



PSYC5311 The Bible in the Professional Christian Counselor

Division of Church and Community Ministries

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J. Craig Garrett, Ph.D., LPC-S

Assistant Professor of Psychology and Counseling

Dean of Students office, HSC 105, New Orleans Campus

504-282-4455, ext. 3283

cgarrett@nobts.edu

Teaching Assistant: Lorien Fleener, lpirtle@gmail.com

*The mission of New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary is to equip leaders to fulfill
the Great Commission and the Great Commandments through the local church and its ministries.*

Purpose of Course

The purpose of this course is to provide theological training designed to enhance a student's potential to respond effectively and redemptively to persons struggling with emotional, relational, and/or spiritual problems.

Our Core Values

The seminary has five core values. This course supports the five core values of the seminary.

Doctrinal Integrity: Knowing that the Bible is the Word of God, we believe it, teach it, proclaim it, and submit to it. Our confessional commitments are outlined in the "Articles of Religious Belief" and the "Baptist Faith and Message 2000."

Spiritual Vitality: We are a worshipping community emphasizing both personal spirituality and gathering together as a Seminary family for the praise and adoration of God and instruction in His Word.

Mission Focus: We are not here merely to get an education or to give one. We are here to change the world by fulfilling the Great Commission and the Great Commandments through the local church and its ministries.

Characteristic Excellence: What we do, we do to the utmost of our abilities and resources as a testimony to the glory of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

Servant Leadership: We follow the model of Jesus and exert leadership and influence through the nurture and encouragement of those around us.

The Core Value Focus for this academic year is *Mission Focus*.

Curriculum Competencies Addressed

NOBTS faculty members realize that all ministers need to develop specific competencies if they are going to have an effective ministry. To increase the likelihood of NOBTS graduates having an effective ministry, the faculty developed a competency-based curriculum after identifying seven essential competencies necessary for effective ministry. All graduates are expected to have at least a minimum level of competency in all of the following seven areas:

Biblical Exposition: To interpret and communicate the Bible accurately.

Christian Theological Heritage: To understand and interpret Christian theological heritage and Baptist polity for the church.

Disciple Making: To stimulate church health through mobilizing the church for missions, evangelism, discipleship, and church growth.

Interpersonal Skills: To perform pastoral care effectively, with skills in communication and conflict management.

Servant Leadership: To serve churches effectively through team ministry.

Spiritual and Character Formation: To provide moral leadership by modeling and mentoring Christian character and devotion.

Worship Leadership: To facilitate worship effectively.

The curriculum competencies addressed in this course are: *interpersonal skills, servant leadership, and spiritual/character formation*.

Course Catalog Description

Recognizing the need for personal integration of the Bible into the counselor's own life, this course is designed to examine and express the connections between humans and God as defined in Scripture. Models of integrating Scripture and counseling are presented. Students are challenged to learn effective, therapeutic methods of sharing biblical passages, principles,

theology, and historical contexts with counselees. God's Word is presented as the truth, which permeates the presence of the Christian counseling environment.

Student Learning Outcomes

By the end of the study, the student will

- A. increase in knowledge of the integration of Scripture and counseling by gaining knowledge about the value of Scripture in forming the counselor's character becoming familiar with the mind-brain controversy and how it relates to counseling issues for Christians.
- B. increase practical application of biblical principles to his personal life and counseling issues presented by clients by
 - a. developing skills to make the discipline of memorizing God's Word easier.
 - b. developing skills to see a biblical truth and how it relates to counseling issues.
 - c. developing skills to learn how to assess for identifying issues related to transformation rather than just better functioning in the client.
- C. increase in understanding and passion for God's Word being "within" the counselor by
 - a. becoming familiar with research concerning the importance of God's character being within a counselor
 - b. learning to identify personal core beliefs that are not consistent with biblical truth
 - c. succeeding in memorizing and meditating on a large portion of Scripture.

Textbooks

McMinn, M.R. *Sin and Grace in Christian Counseling*. Intervarsity Press, 2008.

Powlison, David. *Seeing with New Eyes: Counseling and the Human Condition Through the Lens of Scripture*. P & R Publishing, 2003

Vernick, Leslie. *How to Live Right When Your Life Goes Wrong*. Waterbrook Press.

