

COURSE SYLLABUS
C. S. Lewis, OST620, 2 hours
J. Knox Chamblin, Th.D.
Reformed Theological Seminary, Virtual

Professor

J. Knox Chamblin was Professor of New Testament at Reformed Theological Seminary in Jackson, MS. He earned the B.D. and the Th.M. degrees from Columbia Theological Seminary and the Th.D. degree from Union Theological Seminary. Dr. Chamblin is the author of *Proclaiming the New Testament: Romans and Paul and the Self*, as well as a contributor to *Continuity and Discontinuity* and *The Evangelical Commentary on the Bible*.

Course Description

This course explores and critiques the life, writings, and thought of one of the most gifted and well-known apologists and literary critics of the twentieth century, C. S. Lewis.

Required Textbooks

Sayers, George. Jack. Wheaton, IL: Crossway Books, 1994.
Lewis, C. S. *The Four Loves*. New York: Harcourt Brace and Company, 1960.
Lewis, C. S. *The Great Divorce*. New York: Simon & Schuster, 1974.
Lewis, C. S. *Mere Christianity*. New York: Simon & Schuster, 1980.
Lewis, C. S. *Miracles*. New York: Simon & Schuster, 1975.
Lewis, C. S. *The Problem of Pain*. New York: Simon & Schuster, 1986.
Lewis, C. S. *Reflections on the Psalms*. New York: Harcourt Brace and Company, 1986.
Lewis, C. S. *Screwtape Letters*. New York: Penguin Putnam Inc., 1988.

All required books are available through the RTS Online Bookstore at www.rts.edu/bookstore.

Course Requirements

Online Student Handbook

The online Student Handbook is a guide that contains information for participation in this course. Needed forms may be downloaded and printed from this site. You will find it located on the RTS/Virtual website under Resources. Check here for all the latest updates.

Requirements in Brief

- Follow the Study Guide provided.
- Listen to all recorded lectures.
- Submit response papers (described below).
- Complete all readings.
- Comprehensive final examination
- Submit mentor report/course application paper.

Response Papers (45%)

A major objective for this class is to introduce the student to the life and writings of C.S. Lewis. To accomplish this goal, readings have been selected to enhance each lesson. Assignments for response papers have also been created to help the student further comprehend C.S. Lewis' writings. These are found specifically in the Evaluating Questions for the Lessons: The response paper assignments are found in Evaluating Question #2 for Lesson 1, Evaluating Question #2 for Lesson 2, Evaluating Question #3 for Lesson 3, Evaluating Question #1 for Lesson 4, and Evaluating Question #2 for Lesson 5.

Submit your response papers in your online portfolio, or electronically, as an attachment to a cover e-mail message, using RTF (Rich Text Format), MS Word, or Word Perfect. If you submit your paper as an e-mail attachment, notify us in the cover e-mail message what format you used in the paper. Since RTF strips away formatting, this is the least desirable way to send your papers.

Final Examination (50%)

There is one comprehensive examination for this course. All exams are to be requested online (<http://virtual.rts.edu/>). All exams are proctored. Upon completion, please follow all instructions on the Exam Request page concerning how to submit your exam to RTS/Virtual.

Mentor Report/Course Application Paper (5%)

Each MA Distance student is required to have his mentor submit a report at the end of the course. This report will contribute to 5% of the student's grade. For students who are not registered in the MA program, you are asked to write a 200 word summary of how you perceive what you have learned in this course will fit into the objectives you have for your ministry, your educational goals, or other objectives you wish to achieve in life.

Assignments

All Assignments are due the last day of the course (See start letter), unless stipulated otherwise in this syllabus. Any student who needs an extension must get approval from the Virtual Campus before the deadline. Papers are to be uploaded within the Moodle Virtual Classroom. Please follow the links and instructions within the Virtual Classroom to submit your assignments.

Time Limit

All course work, including exams, papers, reading requirements, is to be completed within four months from your course start date.

Contact Information

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Web site: <http://virtual.rts.edu/>

COURSE OUTLINE
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Lesson One: A Short Biography
The Man and His Writings
Lewis' Spiritual Pilgrimage
Preface
Nominal Christianity
Atheism
Joy
Theism
Christian Theism
Lewis the Apologist
Interpreting Modern Man
Addressing Modern Man
The Apologist's Evening Prayer

Lesson 2: Lewis' Theology
The Holy Trinity
The True and Living God
The Triune God
The Saving Work of Christ
The Fallenness of Creation
The Incarnation of the Son
The Ministry of Christ
The Cross of Christ
The Exaltation of Christ
God's Sovereign Initiative
The Conquest of Pride
The Necessity of Radical Change
Union With Christ
Spiritual Warfare
Preface
Christ's Victory over the Devil

