

## LSCM 3371 Marriage & Family Issues

New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary  
Leavell College  
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Summer 2013

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### **Mission Statement:**

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.

### **Core Values**

New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary highlights five core values: Doctrinal Integrity, Spiritual Vitality, Mission Focus, Characteristic Excellence, and Servant Leadership. While all five core values are emphasized, the primary focus for the 2012-2013 is *Servant Leadership*. We follow the model of Jesus and exert leadership and influence through the nurture and encouragement of those around us.

### **I. Course Description:**

The purpose of this course is to explore the basic issues of the marriage relationship and the family. The emphasis of this course is on marriage and the family as social institutions with application to the student's life and to the local church.

### **II. Course Objectives:**

This course will emphasize the competency in the following areas: reading, writing, computer skills, interpersonal relationships, and life skills.

1. Comprehend marriage and family issues.
2. Value marriage, family, and ministry to families.
3. Enhance marriage and family relationships.

### **III. Required Textbook:**

Smalley, Gary. Making Love Last Forever. Thomas Nelson. **ISBN-13:** 978-0849940866

### **IV. Course Methodology**

This course will consist of lectures, group discussions, Power Point presentations, and group activities.

### **V. Course Requirements:**

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|---|-----|
| A. <b>Exam I</b> (June 25 <sup>th</sup> )   | 35% |
| B. <b>Final Exam</b> (July 23 <sup>rd</sup> )   | 35% |
| C. <b>Participation:</b><br>Students will be expected to come to class prepared to discuss the reading assigned for that class period. An essential part of learning the material in this course requires students participate in class activities and discussions. | 15% |
| D. <b>Book Review:</b><br>In addition to the required textbook for this course, each  | 15% |

student will be responsible for selecting an additional book to read, review and report on. Students must choose a book he/she has not previously read, which relates to material covered in this course. The book should be at least 100 pages in length. Grades will be based on a one page review submitted by the student and presented to the class. Students are responsible for bringing a copy of their review for each student in the class and submitting a copy for grading on blackboard on the day they present their evaluation.

100%

**VI. Attendance**

Class attendance is essential for effective learning. According to seminary policy, students are allowed nine absences from a three-hour class. Three occasions of arriving late for a class or leaving early from class will count as one absence. A grade of “F” will be assigned to students who fail to attend the class the minimum number of hours. This policy will be strictly enforced.

**VII. Course Overview**

- I. Introduction of Course
- II. The Family
  - ❖ Definition
  - ❖ Types
  - ❖ The Modern Family
  - ❖ What the Bible Says
- III. Family Of Origin
  - ❖ Genograms / Structural Mapping
  - ❖ Influences
- IV. Contemporary Issues in Families
  - ❖ Expectations and Roles
  - ❖ Priorities and Time Management
  - ❖ Communication /
  - ❖ Anger
  - ❖ Finances
  - ❖ Parenting and Discipline
- V. Ministering to Families

**NOTE: Assignments are to be turned in at the beginning of the class period in which they are due. Failure to turn in an assignment on time will result in a four- point penalty for each class period the assignment is late. If an emergency prevents a student from taking a scheduled exam, it is that student’s responsibility to reschedule with the instructor. Students have one week to reschedule the exam. After one week, the student will earn a grade of 0 for the exam. All make-up exams are assessed a 4 point penalty and are more difficult than the exam given in class.**

**VII. Reading Schedule**

MLLF = Making Love Last Forever

Week #	Date	Assignments

1	5-28	INTRODUCTION Family Demographics MLLF = Chapter 1-5
	5-30	
2	6-04	Biblical Perspective MLLF = Chapter 6, 7 Sacred Marriage
	6-06	
3	6-11	Family as a Social Institution Family Systems Model MLLF = Chapter 8, 9
	6-13	
4	6-18	Characteristics of Families Circumplex Model Family Life Cycle MLLF = Chapter 10
	6-20	
5	6-25	<b>Exam 1 on Tuesday, June 25</b>
	6-27	
6	7-2	Genograms 5 Love Languages  <b>Fourth of July – No Class</b>
	7-4	
7	7-9	Communication MLLF = Chapters 12, 13
	7-11	
8	7-16	Family Ties That Bind Being Yourself & Knowing Who That Is MLLF = Chapter 14-16
	7-18	
9	7-23	<b>Final Examination July 23</b>

### SELECTED BIBLIOGRAPHY

Balswick, Jack and Judith Balswick. *The Family: A Christian Perspective on the Contemporary Home*. Grand Rapids: Baker Book House, 1989.

Burkett, Larry. *Money Before Marriage: A Financial Workbook for Engaged Couples*. Chicago: Moody Press, 1996.

Campbell, Ross. *How to Really Love Your Child*. Colorado Springs: Chariot Victor Publishing, 1992.

Deen, Edith. *Family Living in the Bible*. New York: Harper & Row, 1963.

Dobson, James C. *Love Must Be Tough: New Hope for Families in Crisis*. Word Publishing, 1983.

- Garland, Diana S. R., and Diane L. Pancoast. *The Church's Ministry with Families*. Dallas: Word Publishing, 1990.
- Maston, T. B. and William Tillman, Jr. *The Bible and Family Relations*: Nashville: Broadman Press, 1983.
- McGodrick, M and R. Gerson. *Genograms in Family Assessment*. New York: Norton, 1985.
- Parrott, Les and Leslie Parrott. *Saving Your Marriage Before It Starts*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 1995.
- Richardson, Ronald W. *Family Ties That Bind: A Self-help Guide to Change Through Family of Origin Therapy*. Vancouver: Self-Counsel Press, 1987.
- Rosenau, Douglas E. *A Celebration of Sex: Enjoying God's Gift of Sexual Pleasures*, Nashville: Thomas Nelson Publishers, 1994.
- Smalley, Gary. *For Better Or For Best: A Valuable Guide to Knowing, Understanding, And Loving Your Husband*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 1979.
- Swindoll, Charles R. *Strike the Original Match*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan Publishing, 1993.
- Walsh, F. *Normal Family Processes*. New York: Guilford Press, 1982.
- Wright, H. Norman. *Communication: Key to Your Marriage*. Ventura: Regal Book, 1974.