



PRIFYSGOL CYMRU

Y Drindod Dewi Sant

UNIVERSITY OF WALES

Trinity Saint David

Science and Religion

Nick Campion

- Anachronism
- is the judgment of the past according to the inappropriate imposition of present values or assumptions.

Science:

- please be aware of the way in which this word is being used in your reading.
- There are two primary definitions, and most historians do not make it clear which they are using.:
 1. A craft or discipline, possessing its own rules or logic. In this sense boxing and horse racing are the classic examples given by the Oxford English Dictionary.
 2. Investigation based on the use of empirical data – which is derived from experiment, observation or experience.

Science

- Latin *scientia* translates as wisdom or knowledge
- The modern definition of science has based on rigorous scientific method was developed by Francis Bacon (1561-1626)
<http://plato.stanford.edu/entries/francis-bacon/>
- but only confirmed and accepted in the work of William Whewell (1794-1866)
- <http://plato.stanford.edu/entries/whewell/>

Religion

- The standard definition is the worship of a supernatural being or beings together with a set of theological dogma and an institutional framework.
- Most scholars of religion no longer accept this, regarding it as far too narrow.
- Questions are now raised as to whether secularism and atheism are religions, and whether religion is best defined as a set of values.
- This has led some scholars to suggest that 'World View' is a better term.