



**COUN5311 The Bible in the Professional Counselor**  
**New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary**  
**Counseling Division**  
**Spring 2023**  
**Thursdays 8:00-10:50 a.m. (+ NOLA2U Live)**

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**Mission Statement**

New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary and Leavell College prepare servants to walk with Christ, proclaim His truth, and fulfill His mission.

**Mission Statement of the Counseling Program**

The mission of the NOBTS Counseling Program is to provide training and supervised experience in evidence-based counseling methods to help people deal with life issues in a biblically sound way and prepare students for licensure in counseling and counseling-related professions. We seek to produce graduates who have the values, knowledge, skills, and personal disposition to promote the mental health and holistic wellness of clients across diverse populations.

**Course 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.

**Program Objectives**

#4. Train students to integrate historical Christian beliefs, faith, and spirituality with the best practices of mental health science, in an ethical manner.

**Course Objectives**

<b>Course Objectives</b>	<b>Learning Experiences</b>	<b>Assessments</b>
Increase in knowledge of the integration of Scripture and counseling by gaining knowledge about how Scripture impacts character formation (CACREP 2.F. d, k; 2.f.5.f)	<b>Instruction:</b> Lectures: Benefits of Memorizing God's Word; Techniques for Memorizing Scripture; Elements for Transformation	Daily Journal of Insights
Increase ability to apply biblical principles to the student's personal life and in	<b>Instruction:</b> Lectures: Transformation of the Nature and Character of the	Weekly Group Review Daily Journal of Insights Reading Assignments

<p>counseling issues presented by clients by developing skills to make the discipline of memorizing God's Word easier, and in applying biblical truth to counseling issues (CACREP 2.F.2.g), and to learn how to assess for issues related to transformation rather than just improved functioning in the client. (CACREP 2. 5.f)</p>	<p>Christian Counselor (Romans 12:1-2 and Luke 2:52 Patterns); Scripture Memorization and Meditation; Scripture Prayer; Importance of Science and Faith and Their Interaction; Sin and Grace in Christian Counseling; The Importance of Emotional Health; Development and Maintenance of Relational Health; Developing and Maintaining Spiritual Health; Meditation of weekly passages in Philippians; Tracking Exercises</p>	
<p>Increase in valuing the impact of memorizing and meditating on a large portion of Scripture.(CACREP 2.F.5.f)</p>	<p><b>Instruction:</b> Memorization and meditation of Philippians; Journal Entries;</p>	<p>Weekly posts demonstrating the power of living God's word</p> <p>Unpacking Philippians Journal</p> <p>Recitation of Philippians</p>

**Textbooks (Required)**

Lelek, Jeremy (2018). Biblical Counseling Basics. Greensboro, NC: New Growth Press. ISBN: 9781945270857

Rivers, Francine (2002). A Voice in the Wind. Carol Stream, IL: Tyndale House Publishers. ISBN: 9780842377508

Smith, Angie (2021). Woven: Understanding the Bible as One Seamless Story. Nashville, TN: B&H Publishers. ISBN: 9781462796601

**Course Teaching Methodology**

The course will involve the following methodologies: reading and writing assignments, dialogues, lectures, individual and group practice, and group work.

**Key Performance Indicators**

Key Performance Indicator	Learning Experiences	Assessments
N/A		

**Signature Assignments**

Assignment	Description	Percentage/Points	Due Date
N/A			

## Course Requirements/Assignments

Assignment/Requirements & Description	Percentage	Due Date
<p><b>1. Class Participation / Discussion Board</b>            Class Participation is based on student's attendance and interactions during class discussions. Occasionally a small written assignment may be assigned concerning the discussion of the texts used for the course. Students are responsible to completed and turn in these assignments.</p> <p>Each week students will post a lease once on the discussion board in Canvas sharing one way God used scripture to impact a decision or interaction.</p>	<p><b>10%</b></p>	<p><b>Weekly</b></p>
<p><b>2. Reading &amp; QQTP</b>            Reading Assignments are an important part of preparation for class discussion. We have three assigned books this semester.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">1. A Voice in the Wind            2. Biblical Counseling Basics            3. Woven</p> <p>For each book, students will indicate the percentage of the book read and complete a QQTP.</p> <p><b>QQTP - Questions, Quotations &amp; Talking Points:            The following will need to be uploaded to Canvas prior to class on the due date.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Questions:</b> Note the points at which a question comes to mind as you read each assigned texts. Write thoughtful questions that invite analysis, synthesis, or evaluation of the material, or makes connections between the readings and class material.</li> <li>• <b>Quotation:</b> Select 3-5 quotations that are especially pertinent or relevant to the main points of the text. The quotations should be neither too short (1-2 lines), nor too long (10-12 lines). Cite the page number.</li> <li>• <b>Talking Points.</b> Write talking points that show that you have thought seriously and critically about the reading. These may be in the form of a statement or a question. If a question, you do not need to answer your question in writing, but you should talk about it in class. Write at least five detailed talking points, covering several different topics from the reading.</li> </ul>	<p><b>30%            (10% / book)</b></p>	<p><b>2/16            3/23            4/20</b></p>

