

Supernatural:

- not existing in nature or subject to explanation according to natural laws
- not physical or material
- phenomena beyond the customary range of our experiences or not explainable by what we know of the laws of nature

A possible definition:

Therefore the supernatural dimension refers to aspects or elements beyond the customary range of our experience that cannot be explained according to natural laws.

Belief in the supernatural dimension is central to all world religions

Religion by its nature defies precise definition. However, the central commonality to all world religions is the belief in the supernatural dimension. Thus, it can be said that the **most significant element** of a religious worldview is this belief in a **divine being or power**, which is **greater than humankind** and the **natural world**. This being or power is believed to be responsible for the creation of the world, for providing a moral framework for human life and being the ultimate destiny of a human person at the end of their mortal life.

Different responses to supernatural dimension

Different religions have their own unique responses to the question of the exact nature of the supernatural dimension. The Semitic religions, Judaism, Christianity, and Islam believe that the supernatural dimension is a single divine being or power. This doctrine or belief is known as monotheism. The two Eastern religions, Hinduism and Buddhism, derive from an understanding of a number of divine beings or powers, a belief known as polytheism. Despite these differences, the belief in the existence of beings or powers beyond the realm of the natural world is an important defining element of a religious worldview.

Read the article entitled *Angels and Television Airwaves: The Portrayal of Angelic Figures as Popular Culture Mirror*

<https://medium.com/religion-and-popular-culture/angels-and-television-airwaves-a40a1c92220a>

What ideas about the supernatural or examples of the supernatural are raised in the article?

How are these ideas/examples linked to religious belief or lack of religious understanding?