The Devil's Pursuit of Believers
The Devil's Strategy
The Believer's Victory over the Devil

Lesson Three: Revelation

God's Creative Activity
Lewis' View of the Bible
A Primer in Literary Criticism
Understanding Myth
Some Conclusions
Other Faiths

Lesson Four: Social and Ethical Issues

The Three Parts of Morality
The Seven Vices
The Seven Virtues
Morality and Psychotherapy
Crime and Punishment
Issues in Education

Lesson Five: The Problem of Pain and the Life Everlasting

The Problem
The Ultimate Answer
The Necessity of Suffering
Some Biblical Images
The Shattering of Illusions
The Ultimate Test
The Centrality of the Cross
Self and Other
Shadowlands: Some Reflections
The Death of Joy Davidman Lewis
Hell

Heaven
Purgatory
Heaven and Hell
Between Today and Tomorrow

SELECT COURSE BIBLIOGRAPHY
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For a complete list of Lewis' works, see Gibb, *Light on C. S. Lewis*, 121-60, and Lindeskoog, *C. S. Lewis, Mere Christian*, 238-43 (both under II. below).

I. Works by C. S. Lewis

A Grief Observed (1961).
A Mind Awake: An Anthology of C. S. Lewis. Edited by Clyde Kilby (1968).
A Preface to Paradise Lost (1942).
All My Road Before Me: The Diary of C. S. Lewis, 1922-1927. Edited by Walter Hooper (1991).
An Experiment in Criticism (1961).
Christian Reflections. Edited by Walter Hooper (1967).
Dymer (1950).
English Literature in the Sixteenth Century Excluding Drama, Vol. 3 of The Oxford History of English Literature (1954).
God in the Dock: Essays on Theology and Ethics. Edited by Walter Hooper (1970).
Letters of C. S. Lewis. Edited by Warren H. Lewis (1966).
Letters to an American Lady. Edited by Clyde Kilby (1967).
Letters to Children. Edited by Lyle W. Dorsett and M. J. Mead (1985).
Letters to Malcolm, Chiefly on Prayer (1964).
Mere Christianity (revised edition, 1961).
Miracles: A Preliminary Study (1947).
Narrative Poems. Edited by Walter Hooper (1969).
Of Other Worlds: Essays and Stories. Edited by Walter Hooper (1966).
On Stories, and Other Essays on Literature I. Edited by Walter Hooper (1982).
Out of the Silent Planet (1938).
Perelandra: A Novel (1944).
Poems. Edited by Walter Hooper (1965).
Present Concerns. Edited by Walter Hooper (1986).
Screwtape Proposes a Toast, and Other Pieces (1965).
Selected Literary Essays. Edited by Walter Hooper (1969).
Studies in Medieval and Renaissance Literature (1966).
Studies in Words (1960).
Surprised by Joy: The Shape of My Early Life (1955).
That Hideous Strength: A Modern Fairy-Tale for Grownups (1945).

The Abolition of Man: Or, Reflections on Education with Special Reference to the Teaching of English in the Upper Forms of Schools (1946).

The Allegory of Love: A Study in Medieval Tradition (1936).

The Business of Heaven: Daily Readings from C. S. Lewis (1984).

The Chronicles of Narnia: The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe (1950).

The Chronicles of Narnia: Prince Caspian (1951).

The Chronicles of Narnia: The Voyage of the 'Dawn Treader' (1952).

The Chronicles of Narnia: The Silver Chair (1953).

The Chronicles of Narnia: The Horse and His Boy (1954).

The Chronicles of Narnia: The Magician's Nephew (1955).

The Chronicles of Narnia: The Last Battle (1956).

The Dark Tower, and Other Stories. Edited by Walter Hooper (1977).

The Discarded Image: An Introduction to Medieval and Renaissance Literature (1964).

The Four Loves (1960).

The Great Divorce (1946).

The Personal Heresy: A Controversy Between E. M. W. Tillyard and C. S. Lewis (1939).

The Pilgrim's Regress (1933; revised edition, 1943).

The Problem of Pain (1942).

The Screwtape Letters (1944).

The Shadowlands of C. S. Lewis: The Man Behind the Movie. Selections from the Writings of C. S. Lewis. Edited by Peter Kreeft (1944).

The Visionary Christian: 131 Readings. Edited by Chad Walsh (1981).

The Weight of Glory, and Other Addresses (1949).

The World's Last Night, and Other Essays (1960).

They Asked for a Paper: Papers and Addresses (1962).

They Stand Together: The Letters of C. S. Lewis to Arthur Greeves, 1914-1963. Edited by Walter Hooper (1979).

Till We Have Faces: A Myth Retold (1956).

Transposition, and Other Addresses (1949).

