

## First Essay Assignment – 7% of course grade

**Read the following two statements from Christian organizations.**

**I.** Here's section D6 of the Statement of Faith of the creationist organization *Answers in Genesis*:

D6. By definition, no apparent, perceived, or claimed evidence in any field, including history and chronology, can be valid if it contradicts the Scriptural record. Of primary importance is the fact that evidence is always subject to interpretation by fallible people who do not possess all information.

(<http://www.answersingenesis.org/about/faith>)

**II.** In contrast, look at the statements of faith of the *American Scientific Affiliation*, also a Christian organization:

1. We accept the divine inspiration, trustworthiness and authority of the Bible in matters of faith and conduct.
2. We confess the Triune God affirmed in the Nicene and Apostles' creeds which we accept as brief, faithful statements of Christian doctrine based upon Scripture.
3. We believe that in creating and preserving the universe God has endowed it with contingent order and intelligibility, the basis of scientific investigation.
4. We recognize our responsibility, as stewards of God's creation, to use science and technology for the good of humanity and the whole world.

(<http://www.asa3.org/ASA/faithASA.html>)

**Your assignment:** Write an essay of where you will analyze and compare and contrast the statements of these two Christian organizations. In your analysis, explain how each of these either fits or does not fit with the definitions of “science” we have talked about in core 5.

Technical specs: three to five pages, 12 point font, one-inch margins. You may use references if you wish, although you should have sufficient information from the lecture notes and discussion to do this analysis. If you want to use references to back your analysis, please use MLA, APA, or Chicago formatting, and use this formatting even if you are simply referencing the lecture notes or the hyperlinks I gave at the end of each statement.

Grading rules: I will deduct 1% for each spelling or English usage error. If your paper is less than two and half pages, I will deduct 1% for each line that it is short of a half page on the third page and 2% per line it is short on the second page. Paper length does NOT include a title page if you wish to include one.

**Due Date:** Turn in during discussion class **Thursday September 23, 2010.**