

HISTORICAL PRESUPPOSITIONS

People throughout different periods of history, had different set of presuppositions that helped them to make sense of the world. The pre-modern worldview is the one that is the most compatible with the Christian worldview. Pre-modernity is based on metaphysical realism, while modernity and post-modernity are based on metaphysical nominalism.

PRE-MODERNITY



Recorded History- 1648 AD
Metaphysics is first philosophy

METAPHYSICS is about the nature of reality.

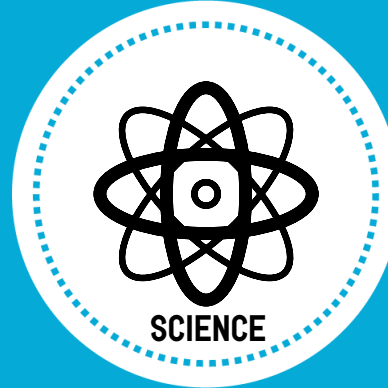
TRUTH- is objective and is based on reality.

EPISTEMIC REALISM- the truth can be known

SEMANTIC REALISM- meaning is objective and can be understood. **PRE-MODERNITY** has a Hermeneutic of Trust (or faith).

MORAL REALISM- morality is objective, based on reality and can be known. It includes economics and politics.

MODERNITY



1648 AD- 1960 AD
Epistemology is first philosophy

EPISTEMOLOGY- the study of knowledge.

TRUTH is objective, but is not based on reality.

EPISTEMIC IRREALISM- certainty of knowledge is desired which requires the scientific method.

SEMANTIC IRREALISM - meaning is objective, but can only be understood by science. **MODERNITY** has a Hermeneutic of Doubt.

MORAL IRREALISM- morality is objective, but is not based on reality.

POST-MODERNITY



1960 AD- present
Philosophy of Language is first philosophy

PHILOSOPHY OF LANGUAGE- the study of language and meaning.

TRUTH- is subjective. It is based on the power of a community.

EPISTEMIC NIHILISM- One cannot know the truth. Knowledge is based on power.

SEMANTIC NIHILISM- meaning is relative and is based only on the power of a community. **POSTMODERNITY** has a Hermeneutic of Suspicion.

MORAL RELATIVISM. Morality is subjective. it is based on the power of a community.