



What is your worldview?

Your worldview is your collection of beliefs about life and the universe; the lens through which you view the world, or the world is viewed by an individual or group. Essentially, it is the perspective from which the world is interpreted. It could include your perceptions on such things as your view of politics, philosophy, and religion.

We may not stop to think about it too often, but it is really our worldview that shapes how we interact with the world, and it greatly influences our values, choices and actions. In the next assignment, you will be tasked with taking some time to think about your worldview, and the values, attitudes, beliefs and knowledge that influences our career life development.

Chances are that your worldview has changed and grown throughout your life, and it will continue to change and grow as your experiences shape who you are. The worldview you had as an 8 year old will not be the same as the one you have now as an adolescent. There are many reasons for the change; you are being exposed to other cultures and ways of doing things and you are constantly meeting new people with their own experiences and ideas. Where and how we live will definitely shift our perspectives and worldview in some way and will thereby impact the decisions we make.

Our worldview creates meaning for us, answering questions, such as

- Who are we?
- Where do we come from?
- How do we manage our way of life?
- Where are we going?
- Why is the world the way it is?
- What is true and what is false?

The following table suggests some aspects to consider for elements of worldviews. In your next assignment, you are going to reflect on how these big questions and elements impact your worldview, and therefore your career-life decisions.

Thinking About the Worldview Elements

Worldviews Element	Possible Questions
Geography	What role do geographical factors such as climate and location play in how people look at the world and behave in it?
Time	In what terms is time viewed by a society, e.g., mechanical (e.g., clocks and watches, etc.) or natural (e.g., the seasons, the sun, the moon)?
Society	What roles are available to individuals in society? Who holds power and how is power maintained? Who has status and how do they get it? Are certain benefits available to some and not to others?
Values	How do people in a society act toward each other? How do people in a society act toward people in other societies/groups?
Beliefs	What beliefs do people hold about life and death? About their environment?
Economy	Who controls the resources? What is to be produced? How will it be produced? For whom? How is property distributed? Protected?
Knowledge	How do people develop knowledge? What ways of knowing are accepted? Who has access to knowledge? How is it valued? Where or in whom does the knowledge reside?

Worldview Resource for Students: http://prjhkrae.weebly.com/uploads/6/8/0/8/68086765/introduction_to_worldview.pdf

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