

Course: IS 5121 *Who is God?*

Professor: Rev. Dr. Jeffrey G. Willetts, PhD

Contact Information: jwilletts@leland.edu

Term: Spring, 2011 Day/Time: Monday 8:10 p.m.- 9:40 p.m.

Location: Main Campus

Purpose: The purpose of this course is to analyze and critique certain apologetic strategies within contemporary philosophy of religion toward a deeper understanding of God and a more coherent Christian apologetic.

Required Texts:

Cahn, Steven, M. and Shatz, David (eds.) Questions About God: Today's Philosophers Ponder the Divine. New York: Oxford University Press, 2002.

Phillips, D.Z. The Problem of Evil and the Problem of God. Minneapolis: Fortress Press, 2005.

Evaluation: The evaluation of this course will be a 25 page paper due three weeks after the last class. The nature of the paper will be research and argument. The purpose will be to demonstrate a facility with certain philosophical ideas reviewed and discussed in class. The student will also be expected to present a well argued and researched position with respect to one or more philosophical issues presented in class.

Topics to be reviewed:

- 1) Is God all powerful?
- 2) Is God a moral agent?
- 3) Why Does God allow evil?
- 4) Why Does God Hide Himself?
- 5) Why Pray?
- 6) Is God subject to any other standards?
- 7) Does God Suffer?
- 8) Does God Change?
- 9) Do all faith traditions lead to the same God?
- 10) Does God know the future?