# Understanding Worldviews: From Premodernism to Metamodernism

The Modernity Worldview Survey emerged from a fascination with how different philosophical perspectives shape our understanding of reality. The project began taking shape in 2021, though its foundations were laid years before through an exploration of metamodernism—a perspective that promises to synthesise modern ideals with postmodern insights. What started as theoretical inquiry evolved into a practical tool: a ternary plot chart that helps visualise where one's worldview sits among these philosophical traditions.

This survey represents the culmination of that journey, offering a way to explore how your own perspectives align with different philosophical approaches. Whether you're familiar with these concepts or encountering them for the first time, you'll find value in examining how you view truth, reality, and human understanding.

Read on to learn more about the philosophical perspectives and categories that form the foundation of this survey, or proceed directly to the questionnaire to explore your own worldview.

CTA: Take the survey.

## Philosophical Perspectives

### Premodernism

Premodernism emphasises traditional knowledge, divine revelation, and established hierarchies. Truth is eternal and unchanging in this worldview, typically derived from religious or cultural traditions. The world is seen as ordered by divine or cosmic principles, with meaning and purpose inherently woven into the fabric of reality.

### Modernism

Modernism emerged with the Enlightenment, championing reason, scientific method, and progress. This worldview values objective truth, empirical evidence, and universal principles. It seeks to understand the world through systematic observation and logical analysis, believing in humanity’s ability to discover fundamental truths about reality.

### Postmodernism

Postmodernism challenges the certainties of both premodernism and modernism. It emphasizes the role of perspective, culture, and power in shaping our understanding of truth. This worldview questions universal narratives, highlighting the subjective nature of knowledge and the importance of diverse viewpoints.

### Metamodernism

Metamodernism represents an emerging synthesis, oscillating between modern idealism and postmodern scepticism. It seeks to transcend the limitations of previous worldviews while preserving their valuable insights, embracing both universal aspirations and contextual awareness.

## Core Categories of Understanding

### 1. Source of Truth

How do we determine what is true? This category explores the foundations of knowledge and belief, from divine revelation and spiritual intuition to empirical evidence and cultural construction. Your perspective on truth’s source fundamentally shapes how you understand and interact with the world.

### 2. Perception of Reality

This category examines how we understand the nature of existence itself. Do we see the world as governed by eternal cosmic principles, as a mechanism to be understood through scientific laws, or as a complex web of intersecting perspectives and interpretations?

### 3. Knowledge Acquisition

How do we learn and know things? This explores the methods by which we gain understanding, whether through traditional wisdom, systematic investigation, critical analysis, or a combination of approaches. It questions the very nature of learning and wisdom.

### 4. Progress and World Order

This category addresses how we view historical change and social development. Is there a divine or natural order to be maintained, a path of progress to be pursued, or should we critically examine and deconstruct these very notions? Your view here shapes how you understand societal change and human potential.

### 5. Social Values

How should we determine what is right and good? This explores the basis for ethical and moral decisions, from traditional authorities and rational principles to contextual and relational understanding. It examines how we navigate moral choices in an increasingly complex world.

### 6. Identity

This category investigates how we understand ourselves and our relationship to others. Are we primarily members of traditional communities, autonomous individuals, fluid social constructs, or something that transcends these categories? Your view of identity shapes how you relate to others and society at large.

## Take the Survey

Ready to explore your own worldview? This survey will help you understand where you align across these different philosophical perspectives. Through a series of thoughtful questions, you’ll discover how your views on truth, reality, knowledge, progress, values, and identity reflect various modern and historical philosophical approaches.

By completing this short survey, you’ll:

* Gain insight into your philosophical worldview
* Understand how your perspectives align with different philosophical traditions
* Visualise your position on our unique ternary chart
* Receive a detailed analysis of your philosophical outlook

Click ‘Begin Survey’ to start exploring your worldview through these six fundamental categories of human understanding.

\* Note: There are no right or wrong answers. The goal is to help you better understand your own philosophical perspectives and how they relate to different ways of understanding the world.

This is not a scientific survey, yet it still intends to orient the survey-taker to a position on the results chart based on the responses given.