II. Works About C. S. Lewis

Aeschilman, Michael D. The Restitution of Man: C. S. Lewis and the Case Against Scientism (1983).

Arnott, Anne. The Secret Country of C. S. Lewis (1975).

Barratt, David. C. S. Lewis and His World (1987).

Beverluis, John. C. S. Lewis and the Search for Rational Religion (1985).

Blount, Paul G., ed. "The Inklings." Studies in the Literary Imagination 14, no. 2. Ga. State Univ. (fall 1981)

Carnell, Corbin S. Bright Shadow of Reality: C. S. Lewis and the Feeling Intellect (1974).

Carpenter, Humphrey. The Inklings: C. S. Lewis, J. R. R. Tolkien, Charles Williams, and Their Friends (1979).

Christensen, Michael J. C. S. Lewis on Scripture: His Thoughts on the Nature of Biblical Inspiration, the Role of Revelation, and the Question of Inerrancy (1979).

Christopher, Joe R. C. S. Lewis (1987).

- Como, James T., ed. *C. S. Lewis at the Breakfast Table, and other Reminiscences* (1979).
- Coren, Michael. *The Man Who Created Narnia: The Story of C. S. Lewis* (1996).
- Cunningham, Richard B. *C. S. Lewis: Defender of the Faith* (1967).
- Dorsett, Lyle W. *And God Came In* (1983); about Joy Davidman.
- Duriez, Colin. *The C. S. Lewis Handbook: A Comprehensive Guide to His Life, Thought and Writings* (1990).
- Ford, Paul F. *Companion to Narnia* (1980).
- Fuller, Edmund, et al. *Myth, Allegory, and Gospel: An Interpretation of J. R. R. Tolkien, C. S. Lewis, G. K. Chesterton and Charles Williams* (1974).
- Gibb, Jocelyn, ed. *Light on C. S. Lewis* (1965).
- Gibson, Evan K. *C. S. Lewis: Spinner of Tales* (1980).
- Glaspey, Terry. *Not a Tame Lion: The Spiritual Legacy of C. S. Lewis* (ca. 1996).
- Green, Roger Lancelyn, and Walter Hooper. *C. S. Lewis: A Biography* (1974).
- Gresham, Douglas. *Lentenlands* (1988).
- Griffin, William. *Clive Staples Lewis: A Dramatic Life* (1986).
- Hannay, Margaret P. *C. S. Lewis* (1981).
- Hart, Dabney A. *Through the Open Door: A New Look at C. S. Lewis* (1984).
- Holmer, Paul L. *C. S. Lewis: The Shape of His Faith and Thought* (1976).
- Hooper, Walter. *C. S. Lewis: Companion & Guide* (1996).
- _____. *Past Watchful Dragons: The Narnian Chronicles of C. S. Lewis* (1979).
- _____. *Through Joy and Beyond: A Pictorial Biography of C. S. Lewis* (1982).
- Howard, Thomas. *The Achievement of C. S. Lewis* (1980). Republished as *C. S. Lewis, Man of Letters*.
- Hughes, Larry R. *The World View of C. S. Lewis Implicit in His Religious Writings* (1980).
- Hutter, Charles A. "Angels in the Thought of C. S. Lewis." In *Perspectives*, February 1994, 12-15.
- _____, ed. *Imagination and the Spirit: Essays in literature and the Christian Faith Presented to Clyde S. Kilby* (1971).
- Karkainen, Paul A. *Narnia Explored* (1979).
- Keefe, Carolyn, ed. *C. S. Lewis, Speaker and Teacher* (1971).
- Kilby, Clyde S. *Images of Salvation in the Fiction of C. S. Lewis* (1978).
- _____. *The Christian World of C. S. Lewis* (1964).
- _____, and Douglas Gilbert. *C. S. Lewis: Images of His World* (1973).
- Kreeft, Peter. *C. S. Lewis: A Critical Essay* (1969).
- _____. *C. S. Lewis for the Third Millennium* (1994).
- _____. *Between Heaven and Hell: A Dialog Somewhere Beyond Death with John F. Kennedy, C. S. Lewis & Aldous Huxley* (1982).
- Lewis, Warren H. *Brothers and Friends: The Diaries of Major Warren Hamilton Lewis*. Edited by Clyde S. Kilby and M. L. Mead (1982).
- Lindskoog, Kathryn. "Bright Shoots of Everlastingness: C. S. Lewis' Search for Joy." In *Perspectives*, September 1993, 17-21.
- _____. *C. S. Lewis, Mere Christian* (3rd ed., 1987).
- _____. *Light in the Shadowlands: Protecting the Real C. S. Lewis* (1994).
- _____. *The C. S. Lewis Hoax* (1988).
- _____. *The Lion of Judah in Never-Never Land: The Theology of C. S. Lewis Expressed in His Fantasies for Children* (1973).

