guides completed throughout the semester.

***DUE: Exam Week***

NOTE: All written assignments are to be typed in accordance with the guidelines in Kate L. Turabian's *A Manual for Writers of Research Papers, Theses, and Dissertations*, 9th ed. (Chicago, IL: The University of Chicago Press, 2018) for papers. **(See NBC Sample Paper - 2022.)** Assignments will be graded on the basis of content, clarity, grammar, and spelling.

Assignments will be due **at the beginning of the class period** on the day that they are assigned.

**ATTENDANCE POLICY:**

- Refer to the NBC Handbook 2022-2023

**LATE ASSIGNMENT POLICY:**

- Refer to the NBC Handbook 2022-2022

**Reading: 382 pages**

**Writing: 12 pages**

## **COURSE LECTURES AND ASSIGNMENT SCHEDULE:**

Date	Session Topic	Textbook Reading Due	Assignment Due
Sept. 20	Introduction to C. S. Lewis		
Sept. 23	Introduction to <i>Mere Christianity</i>		
Sept. 27	Part 1 – The Case for Christianity		
Oct. 4	Part 2 – What Christians Believe	<i>Mere Christianity</i>	
Oct. 7	Part 3 – Christian Behaviour		
Oct. 11	Part 4 – Beyond Personality		<i>Mere Christianity</i> Study Guide
Oct. 14	Introduction to <i>The Screwtape Letters</i>		
Oct. 18	Letters 1 to 8		
Oct. 21	Letters 9 to 17	<i>The Screwtape Letters</i>	
Oct. 25	Letters 18 to 25		
Oct. 28	Letters 26 to 31		The Screwtape Letters Study Guide
Nov. 1	Screwtape Proposes a Toast		
Nov. 4	Introduction to <i>The Problem of Pain</i>		
Nov. 15	Chapters 2 & 3		
Nov. 18	Chapters 4 & 5	<i>The Problem of Pain</i>	Paper Argument Selection
Nov. 22	Chapters 6 & 7		
Nov. 25	Chapters 8 to 10		- Paper Outline Due - The Problem of Pain Study Guide
Nov. 29	<i>Study Day</i>		
Dec. 2	Fiction, Poetry, and Essays		
Dec. 6	Fiction, Poetry, and Essays		
Dec. 9	Class Review		Major Paper Due
Dec. 14-16 (Exam Week)	Exam		Exam

### **SELECT BIBLIOGRAPHY**

Hooper, Walter. *C. S. Lewis — Christian Reflections*. Grand Rapids, MI: William B. Eerdmans Publishing Company, 1967.

Livermore, Kevin. *The Theology of C.S. Lewis: A Topical Summary of his Best Work*. Kindle Edition, 2020

McGrath, Alister. *C. S. Lewis—A Life: Eccentric Genius, Reluctant Prophet*. Carol Stream, IL: Tyndale House Publishers, 2013.

Markos, Louis. *Lewis Agnonistes*. Nashville, TN: Broadman and Holman Publishers, 2003.