PSYC5202 Counseling In Ministry Fall 2015

New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary

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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, one of the core values will be identified as a primary focus each semester. The Core Value Focus for Fall 2015 semester is 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.

I. Course Purpose

The purpose of this course is to introduce students to the field of Christian counseling and basic counseling skills.

II. Course Description

This course is designed to introduce students to the field of Christian counseling and basic counseling skills. Biblically-based foundations and approaches to counseling will be examined. In addition, the class will address skill development and application and will examine counseling issues such as marital and family relationship problems, depression, anxiety, anger, forgiveness and reconciliation, substance abuse problems, and spiritual direction.

III. Curriculum Competencies Addressed

Theological and historical perspective - Students will examine the Biblical-based foundations to counseling.

Interpersonal relationships - Students will become equipped with the basic knowledge and skills useful for ministering to others dealing with various presenting problems. Spiritual and character formation- Students will come to a deeper understanding of their personal limitations in counseling others and for their need to proactively seek health in their own life.

IV. Student Learning Outcomes

In order to perform counseling effectively with the knowledge and skills necessary, students, by the end of the course, should:

- 1. Be able to understand the basic foundations and dimensions of biblically-based Christian counseling, including theological, pastoral, historical, scientific, and psychological elements and counseling models.
- 2. Be able to apply a biblically-based knowledge of pastoral care and counseling to the difficulties commonly faced by church members and their families.
- 3. Be able to evaluate personal limits in counseling and to know how and when to make appropriate referrals.
- 4. Be able to communicate effectively using basic counseling skills.

V. Required Textbooks

Jones, Ian F. (2006). *The Counsel of Heaven on Earth: Foundations for Biblical Christian Counseling*. Nashville, TN: Broadman & Holman.

Sphar, Asa R.III, and Argile Smith (2003). *Helping Hurting People: A Handbook on Reconciliation-Focused Counseling and Preaching*. University Press of America, Inc.

Collins, Gary. (2007). *Christian Counseling: A Comprehensive Guide*. Revised and Updated Third Edition. Nashville: Thomas Nelson.

Recommended Reading

(Although these books are not required, they provide helpful information for further study in areas covered by the course.)

Bolton, Robert (1979) *People Skills: How to Assert Yourself, Listen to Others, and Resolve Conflicts.* New York: Touchstone/Simon & Schuster.

Clinton, Timothy, & George Ohlschlager (Eds.). (2002). Competent Christian Counseling, Volume One: Foundations & Practice of Compassionate Soul Care. Colorado Springs, Colorado: WaterBrook Press.

Clinton, Tim, Archibald Hart, & George Ohlschlager. Editors (2006). *Caring for People God's Way: Personal and Emotional Issues, Addictions, Grief, and Trauma*. Nashville, TN: Nelson Reference & Electronic.

Wilson, Michael Todd (2015) *Unburdened-The Christian Leader's Path to Sexual Integrity*. Downers Grove, II: Intervarsity Press.

VI. Course Teaching Methodology

As this course is being taught as an 8-Meeting CIV Hybrid, most of the learning activities will be interactive, with required readings and material posted to the course's Blackboard shell in combination with CIV-assisted classroom meetings. CIV meetings will be used for additional information, focused discussion and in-class activities that enhance the course learning objectives. Each week you will be asked to interact with different types

of materials, including lecture notes, PowerPoint presentations, class texts, exercises or practical activities, and responses from other students. Students will participate in a weekly threaded discussion on Blackboard.

VII. Course Requirements

Examinations:

Exams will cover material from assigned readings and PowerPoint presentations. They will be posted on Blackboard, along with instructions. All exams are to be taken on the scheduled day/time. Students are responsible for all material covered in class, in the textbook, and any handouts given. Make-up exams will be given only by prior permission. Taking any exams late will result in a penalty.

Research Paper:

Each student will write a paper on a counseling issue (see possible topics below), with a minimum of 20 pages as the body of the paper (not counting cover sheet, endnotes or bibliography).