- Lindvall, Terry. *Surprised by Laughter: The Comic World of C. S. Lewis* (ca. 1996).
- MacDonald, Michael H., and Andrew A. Tadie, eds. *The Riddle of Joy: G. K. Chesterton and C. S. Lewis*. (1989).
- Meilaender, Gilbert. *A Taste for the Other: The Social and Ethical Thought of C. S. Lewis* (1978).
- Michael, Mary. "Our Love Affair with C. S. Lewis." In *Christianity Today*, October 25, 1993, 34-36.
- Patrick, James. *The Magdalen Metaphysicals: Idealism and Orthodoxy at Oxford* (1984).
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- Purtill, Richard L. *C. S. Lewis' Case for the Christian Faith* (1981).
- _____. *Lord of the Elves and Endils: Fantasy and Philosophy in C. S. Lewis and J. R. R. Tolkien* (1974).
- Pyles, Franklin A. *The Influence of the British Neo-Hegelians on the Christian Apology of C. S. Lewis* (1978).
- Sammons, Martha. *A Guide Through C. S. Lewis' Space Trilogy* (1980).
- _____. *A Guide Through Narnia* (1979).
- Sayer, George. *Jack: C. S. Lewis and His Times*. 2nd ed. (1994).
- Schakel, Peter J. *Reading with the Heart: The Way into Narnia* (1979).
- _____. *Reason and Imagination in C. S. Lewis: A Study of Till We Have Faces* (1984).
- _____, ed. *The Longing for a Form: Essays on the Fiction of C. S. Lewis* (1979).
- Vanauken, Sheldon. *A Severe Mercy* (1977).
- Walsh, Chad. *C. S. Lewis: Apostle to the Skeptics* (1949).
- _____. *The Literary Legacy of C. S. Lewis* (1979).

Course Objectives Related to MAR Student Learning Outcomes

Course: C.S. Lewis, OST620
 Professor: J. Knox Chamblin, Ph.D.
 Campus: RTS Virtual Campus
 Date: March 2012

MAR Student Learning Outcomes <i>In order to measure the success of the MAR curriculum, RTS has defined the following as the intended outcomes of the student learning process. Each course contributes to these overall outcomes. This rubric shows the contribution of this course to the MAR outcomes.</i>		Rubric ➤ Strong ➤ Moderate ➤ Minimal ➤ None	Mini-Justification
Articulation (oral & written)	Broadly understands and articulates knowledge, both oral and written, of essential biblical, theological, historical, and cultural/global information, including details, concepts, and frameworks.	Strong	-Historical and theological context of mid-20 th Century -Wide survey of different views on theological topics and doctrines
Scripture	Significant knowledge of the original meaning of Scripture. Also, the concepts for and skill to research further into the original meaning of Scripture and to apply Scripture to a variety of modern circumstances. (Includes appropriate use of original languages and hermeneutics; and integrates theological, historical, and cultural/global perspectives.)	Minimal	-Discusses Lewis's view of Scripture and interpretation -Describe Scriptural themes throughout the Lewis's writings
Reformed Theology	Significant knowledge of Reformed theology and practice, with emphasis on the Westminster Standards.	Moderate	-Examines Lewis's doctrinal views and compares them with Reformed understandings
Sanctification	Demonstrates a love for the Triune God that aids the student's sanctification.	Moderate	-Learn from Lewis's experience with faith love for God and apply that to one's own life
Desire for Worldview	Burning desire to conform all of life to the Word of God.	Strong	-Learn from Lewis's strong apologetics and desire to view all of life from a Christian worldview
Winsomely Reformed/ Evangelistic	Embraces a winsomely Reformed ethos. (Includes an appropriate ecumenical spirit with other Christians, especially Evangelicals; a concern to present the Gospel in a God-honoring manner to non-Christians; and a truth-in-love attitude in disagreements.)	Strong	-Gracious approach to Lewis and his views with discussion where Reformed Christians may differ -Embraces Lewis's apologetic for speaking to non-Christians, educated or not, about the Gospel
Teach	Ability to teach the meaning of Scripture to both heart and mind with clarity and enthusiasm.	Minimal	-Able to explain Lewis's understanding of Scripture and the allusions he makes throughout his fiction and non-fiction
Church/World	Ability to interact within a denominational context, within the broader worldwide church, and with significant public issues.	Strong	-Studying Lewis, an Anglican, allows for approaching other Christians with grace and understanding -Significant interaction with non-Christian worldviews and positions
MAR Specific SLO	An ability to integrate such knowledge and understanding into one's own calling in society	Strong	-Learn from Lewis's approach to life and others and apply that to one's own work and calling in society