



## **Lay Counseling for Women      CEWM 5180**

**New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary**  
**Christian Education Division**

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*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.*

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### **Purpose of the Course**

The purpose of this course is to provide specialized training in lay counseling for women in the church and community.

### **Core Value Focus**

*Doctrinal Integrity* – Knowing that the Bible is the Word of God, we believe it, teach it, proclaim it, and submit to it. The doctrinal statements used in our evaluations are our Articles of Religious Belief and the Baptist Faith and Message Statement.

*Spiritual Vitality* – We are a worshiping community, with both personal spirituality and gathering together as a Seminary 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.

Annually, the President will designate a core value that will become the focus of pedagogy for the year. For 2012-2013 academic year that Core Value is *Servant Leadership*.

### **Curriculum Competencies Addressed**

This course will address the following curriculum competencies:

1. *Biblical Exposition*: The student will explore biblical teachings about ministry to women.
2. *Christian Theological Heritage*: The student will explore theological and historical background for women's ministry.

3. *Disciple Making*: The student will learn to facilitate spiritual growth in Christian women.
4. *Interpersonal Skills*: The student will improve interpersonal relationship and communication skills to enhance lay counseling.
5. *Servant Leadership*: The student will discover how to lead others toward spiritual maturity and use of lay counseling skills.
6. *Spiritual and Character Formation*: The student will develop personal and spiritual maturity in order to provide biblical counsel to others.
7. *Worship Leadership*: The student will increase skills for leading women in the church.

### **Course Description**

The purpose of this course is to explore the nature of Christian counseling and examine types of counseling techniques. Special emphasis will be placed on how the lay person can counsel women who have a variety of problems.

### **Learning Objectives**

By the completion of this course, each student should be able to accomplish the following:

1. Explore the biblical basis for lay counseling.
2. Examine types of lay counseling techniques.
3. Develop skills for lay counseling.
4. Identify common personal problems among women.
5. Demonstrate an awareness of resources available for lay counseling.
6. Learn to minister as a lay counselor.

### **Required Readings**

The following texts and resources are required reading for class discussions and are to be read in their entirety unless otherwise specified.

1. Clinton, Tim and Pat Springle. *A Trusted Friend When It Matters Most: Responding with Wise Counsel*. Nashville, TN: LifeWay Press, 2007. ISBN: 978-1-4158-5732-8
2. Adams, Chris ed. *Women Reaching Women in Crisis (Leader's Guide)*. LifeWay Press, 2009. ISBN: 1415867976

### **Course Teaching Methodology**

**Units of Study.** Topics will include:

1. Introduction and Definitions
2. The Character of the Counselor
3. Christian Counseling

4. Types of Counseling
5. Skills of Counseling
6. Models of Problem Solving
7. Common Issues in Counseling
8. Lay Counseling Panel
9. Resources for Lay Counseling
10. Conclusion and Commitment

**Teaching Method.** This course will utilize lecture and interactive discovery-learning and will be team-taught. The student should expect different presentation formats to enhance the learning motif.

### Assignments and Evaluation Criteria

1. Students will attend class as stated in the graduate catalog.
2. Students will participate in class discussion and attend an extra class session for discussion and dialogue with graduate students.
3. Students will read the assigned textbooks and provide a written statement of completion.
4. Students will write a book review about *A Trusted Friend When It Matters Most*.

#### **Book Review**

The book review should include the following section headings:

- Bibliographical Information  
(Author, title, place of publication, publisher, date of publication)
- Purpose of the Book  
(Check forward, introduction, and first few pages for stated purpose)
- Organization and Content  
(Clarity, writing style, readability)
- Evaluation  
(Accomplishment of purpose, weaknesses, strengths, usefulness of book)

This book review should be ten to fifteen pages, typed double spaced following *A Manual for Writers of Term Papers, Theses, and Dissertations* by Kate Turabian, published by University of Chicago Press.

5. Students will complete the take-home final examination.

The textbook reading statement, book review, and final exam should be mailed to Dr. Rhonda Kelley, 3939 Gentilly Blvd., New Orleans, LA 70126 or emailed to [rkelly@nobts.edu](mailto:rkelly@nobts.edu). Requirements must be received by the end of each semester or the student will receive a course grade of an "F". Students should notify the professor if assignments will be late and may request an incomplete in the course in case of emergency. See the graduate catalog for details about the request process.

## **Course Evaluation**

This course will follow the grading system for the Graduate School.

A=93-100	¼ = Class Attendance/Participation
B=85-92	¼ = Textbook Reading
C=77-84	¼ = Book Review
D=70-76	¼ = Take Home Final Exam
F=Below 69	

## **Course Policies**

The student will be expected to have access to online resources to download teaching and presentation documents in the Seminary's BlackBoard system.

Students who choose to present assignments via electronic mediums need to present those documents in a Microsoft Word (.doc or .docx) format. WordPerfect and PDF files will not be accepted for grade via electronic format.

The absence policy of the Seminary will be strictly enforced. For a 3-hour course, the student may miss no more than 9 hours of instruction. Examinations and case studies will be given and graded on the days announced. The concept of a make-up examination does not exist.

Netiquette: Appropriate Online Behavior. 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.

## **Course Schedule**

### Session One

Welcome/Orientation/Registration  
Introduction and Definitions

### Session Two

The Character of the Counselor

### Session Three

Christian Counseling

### Session Four

Types of Counseling

### Session Five

Skills of Counseling

### Session Six

Models of Problem Solving

### Session Seven

Common Issues in Counseling

### Session Eight

Lay Counseling Panel

Session Nine  
Resources for Lay Counseling  
Session Ten  
Conclusion and Commitment

### **Selected Bibliography**

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