The paper should consist of:

- 1. An introduction to the topic, including definitions, description and extent of the problem, and significant related issues.
- 2. How the Scripture speaks to the issue and information gathered from research in the field (particularly evidence-based research).
- 3. An awareness of biblical insights along with possible counseling interventions and resources. Possible sources for information include Bible commentaries, books on the subject, counseling texts, journals, and organizations dedicated to addressing the problem—one place to start your search is the syllabus bibliography. Caution: although you may gather information from multiple sources, you need to be careful about the use of material found on the Internet. Check your sources carefully. Submit the paper on Blackboard at the designated place under Assignments.

Possible Research Topics: The following topics are generally broad. You may need to narrow the topic in order to cover the material within the requirements of the paper. Students may also choose topics from the chapter headings in the Collins text. The professor must approve other topics.

Marriage Counseling for (You select the issue)

Bereavement, Grief and Loss Counseling

Problem-Solving and Resolving Conflict in Relationships

Ethical Issues for Christian Counselors

The Essentials of Pre-Marital Counseling

Counseling Victims of Domestic Violence

Counseling Victims of Childhood Sexual Abuse/Incest

Counseling Parents of Troubled Teens

Counseling Parents of Troubled Children

Counseling with Single Parents

Counseling with Singles

Counseling People with Terminal Illnesses

Counseling Substance Abusers

Counseling Children of Alcoholic Parents

Counseling Skills for a Successful Pastoral Counselor

Group Counseling in a Church Setting

Counseling People in Financial Crisis

Communication Skills in Relationships and Counseling

Depression Counseling

Anxiety Counseling

Trauma and Stress Counseling

Self-Harm and Suicide Counseling

Spiritual Crises Counseling

Counseling and Spiritual Warfare

Counseling: Brief vs. Long-Term Therapy

Other topics as approved by the professor.

The paper will be in the APA format for counseling majors and Turabian for all other majors. The paper will include a bibliography with a minimum of ten references other than the texts for this course. Papers will be scanned for plagiarism. (See the seminary statement in the Student Handbook under General Policies [p. 9] at http://www.nobts.edu/resources/pdf/StudentHandbook.pdf)

Embedded Assignment Details:

This assignment (the research paper) is an embedded assignment that will be completed by all students for all sections of this course. The rubric for grading this assignment is attached to this syllabus. Please complete the assignment in accordance with the syllabus and this rubric. (See below. Assessment of the Student Learning Objectives will be drawn, in particular, from Sections 2-4 in the rubric.)

Research Paper	Unacceptable (0)	Basic/Poor (70)	Competent/Fair (80)	Good (90)	Excellent (100)
Abstract/ Introduction Weight: 5%	0%	70% (3.5 pts.) Abstract/summary is missing or fails to address the structure and nature of the paper	80% (4 pts.) A summary or introduction is present, but incomplete	90% (4.5 pts.) The summary Or introduction covers the content, but it is not clearly articulated	100% (5 pts.) Well-written abstract/summary of paper or introduction of the paper
Sec. 2 UNDERSTANDING Description of Biblically-based Counseling Model or Approach Weight: 15%	0%	70% (10.5 pts.) Subject matter is missing	80% (12 pts.) Inadequate discussion of subject matter	90% (13.5 pts.) Adequate discussion of the subject matter	100% (15 pts.) Excellent discussion of the subject matter
Sec. 3 COMMUNICATION Evaluation of Personal Counseling Skills Weight: 15%	0%	70% (10.5 pts.) Discussion of basic counseling skills and assessment is missing or not adequately addressed	80% (12 pts.) Incomplete discussion of basic counseling skills and assessment	90% (13.5 pts.) Some basic counseling skills are identified with limited assessment	100% (15 pts.) Basic counseling skills are identified and comprehensively assessed
Sec. 4 APPLICATION Counseling Issue Description & Analysis	0%	70% (21 pts.) Discussion on a counseling issue is missing or fails to adequately	80% (24 pts.) Incomplete discussion of a counseling issue, lacking biblical	90% (27 pts.) Counseling issue discussed along with some biblical	100% (30 pts.) Excellent examination of a counseling issue, including biblical

