



# COURSE OVERVIEW

## Course Title: Understanding the Culture

**Teacher: Sam Shoaff**

### Contact Information:

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Office Hours: 7am – 4pm (Tuesday – Friday)

### Course Overview

“Culture happens when people interact with the natural world. Everyone participates in culture, and some people even help create or change it. This curriculum is a guidebook for learning what culture is and how Christians can work to influence it for the better.”

This curriculum aims to give students a better understanding of what culture is, how it is made, and how Christians have influenced it in the past. What does it look like to apply Kingdom principles to issues in today’s culture and how can Christians be a part of changing the culture? These are questions I hope to help students walk through this year as well as facilitate a safe place for questions and growth regarding relationship with God.

### Grading Scale:

- **Homework : 50%**
- **Participation & Preparedness : 30%**
- **Quizzes : 20%**

**Week-by-Week Overview**

<b>Semester I</b>	<b>Semester II</b>
<b>Week 1</b> – Introduction I	<b>Week 19</b> – Marriage I
<b>Week 2</b> – Introduction II	<b>Week 20</b> – Marriage II
<b>Week 3</b> – What is Culture? I	<b>Week 21</b> – Creation Care I
<b>Week 4</b> – What is Culture? II	<b>Week 22</b> – Creation Care II
<b>Week 5</b> – Christianity and Culture: A History I	<b>Week 23</b> – Politics I
<b>Week 6</b> – Christianity and Culture: A History II	<b>Week 24</b> – Politics II
<b>Week 7</b> – Christianity and Culture: A Plan I	<b>Week 25</b> – Religious Freedom and Persecution I
<b>Week 8</b> – Christianity and Culture: A Plan II	<b>Week 26</b> – Religious Freedom and Persecution II
<b>Week 9</b> – Thinking and Speaking Clearly I	<b>Week 27</b> – Poverty Care, Poverty Cure I
<b>Week 10</b> – Thinking and Speaking Clearly II	<b>Week 28</b> – Poverty Care, Poverty Cure II
<b>Week 11</b> – Technology I	<b>Week 29</b> – The Use of Force I
<b>Week 12</b> – Technology II	<b>Week 30</b> – The Use of Force II
<b>Week 13</b> – The Arts and Entertainment I	<b>Week 31</b> – Justice I
<b>Week 14</b> – The Arts and Entertainment II	<b>Week 32</b> – Justice II
<b>Week 15</b> – The Value of Human Life I	<b>Week 33</b> – Community Renewal I
<b>Week 16</b> – The Value of Human Life II	<b>Week 34</b> – Community Renewal II
<b>Week 17</b> – Sexuality I	<b>Week 35</b> – Conclusion I
<b>Week 18</b> – Sexuality II	<b>Week 36</b> – Conclusion II

**Supplies Needed for this Course:**

*Student workbook and textbook **\*\*See website for details***

*Notebook*

*Pen / Pencil*

**The Classroom:**

We will have discussions and lesson-based activities. Some will be straight from the book and some will come organically from topics in the curriculum.

**At Home:**

You will have 3 homework assignments due back at the beginning of the next class.

**How to Get an ‘A’ in this Class:**

Come ready to participate and be prepared. Make sure to do homework assignments every week which will include content that will directly be used in quizzes and assignments.

**Extra Credit**

Handwrite the 95 Theses of Martin Luther. Come to me and I will provide the content.

**Absence and Late Work Policies**

See your Partnership Agreement for these policies. I WILL NOT accept any homework that is over 2 class periods late unless it has been worked out prior with me. You must email or speak to me to work out a new assignment date for sickness, vacations, or any other reasons for missing class.

**Expectations**

**You may expect the Teacher to:**

- Be prepared, on time, and fair in the classroom.
- Respond to emails within 24 hours.
- Be available for conferences or discussions per appointment.
- Work hard to see every student succeed.
- Be available by email to answer questions or concerns.

**I will expect the Parents to:**

- Be aware of the current assignments for their students.
- Oversee the work at home making sure that students complete the assignments.
- Provide the materials the students need to be successful in this class.
- Contact the teacher if there are any problems.
- Check grades every week to see how their child is doing. This is IMPERATIVE.

**I will expect the Student to:**

- Be polite and respectful. (See the Code of Conduct)
- Keep current with all assignments.
- Do all their own work with honesty and integrity.
- Ask questions and ask for help when they need it.
- Be prepared for class every week. (that includes course material, paper, and writing utensils)