



Module

Creation, Big Bang Cosmology, and the Fine Tuning of the Universe

Science Module for existing university or seminary level courses.

Drop in to a course syllabus (with modifications) in

Cosmology or Evolutionary Biology

Religious Studies

Scripture: Genesis

Introduction to Theology

Systematic Theology

1 week's assignment for 3 hours of class meeting

CREATION & BIG BANG COSMOLOGY

Did God create the physical universe out of nothing, *creatio ex nihilo*? Is God's creative work continuing, *creatio continua*?

The Hebrew Scriptures make it clear that reality is fundamentally historical in character. Recent scientific theories such as thermodynamics and Big Bang cosmogony both attest to the contingent, historical, and dynamic character of the natural world. Physical cosmology is at minimum consonant with the biblical picture of the physical world as historical, changing, and open to newness in the future.

DLO (Desired Learning Outcomes)

Added to the set of DLOs for the entire course. The student should also demonstrate...

1. knowledge of basic theological distinctions such as creation from nothing and continuing creation;
2. rudimentary knowledge of Big Bang cosmology;
3. awareness of reasons why it appears that physical cosmology and creation appear consonant.

REQUIRED READING

Robert John Russell, "The Doctrine of Creation out of Nothing in Relation to Big Bang and Quantum Cosmologies" AAAS/DoSER website:

file:///C:/Users/Ted/Downloads/The%20Doctrine%20of%20Creation%20out%20of%20Nothing.pdf

William Lane Craig, "The Teleological Argument and the Anthropic Principle," AAAS/DoSER website:

file:///C:/Users/Ted/Downloads/The%20Doctrine%20of%20Creation%20out%20of%20Nothing.pdf

Paul Davies, "Universes Galore: Where Will It All End?" AAAS/DoSER website:

file:///C:/Users/Ted/Downloads/Universes%20Galore%20Where%20Will%20it%20All%20End.pdf