Weight: 30%		address the issue	insights, interventions, evaluation, and use of research	insights, interventions, critical evaluation, and use of research	insights, appropriate interventions, critical evaluation, and use of evidenced based research
Conclusion Weight: 5%	0%	70% (3.5 pts.) Conclusion missing	80% (4 pts.) Incomplete conclusion, failing to draw contents of the paper together	90% (4.5 pts.) Adequate conclusion, but fails to tie all areas of the paper together	100% (5 pts.) Excellent Concluding summary drawing together and applying all components of the paper
Organization, Grammar and Spelling Weight: 10%	0%	70% (7 pts.) Paper lacks organization and is not clearly structured; many style, spelling and grammar errors	80% (8 pts.) Incomplete or unclear organization and numerous style, spelling, and grammar errors	90% (9 pts.) Paper is adequately organized, with few style, spelling, or grammar errors	100% (10 pts.) Paper is well organized with no obvious style, typographical, spelling or grammar errors
Documentation Weight: 10%	0%	70% (7 pts.) Evidence of plagiarism and failure to document appropriately	80% (8 pts.) Sources are not properly documented or cited, or are missing	90% (9 pts.) Sources are documented and properly cited in most cases - few errors	100% (10 pts.) All sources are documented and properly cited. Documentation is error free
Bibliography Weight: 5%	0%	70% (3.5 pts.) Bibliography is missing or lacks use of basic books and articles in the field	80% (4 pts.) Bibliography is lacking, failing to meet minimum requirements	90% (4.5pts.) Bibliography is adequate, generally meeting minimum requirements	100% (5 pts.) Bibliography is comprehensive and relevant to the subject with the use of significant supporting books and journal articles and a minimum of ten references
Format Weight: 5%	0%	70% (3.5 pts.) Form and writing does not meet the standard APA or Turabian Guidelines- many significant errors	80% (4 pts.) Form and writing only minimally follows the standard APA or Turabian guidelines and contains numerous errors	90% (4.5pts.) Form and writing does not completely follow the standard APA or Turabian guidelines- some errors	100% (5 pts.) Form and writing follows the standard APA or Turabian guidelines, with no obvious errors

Discussion Board:

Students will be required to participate in weekly discussion on Blackboard. Questions and activities will be posted throughout the semester. Each student will be responsible for (1) one *primary post* in response to the instructor's weekly discussion question, and (2) a minimum of two *secondary posts* in response to primary posts from other students. Thus, the minimum number of posts per week per student will be three. Please post more as you read others' perspectives and feel you can add to the discussion.

Posts will be graded for content quality and synthesis of course reading materials. Primary posts must demonstrate an understanding of the reading, presentation, or assigned activity, with a normal expectation of at least one to two paragraphs in length. Secondary posts may be shorter (several sentences or a short paragraph), but must also demonstrate evidence of quality and informed reflection on the subject. Brief affirmations of the primary post content ("Yeah – couldn't agree more") will not suffice.

Be thoughtful, and even provoking or stimulating thought in your posts, while maintaining a very respectful tone of scholarly discourse. See the online etiquette section below for more guidelines. This is where you demonstrate to the instructor that you are thoughtfully engaging and synthesizing the materials for the course. It's also where you stand to learn a great deal from interacting with your fellow students.

A new discussion board will be posted on Sunday at 12:00 AM (CST) each week (note that each course unit is two weeks long). Students must post a response to each assignment initiated by the instructor. In order to facilitate better discussion, students are required to make their primary posts no later than Wednesday of each week. Students may post their responses (secondary posts) any time during the remainder of the week. Discussion boards will be closed on Saturday at 11:59 PM (CST) each week. Unless there are extenuating *emergency* circumstances, discussion boards will not be reopened once they are closed.

Book Review:

Students will write a book review of not less than five pages, excluding cover sheet, of the book *The Counsel of Heaven on Earth* by Ian F. Jones. The review will be double spaced, in accordance with current APA style for counseling students or Turabian style for all other students. The book review should include a brief summary of content and an evaluation of the strengths and limitations of the work and its applicability to Christian ministry and counseling. Attach and post the review on Blackboard at the designated place under Assignments. *Please refer to the Book Review Rubric posted in Blackboard for the specific grading criteria for this assignment*.

Due Dates & Times; File Formats:

All assignments are due on their respective due dates as detailed in the Reading and Assignments Schedule. Assignments are to be submitted on Blackboard by "end of day" (11:59 PM CST) on the dates they are due. Late assignments will be assessed an initial 8 point deduction, then a 2-point per day penalty each day following. If technical difficulty precludes your submitting an assignment through Blackboard, you may email it as an attachment to the instructor and it will be graded according to the date & time stamp on your email. Please use the email option only as a last resort. You may submit assignments in MS Word format (doc or docx) or as a PDF. If you use a different word processor (Word Perfect, Pages, Open Office, etc.), convert the file to PDF for submission. Save the document with the filename as follows: last name, first initial, name of assignment. For example: SmithJBookReview.doc.

