

Philosophy 2330: Philosophy of Science
Spring 2017
Third short essay assignment

Please print your essay and bring it to class on Tuesday, March 6th. **ALSO** please make your essay anonymous by putting your R# at the top of the page and **NOT** your name.

You are to write roughly one page (400-800 words) answering the following questions.

In “When Faith and Reason Clash: Evolution and the Bible”, Alvin Plantinga argues that evolutionary theory is not religiously neutral. What does he mean by this and why does he believe it? Do you think he is right?

In describing his own view about the relationship between scientific and religious claims, Plantinga says, “So I can properly correct my view as to what reason teaches by appealing to my understanding of Scripture; and I can properly correct my understanding of Scripture by appealing to the teachings of reason”(122). How does this compare to the Doctrine of the Two Books discussed in Clark’s book?

Near the end of his essay, Plantinga suggests, “Finally, in all the areas of academic endeavor, we Christians must think about the matter at hand from a Christian perspective; we need Theistic Science. ... What we really need are answers to our questions from the perspective of *all* that we know—what we know about God, and what we know by faith, by way of revelation, as well as what we know in other ways” (141). What is he suggesting about the relationship between scientific and religious claims? How does what he says relate to “Methodological Naturalism”? Do you think that this is how a Christian (or anyone at all) should think about scientific claims? Why or why not?