Access to *Philippians* in *The Holy Bible, New International Version* (1984 edition)

Course Requirements

1. *Class Participation* is based on student's attendance, and interactions during class discussions. Each student is allotted 3 absences (9 hours). Three tardies are counted as one absence. Any additional absences will result in failure of the course. Please see the Graduate Catalog for a detailed description of the seminary's absence/tardy policy.
2. *Reading Assignments and Homework Completion* are an important part of preparation for class discussion. Please complete the reading report on Blackboard by 11:59 PM on the due date for each book.
3. *Memorization of the book of Philippians* is a major project in this course. About 20-40 minutes of each class period will be dedicated to working on memory work of this book of the Bible. By the end of the semester the student will be expected to be able to quote

the entire book of Philippians. *The New International Version (1984)* will be used.
Midterm Exam (Philippians 1-2); Final Exam (Philippians 1-4)

4. *Discipline of Memorization of Philippians:*

- A. Set goals for your review. Keep a log/chart of daily review and maintain 85% of your goals. See Goals Chart Example. You will need to make your own chart and copy enough pages for semester. (or MS Excel version on Bb/Course Docs). Turn in at week 4 for review. *If you successfully complete "A" in addition to assignments 1, 2, and 3 you can earn a C in the course.*
- B. Write a daily journal of insight(s) from the verses you are studying for the week (2 x per week minimum) Due weekly (each Wednesday) (typed). Please turn in weekly and collect in a 3 prong folder (soft, paper—not a notebook) *If you successfully complete "A" and "B" in addition to assignments 1, 2, and 3 you can earn a B in the course.*
- C. Meet 1 x per week with review group. Minimum 15 min. Spend the entire time reviewing. (3 people minimum). Turn in a weekly report of your group review time—who was there, how you reviewed. Each person will turn in a report. (See Group Review Report) If no one in your group comes to meet, you can do this review with a friend. *If you successfully complete "A," "B," and "C" in addition to assignments 1, 2, and 3 you can earn an A in the course.*

Course Schedule

Week	Content of Study	Reading Assignments	Philippians (verses divided into 2 sections)
Week 1 Wed 1/19	Course Introduction Benefits of Memorizing God's Word, Techniques		Phil. 1:1-4
Week 2 Wed 1/22	Scripture and the Brain	Vernick Ch 1 & 2	Phil. 1:5-8 Phil. 1:9-11
Week 3 Wed 2/2	Scripture and the Brain	Vernick, Ch. 3 Vernick, Ch. 4	Phil. 1:12-15 Phil. 1:16-19
Week 4 Wed 2/9	Scripture and the Brain	Vernick, Ch. 5 & 6 Vernick, Ch. 7 & 8	Phil. 1:20-23 Phil. 1:24-27

Week 5 Wed 2/16	Integrating Scripture and Psychological Concepts	Vernick, Ch. 9 Vernick, Ch. 10	Phil. 1:28-30 Phil. 2:1-4
Week 6 Wed 2/23	Vernick	Paper: on BB/Course Documents: Does Case Conceptualization Really Matter? (Steele)	Phil. 2:5-8 Phil. 2: 9-12
Week 7 Wed 3/1	Scripture and Diagnosis	Powerpoint: Role of Fantasy	Phil. 2: 13-16 Phil. 2: 17-20
Week 8 Wed 3/8	Scripture and Diagnosis	Powerpoint: Creating a Vision	Phil. 2:21-24 Phil. 2:25-28
Week 9 Wed 3/15	SPRING BREAK	SPRING BREAK	Phil. 2: 29-3:1
Week 10 Wed 3/22	Scripture and Intervention	McMinn, p. 1-72	Phil. 3: 2-4 Phil. 3: 5-8
Week 11 Wed 3/29	Mid Term Exam By appointment	McMinn, p. 73-102	Mid Term recite Philippians 1 & 2
Week 12 Wed 4/5	Scripture and Intervention	McMinn, p. 103-163	Phil. 3: 9-11
Week 13 Wed 4/12	Scripture and Intervention	Powlison p. 1-91	Phil. 3:12-16 Phil. 3: 17-21
Week 14 Wed 4/19	Scripture and Prayer	Powlison p. 92-183	Phil. 4: 1-3 Phil. 4: 4-7
Week 15 Wed 4/26	Scripture and Prayer Exploring Examples from Scripture	Powlison p. 184-259	Phil. 4: 8-11 Phil. 4: 12-15
Week 16 Wed 5/3	Review total and wrap up		Phil. 4: 16-19 Phil. 4:20-23
Final Exam May 10 12:00-2:00	Final Exam By appointment		Final recite Philippians 1-4

Course Assignment Evaluation Percentages

Class Participation	10%
Reading Assignments/Homework Completion	20%
Memorization of Philippians	40%
Chapters 1-2 (Mid-term, 15%)	

Chapters 1-4 (Final, 25%)	
Goal Log for Daily Review	10%
Journal of Insights	10%
Weekly Group Review	10%

Course Policies

Reading Assignments

Students are responsible for completing all reading assignments.

