

Antitheism — Methodological Naturalism

“First, naturalism is committed to a methodological principle within the context of scientific inquiry; i.e., all hypotheses and events are to be explained and tested by reference to natural causes and events. To introduce a supernatural or transcendental cause within science is to depart from naturalistic explanations. On this ground, to invoke an intelligent designer or creator is inadmissible....”

— Paul Kurtz, Darwin Re-Crucified: Why Are So Many Afraid of Naturalism? *Free Inquiry* (Spring 1998), 17.

“Methodological Naturalism is the assumption that observable events in nature are explained only by natural causes, without assuming either the existence or non-existence of the supernatural, and so considers supernatural explanations for such events to be outside science. It holds that the scientific method (hypothesize, predict, test, repeat) is the only effective way to investigate reality, and that such empirical methods will only ascertain natural facts, whether supernatural facts exist or not.”

Website Reference: https://www.philosophybasics.com/branch_naturalism.html