VIII. Course Evaluation Requirements and Grading:

1. Exam 1 (Midterm)	20%
2. Exam 2 (Final)	20%
3. Discussion Board	20%
4. Book Review	15%
5. Research Paper	25%

Reading/Assignment Schedule

CC=Christian Counseling: A Comprehensive Guide. HHP=Helping Hurting People

Aug. 25th First day of class Sept. 8th CC – Part 1: Introductory Issues Ch. 1-3 HHP – Ch. 1 Sept. 15th CC- Part 1: Introductory Issues Ch. 4-7 HHP – Ch. 2-3 Sept. 22nd **Book Review Due** Sept. 29th CC – Part 2: Prominent Issues Ch. 8-12 HHP – Ch. 4 Oct. 6th CC – Part 3: Developmental Issues Ch. 13-17 HHP – Ch.5 Oct. 13th **Midterm Exam Due** Oct. $19^{th} - 23^{rd}$ Fall Break Oct. 27th CC Part 4: Interpersonal Issues Ch. 18-22 Nov. 3rd CC – Part 5: Identity Issues Ch. 23-27 Nov. 10^{th} CC – Part 6: Family Issues Ch. 28-32 Nov. 17th **Research Paper Due** Nov. $23^{rd} - 27^{th}$ Thanksgiving Break Dec. 1st CC – Part 7: Control Issues Ch. 33-37 Dec. 8th CC – Part 8: Control Issues Ch. 38-42

Additional Items and Policies

Dec. 15th Final Exam Due

Academic Honesty:

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.

Attendance:

Class attendance is essential for effective learning. According to seminary policy, students may not miss more than nine class hours from a three semester hour course. Three occasions of arriving late for a class or leaving early from a 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.

CIV Classroom Meeting Schedule

This course will meet in the classroom at 10:00 AM (EST), assisted by compressed interactive video, on the following Tuesdays in 2015: 8/25, 9/8, 9/22, 10/6, 10/27, 11/3, 11/17, and 12/1.

Grading Scale:

The following grading scale is used at NOBTS (see the Graduate Catalog, available online at http://www.nobts.edu/resources/pdf/GraduateCatalog.pdf):

A: 93-100 B: 85-92 C: 77-84 D: 70-76 F: Below 70

Plagiarism:

Plagiarism is considered by NOBTS to be a serious academic and ethical offense. It also has implications in the student's adherence to copyright laws. Read the NOBTS *Student* (p. 9) (See: http://www.nobts.edu/resources/pdf/StudentHandbook.pdf) for a description of plagiarism and how to avoid it. The seminary has instituted serious disciplinary consequences for plagiarism. The seminary policy will be followed to the letter in this course. See your style guides (APA or Turabian) for correct format for citation in your assignments.

Emergencies:

In cases of emergency, such as hurricanes, disease outbreaks, or other disasters, go to the Seminary website (www.nobts.edu) for information. The seminary administration will post information, such as the nature of the emergency, instructions for response, and evacuation and return dates. Please check Blackboard for information specific to this course. Please consider registering for the seminary's priority text messaging service through SelfServe. This service is used only in emergencies, and will allow the seminary to deliver urgent information to you as needed.

Online Etiquette:

As a student preparing for ministry and enrolled in a graduate level course, a mature attitude toward education is expected. Material posted to this course's Blackboard shell should reflect scholarly thought appropriate to both ministry and graduate level work. Please do not post non-course material to Blackboard. Observing the following suggestions will help ensure a positive experience for everyone.

Here are some helpful hints as to what to do:

- 1. Use courtesy and discretion.
- 2. Be precise in your writing and keep in mind that your audience does not have the benefit of seeing you or observing your body language, including your facial expressions, and, in particular, hearing your "tone of voice." What you may intend as humor could be interpreted in a variety of ways by your readers, so try to communicate as accurately as possible.
- 3. Feel free to disagree with one another, including your instructor, but do so in an agreeable manner. Treat one another with Christian respect.
- 4. Respond to each Discussion Board assignment to the best of your ability, keeping in mind that your responses, for better or for worse, may influence others.
- 5. Appropriate humor and levity are a valued part of group discussions.

