

# UNIT 3: ATHEISM

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## LESSON 1- POSTMODERNISM HISTORY



# HOW DOES POSTMODERNISM ANSWER THE 4 BIG QUESTIONS?

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- Creation: We can't know how we got here. We are just a collage of social constructs and we are not absolutely anything
- Fall: our problem is adherence to meta-narratives. Each worldview's claim to offer unbiased truth about the world is a problem
- Redemption: We must abandon the search for objective truth; our experiences allow us to generate a theory of living which will allow us to understand our experiences
- Eternity: there is nothing after death; we should forget about eternity

# META-NARRATIVE

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- A single interpretation or grand story of reality

# MODERNISM

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- Time period from 1700's to 1900's in which assumptions about Christianity gave way to skepticism about religion

# STRUCTURALISM

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- We should build our philosophy around language and relationships rather than the nature of physical existence



# DECONSTRUCTION

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- Interpreting a text to reveal its underlying assumptions and theologies

# PRAGMATISM

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- Truth is not “out there” to be discovered; ideas should only be judged by their practical consequences

## A BIT MORE ABOUT MODERNISM

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- Time period from 1700's to 1900's in which assumptions about Christianity gave way to skepticism about religion
- An embrace of scientific investigations and technological progress; trust in human reason and empiricism (knowledge gained from observational science)



# POSTMODERNISM

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- Postmodernism is suspicious of science and technologies ability, and religions ability to satisfactorily answer life's ultimate questions.



# POSTMODERNISM

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- It is a worldview that denies all other worldviews
- Truth is not found, but constructed

