

PH.D. IN CHRISTIAN PHILOSOPHY

Field Essay Study Guide

School of Theology

The field essay in philosophy will consist of one or two questions. Students are expected to be familiar with the major thinkers in the history of philosophy. Students should also be familiar with worldview thinking in general and such major components of conceptual systems such as metaphysics, epistemology, ethics, human nature and God. They should also have significant grounding in the material covered by the following books:

1. Alvin Plantinga, *Warranted Christian Belief* (New York: Oxford University Press, 1999).
2. James F. Sennett, *The Analytic Theist* (Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1998).
3. Ronald Nash, *Life's Ultimate Questions* (Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 1999). Pay special attention to material on worldview thinking, Plato, Augustine, the law of non-contradiction, the distinction between essential and non-essential properties, possible worlds, the critique of postmodernism including deconstructionism, Kant, Reformed Epistemology, to mention only a few topics.
4. Ronald Nash, *Faith and Reason* (Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 1988). Pay special attention to material on worldview thinking, Reformed Epistemology, the critique of Naturalism, miracles and evil.
5. Samuel Stumpf, *Socrates to Sartre* (New York: McGraw-Hill). Any edition.