

Table 1: History of Worldviews in the West

	<u>Premodern</u>	<u>Modern</u>	<u>Postmodern</u>	<u>Global</u>
CENTER	- God centered and divine point of view	- human centered and human point of view	- individual centered personal point of view	- human centered and human point of view
EPISTEMOLOGY	- revelationalism ecclesiastical authority acultural, ahistorical	- naive realism: positivism, science in a privileged position, ahistorical, acultural, foundationalism	- instrumentalism; idealism; science is part of culture and history, there is no privileged position, egalitarian--all stories are affirmed	- critical realism science is metacultural metahistorical {revelation}
REASON, FEELINGS, VALUES	- faith in tradition, religion	- faith in positivism, algorithmic reason, abstract systems, reason divorced from feelings and morality, disinterested, rejects intuition.	- distrust of algorithmic reason faith in experience and feelings, all knowledge is power based, hermeneutics of suspicion, affectivity and intuition affirmed	- algorithmic reason embedded in wisdom. Rational, affective, and evaluative combined
LOCUS OF AUTHORITY	- divine revelation, interpreted by the church, in religious and traditional orders, papacy	- individual discovery based on experience, lone scientist, group hermeneutics is bad	- networks: group hermeneutics based on power and privilege and self serving	- community hermeneutics is a corrective to and cultural biases
OBJECTIVITY/ SUBJECTIVITY	- cosmic, absolute truth well founded, referential symbols,	- totally objective positive knowledge, well founded a photographic view of knowledge	- subjective knowledge, under determined, relativism a Rorschach view of knowledge	- knowledge is objective/subjective Peircian symbols, subject/ a model/map view of knowledge
SYMBOLS	- religious symbols	- referential symbols in which signs refer to external realities, meaning is referential	- Saussurian symbols, signs refer to mental images, meaning is in the head	objectivism, approx. truth
PREMISE	- start with faith	- start with doubt	- start with doubt	- start with faith and critical reflection
COSMOLOGY	- biblical cosmology	- naturalism/supernatural division	- new spiritualism, alternative modes of reality, virtual reality	- secularism???

HISTORY OF WESTERN WORLDVIEWS

	<i>MEDIEVAL</i>	<i>EXPLORATION</i>	<i>MODERN</i>	<i>POSTMODERN</i>	<i>GLOBAL</i>
<u>IN THE WEST</u>					
OTHER:	Infidel, Monster	Savage, Barbarian, Pagan, Slave	Primitive Aborigine, Heathen	Native	Global/Local
CUSTOMS:			Civilization	Cultures: <i>sui generis</i> , good, equal, autonomous	Global culture/ local cultures combine good and evil
RULE:	Church and Feudal State	Nation State	Colonialism, Imperialism	Nationalism Anti-colonialism	Global systems and local cultures, networks, partnerships
KNOWLEDGE:	Tradition , Religion		Objective truth, Science Outside, etic observ.	Subjective experience New spirituality Inside emic participation	Objective truth subjectively appropriated
CHANGE:			Progress, change is good	Preserve all cultures, change is bad	Change happens, some is good, some bad. Work for good change
<u>IN CHRISTIAN MISSIONS</u>					
GOSPEL:			Christianity<--> Civilization	Gospel in all religions and persons	Gospel from outside to all cultures and humans
POWER:			Mission rule	Self rule, indigenization	Partnership moving to global webs of activity
CONTEXT- UALIZATION			No need to contextualize	Uncritical contextualization	Critical contextualization
CHANGE			Make churches like the West	Don't change, preserve traditional ways	Transform all cultures into the likeness of the Kingdom while preserving the good in them
CHRISTIAN WITNESS			Proclamation of objective truth from a position of super- iority--God's lawyer. Speak the truth.	Learn from other religions, dialogue to find a common ground. Speak in love.	Bear bold witness to what we know, give others the ability to make their own choices. Speak the truth in love.