Professor's Policy on Late Assignments

All work is due on the assigned date in the syllabus. The grade for late assignments will automatically be reduced by eight (8) points per class period.

Professor's Availability and Assignment Feedback

The student may contact the professor at any time using the email address provided in the course syllabus. The professor will make every effort to return answers to emailed questions within a 24-hour period of time. Assignments requiring grading will be returned to the student within a reasonable period of time. Student feedback on graded assignments will be provided through the grading rubric located in the student's Blackboard Grade Book. The student will find comments in the grading rubric, as well as on graded paper assignments. The student may also email the course grader with questions regarding grading.

Help for Writing Papers at "The Write Stuff"

This is the official NOBTS Writing Center online help site for writing academic papers and essays. <http://www.nobts.edu/writing/default.html> You will discover writing guides, tips, and valuable information to help you become a better writer. Go here for Turabian and APA style helps and guidelines. You will also find language fonts for Greek and Hebrew.

Academic Honesty Policy

All graduate and undergraduate NOBTS students, whether on-campus, internet, or extension center students, are expected to adhere to the highest Christian standard of honesty and integrity when completing academic assignments for all courses in every delivery system format. The Bible provides our standard for academic integrity and honesty. This standard applies whether a student is taking tests, quizzes, exams, writing papers, completing Discussion Boards, or any other course requirement.

Plagiarism on Written Assignments

NOBTS has a no tolerance policy for plagiarism. Please be aware that plagiarism in certain cases may result in expulsion from the seminary. Refer to the NOBTS Student

Handbook <http://www.nobts.edu/resources/pdf/student-services/NOBTSHandbook.pdf> where the definition, penalties and policies associated with plagiarism are clearly defined.

Classroom Parameters

Please arrive on time.

Turn off cell phones. Utilize laptops and other technology for class purposes only.

Respect the professor and other members of the class.

Maintain confidentiality when someone shares personal information.

Participate in class and group discussions.

Extra Credit

Extra credit is not usually offered in this course. Students with hardships, emergencies, or other situations impacting academic performance are encouraged to contact the professor as soon as possible to explore options appropriate to their specific situations.

Blackboard and ITC Technical Support

Blackboard is the instructional platform used in this class. Please make sure that your contact information is accurate and up-to-date. If you need assistance accessing Blackboard, Selfserve, or other technical support, please contact the Information Technology Center (Hardin Student Center 290 or call 504.816.8180). Here are other helpful links to ITC assistance.

SelfServe:

- Email Selfserve@nobts.edu for technical questions/support requests with the Selfserve.nobts.edu site (Access to online registration, financial account, online transcript, etc.)

Blackboard:

- Email blackboardhelpdesk@nobts.edu for technical questions/support requests with the NOBTS Blackboard Learning Management System NOBTS.Blackboard.com.

General Technology Requests or Questions:

- Email ITCSupport@nobts.edu for general technical questions/support requests.
- Call 504.816.8180 for any technical questions/support requests.
- Email www.NOBTS.edu/itc/ for general NOBTS technical help information is provided on this website.
- For Student Assistance in using Blackboard, visit: [Student Bb Help](#)

Netiquette

Netiquette refers to appropriate online behavior in Blackboard or other online discussions. Each student is expected to demonstrate appropriate Christian behavior when working online on Discussion Boards or whenever interaction occurs through web,

digital, or other electronic medium. The student is expected to interact with other students in a fashion that will promote learning and respect for the opinions of others in the course. A spirit of Christian charity is expected at all times in the online environment.

Academic Policies

Academic policies relate to absences, grading scale, final examination schedules, and other topics can be found in the current online catalog: [New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary Academic Catalog](#).

Web-based Course Reminder/Warning

Web-based courses are, by nature, a different kind of learning experience than courses taught in the traditional classroom. Because of this structure, this web-based course is more reading and writing intensive than traditional classroom courses. Rigorous study of the deep things of God can be a rewarding experience for anyone who participates in it, but it also calls for extra diligence and integrity in completing the work. This reality does not mean that a web-based course cannot be successful in equipping you, the student, for effective, God-honoring ministry. It simply means utilizing a different strategy. Internet courses allow room for independent learners to thrive—to work at a responsible pace, to engage in student-led discussions, and to take ownership of the learning of course content. Note that your instructors are praying for your success.

