

PCCM2370-02 Introduction to Counseling
New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary
Leavell College
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Course Description

The purpose of this course is to present an overview of the counseling profession by offering relevant content, vignettes, and issues for students to consider. The course also offers specific content in the specialty areas of community agency counseling, school counseling, and student affairs practice (counseling in higher education settings). The course will introduce the student to certification or licensing exams along with common/core areas.

Student Objectives:

- (1) Students will become familiar with a variety of theories of counseling and various techniques that have emerged from these approaches.
- (2) Students will become equipped with basic knowledge and skills necessary to effectively minister to hurting people through a counseling relationship.
- (3) Students will be introduced to ethical and professional issues related to helping professions.
- (4) Students will come to a deeper understanding of how their family of origin influences their current beliefs, attitudes and expectations regarding marriage, family and other interpersonal relationships.

Textbook:

Collins, Gary R. Christian Counseling: a Comprehensive Guide. Dallas: Word Publishing House, 1988.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

1) **Exams (40%)**

A mid term (20%) and final (20%) will be given. See class and reading schedule for dates. Exams will cover material from the texts, class notes, and class projects.

(2) **Family History/Genogram (10%)**

Students will construct a genogram of their family. Information on how to construct a genogram will be given in class. Students will also write a five-page paper about their family of origin. The paper should be typed, double-spaced, and should include, but not limited to the following:

- (a) Birth Order
- (b) History of family of origin
- (c) Description of family type
- (d) Significant events related to the family

(3) **Counseling Enrichment Sessions (20%)**

Students will develop two detailed counseling sessions, which will include the following:

- (a) Topic and goal of each session and an introductory paragraph.
- (b) Outline of the session:
 - 1) specific facts/information
 - 2) questions you would ask
 - 3) three scripture versus you would use in the session
- (c) Homework assignments
- (d) Two recommended resources per session

(4) **Book Review (20%)**

Each student will be responsible for selecting one additional book to read, review and report. Students must choose a book that relates to issues dealing with counseling. Grades will be based on a four-page review submitted by the student and presented to fellow classmates. The book review must be typed and double-spaced, and should include the following:

- (a) Title and author
- (b) Summary of book
- (c) Key ideas or principles taught in the book
- (d) Strengths and weaknesses of book
- (e) Reasons you would recommend or not recommend book

(5) **Web Interaction (10%)**

Each student will be responsible to participate in class discussions that will occur on the web. These discussions will occur between each of our four regularly schedule classes.

Participation:

Because much of what takes place in class will depend on discussion and participation of class members, it is imperative materials be read prior to the date it is covered in class. Oral and/or written quizzes may be given if deemed necessary by the instructor.

Attendance:

Class attendance is essential for effective learning. A grade of “F” will be assigned to students who fail to attend class the minimum number of hours. **NOTE:** Coming to class late or leaving class early equals one tardy. If the student misses class, **it is his/her responsibility for obtaining class notes, handouts, etc. from one’s colleagues.**

Due Dates:

All 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. All assignments are to be typed, 12 point, Times New Romans, and follow Turabian guidelines unless otherwise specified by the instructor.

Plagiarism:

Since NOBTS exists to provide training for the Christian Ministry, a high standard of personal integrity is expected of all students. Copying another person’s work, failing to cite sources in submitted papers, submitting downloaded material without proper references, submitting the same material for credit in more than one course, and other such forms of dishonesty is strictly forbidden. **ANY INFRACTION WILL RESULT IN FAILING THE COURSE.**

**PCCM2370-02 INTRODUCTION TO COUNSELING
TENTATIVE SCHEDULE**

March 31	Introduction & Overview of Course
March 31	Chapters 1-9
Week of April 6	Web Class Discussion
April 14	Chapters 10-11
April 14	Chapters 12-13
April 14	Chapters 14-15
April 14	Counseling Session #1 Due
Week of April 20	Web Class Discussion
April 28	Mid-Term
April 28	Chapters 16-18
April 28	Chapters 19-20 Book Reviews
April 28	Chapters 21-23 Book Reviews
April 28	Chapters 24-26 Book Reviews
May 5	Chapter 27-29 Book Reviews
May 5	Chapters 30-33 Counseling Session #2 Due Family History/Genogram Due
May 5	Chapters 34-38
May 5	Final Exam

SELECTED BIBLIOGRAPHY

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- Beavers, Robert W. and Robert B. Hampson. *Successful Families: Assessment and Intervention*. NY: Norton, 1990.
- Blue, Ron. *Master Your Money*. LifeWay Press, 1990.
- Blue, Ron. *Storm Shelter*. Thomas Nelson Publishers, 1994.
- Burkett, Larry. *Answers To Your Family's Financial Questions*. Focus On The Family Publishing, 1987.
- Clarke, David. *A Marriage after God's Own Heart*. Multnomah Publishers, 2001.
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- Cloud, Henry and John Townsend. *Boundaries*. Zondervan Publishing House, 1991.
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- McMinn, Mark R. and Timothy Phillips, eds. *Care for the Soul*. Downers Grove, IL: Intervarsity, 2001.
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- Rogers, Carl R. *Client-Centered Therapy*. Boston: Houghton Mifflin Company, 1951.
- Rotter, Julian B. *The Development and Application of Social Learning Theory*. Westport, CT: Praeger Publishers, 1982.
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- Switzer, David K. *Pastoral Care Emergencies*. Mahwah, NJ: Paulist Press, 2001.
- Trent, John. *Love For All Seasons*. Moody Press, 1996.
- Wicks, Robert J., Richard D. Parsons, and Donald E. Capps, eds. *Clinical Handbook of Pastoral Counseling*. Mahwah, NJ: Paulist Press, 1993.
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