Some helpful hints on what you should avoid:

- 1. Don't use all capital letters. SUCH PRACTICE IS THE EQUIVALENT OF SHOUTING AND IS CONSIDERED RUDE. Occasional use of a word in all capitals for emphasis is fine. For example: "Do NOT ridicule a fellow student (or the instructor)!"
- 2. Don't be overwhelmed or intimidated by a difficult topic, particularly one that you have not studied before. Each person brings different levels of knowledge and understanding to the discussion and we should all be able to learn from one another. Your theological training may be limited, and you may even be a relatively new Christian, but you are a child of God and you have the Holy Spirit in you. Study hard and be confident in what you add to the discussion group.
- 3. Don't set limits on your reading and study and remain ignorant about a subject you know little about. Be prepared to do some extra reading, when necessary, rather than trying to get by. The goal of your Christian education should not be mediocrity but doing your best in order to honor God. (Something to think about: Secular education asks "What do I need to do to get an A or a passing grade?" Christian education rejects this form of idolatry and asks "What do I need to do to honor and glorify God?" The grade, while important, is a secondary consideration or objective.)
- 4. Don't talk down to others, use pejorative language that diminishes others, shut down a discussion by pulling rank ("I'm an expert on this subject..."), use sarcasm, be mean-spirited, or imply that you have a corner on biblical truth and interpretation. We need to be humble in our communication and reminded that God can even use donkeys to communicate his truth if he so chooses (Num. 22).
- 5. Don't use ad-hominem arguments, where you dismiss a position, theory, opinion, or an idea by attacking the person presenting the view.

Some acceptable discussion and contributions include:

- 1. Dealing with the issue rather than getting off track or getting bogged down in incidental or minor points.
- 2. Citing something you learned in a specific course, or referencing something (appropriate) that you have read.
- 3. Using anecdotes or personal illustrations that add to the discussion.

Help make our class discussions some of the most fruitful and enjoyable experiences of this course.

Department Policies:

The Department of Psychology and Counseling has adopted the following policies for use in all psychology and counseling classes.

Papers or	All assignments are to be typed in either Times New Roman 12 or
Assignments	Courier 10. Any deviation in this will result in the deduction of
	points.
	Assignments will be turned in at the beginning of the class on the date
	due. Papers or assignments turned in after this time will be considered
	late. Late assignments will result in a deduction of four points per
	class period for classes that meet 2 times per week (an equivalent
	deduction will be determined for one and three day classes).
	Assignments must be turned in to the professor, grader, or
	departmental secretary. The time and date of submission will be
	noted. No assignments may be submitted by fax or e-mail without
	prior approval.
	All counseling students will write papers in accordance to standards
	set in the APA Publication Manual; all other students will use the
	Turabian manual.
Quizzes	Quizzes will not be given to students late for class. A grade of zero
	will be given for any missed quiz. No makeup quizzes will be given.
Exams	If there is a conflict with a scheduled test, you may request to take it
	early. Only under extreme circumstances will late exams be
	administered. If you find yourself in an extreme circumstance, please
	contact the professor, grader, or the departmental secretary as soon as
	possible. Taking a late final exam requires the approval of the
	registrar's office.
Study Guide	Students should not assume that the study guide, if one is given, is
	comprehensive to what will be on the exam.
Plagiarism	A high standard of personal integrity is expected of all students.
	Copying another person's work, submitting downloaded material
	without proper references, submitting material without properly citing
	the source, submitting the same material for credit in more than one
	course, and other such forms of dishonesty are strictly forbidden. All
	work submitted must cite sources. For a definition and the seminary
	policy on plagiarism, please read the catalog, pp. 158-159.
Class	Working on assignments for other classes or playing games on
Participation	electronic devices during class time are examples of behavior that
	will not be tolerated. If you feel the need to study during class time,
	then please choose to be absent that day.
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Selected Bibliography

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Society for Christian Psychology: http://www.christianpsych.org/, (Note posts by Dr. Mike McGuire)

Christian Association for Psychological Studies: http://www.caps.net/ American Association of Christian Counselors: http://www.aacc.net/