Policy for Graduating Seniors

Graduating Seniors are responsible for alerting the professor of your intention to graduate. All of your assignments must be completed by noon (12:00 PM) on the Wednesday prior to commencement exercises.

Student Services

This is a partial list of NOBTS student services available to all students, no matter your delivery system or location. If you have questions or do not see what you need here, please refer to www.nobts.edu/student-services, email us at studentservices@nobts.edu, or call the Dean of Students office at 800-662-8701, ext. 3283. We are glad to assist you!

Need	Email	Phone	Web Page
Advising – Graduate Program	studentservices@nobts.edu	504.282.4455 x3312	www.nobts.edu/registrar/default.html#advising
Advising – Undergraduate Program	lcadminasst@nobts.edu	504.816.8590	www.nobts.edu/LeavellCollege
Church Minister Relations (for ministry jobs)	cmr@nobts.edu	504.282.4455 x3291	www.nobts.edu/CMR
Financial Aid	financialaid@nobts.edu	504.282.4455 x3348	www.nobts.edu/financialaid
PREP (help to avoid student debt)	Prepassistant1@nobts.edu	504.816.8091	www.nobts.edu/prep
Gatekeeper NOBTS news	pr@nobts.edu	504.816.8003	nobtsgatekeeper.wordpress.com
Information Technology Center	itcsupport@nobts.edu	504.816.8180	selfserve.nobts.edu
Help with Blackboard	blackboardhelpdesk@nobts.edu	504.816.8180	nobts.blackboard.com
Library	library@nobts.edu	504.816.8018	www.nobts.edu/Library
Online library resources	library@nobts.edu	504.816.8018	http://www.nobts.edu/research-links/default.html
Writing and Turabian style help	library@nobts.edu	504.816.8018	http://www.nobts.edu/writing/default.html
Guest Housing (Providence Guest House)	ph@nobts.edu	504.282.4455 x4455	www.provhouse.com
Student Counseling	lmccc@nobts.edu	504.816.8004	www.nobts.edu/student-services/counseling-services.html
Women's Programs	womensacademic@nobts.edu	504.282.4455 x3334	www.nobts.edu/women

For additional library resources in your state, check <http://www.nobts.edu/library/interlibrary-loan.html>

- GALILEO for Georgia students
- LALINC for Louisiana students
- Florida Virtual Library (<http://www.flelibrary.org/>) for Florida students
- Interact with us online at –



TWITTER.COM/NOBTS INSTAGRAM.COM/NOBTS FACEBOOK.COM/NOBTS

Selected Bibliography

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- Bauckham, R. (2003). "Reading Scripture as a Coherent Story." In *The Art of Reading Scripture*, ed by Ellen F. Davis and Richard B. Hays, 38-53. Grand Rapids, MI: Eerdmans.
- Cloud, H. (1992). *Changes that Heal: How to Understand Your Past to Ensure a Healthier Future*.
- Doriani, D.M.(1996). *Getting the Message: A Plan for Interpreting and Applying the Bible*. Phillipsburg, NJ: P. & R.
- Emlet, M.R. (Winter 2002). "Understanding the Influences on the Human Heart." *Journal of Biblical Counseling* 20, No. 2: 47-52.
- Johnson, E.L. (2007). *Foundations for Soul Care: A Christian Psychology Proposal*. Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity Press.
- Manning, Brennan. (2002). *Abba's Child: The Cry of the Heart for Intimate Belonging*. Colorado Springs, CO: NavPress.
- Scazzero, P. (2010). *The Emotionally Healthy Church: A Strategy for Discipleship that Actually Changes Lives*. Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan.
- Vernick, Leslie. (2003). *How to Live Right When Your Life Goes Wrong*. Colorado Springs, CO: Waterbrook Press.

Group Review Report Form

Name: _____

(You will need to print 4 of these for the entire semester, or Microsoft Excel version available on Blackboard under Course Documents)

Date	Who was there	Method used for review?	# of Times
		By Group:	
		Word by Word Review	_____
		From Phil 1:1 to current assignment	_____
		Phrase by Phrase	_____
		Only Current assignment	_____
		Individually quote current assignment	_____
		Individually quote Phil 1:1 to current	_____

Date	Who was there	Method used for review?	# of Times
		By Group:	
		Word by Word Review	_____
		From Phil 1:1 to current assignment	_____
		Phrase by Phrase	_____
		Only Current assignment	_____
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		Individually quote current assignment	_____
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		Phrase by Phrase	_____
		Only Current assignment	_____
		Individually quote current assignment	_____
		Individually quote Phil 1:1 to current	_____

