

# 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.

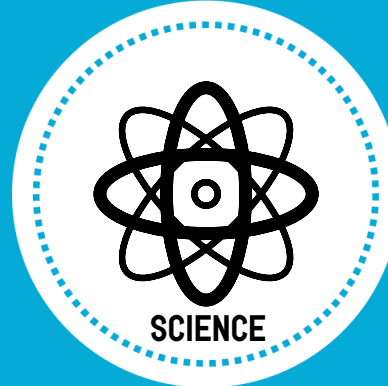
**TRUTH**- is objective and is based on reality.

**EPISTEMIC REALISM**- the truth can be known

**LINGUISTIC 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.

**LINGUISTIC 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.

**LINGUISTIC 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.