<p style="text-align: center;"><b>3. Memorization of Philippians</b></p> <p>Memorization of the book of Philippians is a major project in this course. A portion of each class period will be dedicated to examining the text and working on memorizing 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 English Standard Version will be used.</p> <p>Memorization will be graded in four recitations.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Chapter 1</b>  <b>Chapter 1 &amp; 2</b>  <b>Chapter 1, 2, &amp; 3</b>  <b>Chapters 1-4</b></p>	<p><b>40%</b></p>	<p>2/9 3/9 4/6 4/27</p>
<p><b>Disciplines of Memorization of Philippians:</b></p> <p>The book of Philippians is only four chapters long. However, memorizing the entire book will require a new level of discipline and intentional practice. While it may seem daunting, we are in this together and will all be working daily to commit this book to memory.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>A. Daily Practice Log</b></p> <p><b>Each week we will complete the following:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>Read/</b> or listen to the entire book of Philippians 4 of 7 days. (4x / week)</li> <li>- <b>Write</b> (by hand) the assigned verses for the week (1x / week)</li> <li>- <b>Reflect</b> – ask God to speak to you through the verses you are memorizing each week. Journal reflections from this time – what you are learning and how you are applying (2x weekly minimum)</li> <li>- <b>Repeat</b> daily the assigned verses for the week out loud (7x / week)</li> <li>- <b>Review</b> verses for the week throughout the day every day (7 days)</li> <li>- <b>Recite</b> all the verses assigned up to that point - ideally to another person who can check you (2x / week – once in class each week and one other time)</li> </ul>	<p><b>20%</b></p>	<p><b>Due Weekly</b></p>

## **Attendance Policy**

Students are expected to attend and participate in the class sessions. Any student missing more than nine hours may receive an automatic grade of "F" for the course. Three tardies will count as one absence.

## **If you are taking this course as a NOLA2U Live student, please note the following attendance policies**

1. The course on the New Orleans campus will be connected synchronously via Web conferencing with Internet students. These courses will require weekly attendance at the stated class meeting times.
2. Students are only allowed to miss the amount of class time specified in the NOBTS attendance policy as stated in this syllabus.
3. Technical issues will not be considered a valid reason for missing a class session.

## **Evaluation of Grade**

Participation 10%

Reading / QQTP 30%

Weekly Practice Logs 20%

Memorization of Philippians 40%

The following grading scale is used at NOBTS:

A: 93-100

B: 85-92

C: 77-84

D: 70-76

F: Below

## **Technical Assistance**

For assistance regarding technology, consult ITC (504-816-8180) or the following websites:

1. [www.NOBTS.edu/itc/](http://www.NOBTS.edu/itc/)- Email for general technical questions/support requests.
2. [Selfserve@nobts.edu](mailto:Selfserve@nobts.edu)- Email technical questions/support requests with the [Selfserve.nobts.edu](http://Selfserve.nobts.edu) or [My.nobts.edu](http://My.nobts.edu) site (Access to online registration, financial account, online transcript, Faculty portal, etc.)
3. [Canvas@nobts.edu](mailto:Canvas@nobts.edu) Click on the "Help" button for technical questions/support requests regarding the NOBTS Canvas System. You can also email questions to [Canvas.nobts.edu](http://Canvas.nobts.edu) / [nobts.instructure.com](http://nobts.instructure.com).
4. [Bluejeanshelpdesk@nobts.edu](mailto:Bluejeanshelpdesk@nobts.edu) - Email technical questions/support requests with Bluejeans and NOBTS Bluejeans classrooms (On and Off-Campus).
5. [TelephoneHelpDesk@nobts.edu](mailto:TelephoneHelpDesk@nobts.edu)- Email technical questions/support requests with the NOBTS Nextiva Phone system.
6. [504.816.8180](tel:504.816.8180) - Call for any technical questions/support requests. (Currently available Mon-Thurs 7:00am-9:00pm & Fri 7:00-7:00pm Central Time).

## **Disabilities and Accommodations**

New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary does not discriminate against applicants/ students on the basis of personal disabilities. The Seminary, in voluntary compliance with the American Disabilities Act, will provide reasonable institutional accommodations, modifications, and adjustments to enable and empower students with disabilities to participate in Seminary programs and activities to the fullest extent possible. However, NOBTS cannot support accommodations that place undue hardship on the Seminary or its resources or which alter the essential requirements of curriculum and academic progress. While the seminary does not

provide direct assistance to students in the form of equipment or personnel, accommodations may be made by individual professors at their discretion. These accommodations usually take the form of early access to lecture materials in electronic format and additional time to complete tests and assignments. The most efficient way to pursue such accommodations is to provide the Director of Testing and Counseling (Dr. Jeff Nave, [jnave@nobts.edu](mailto:jnave@nobts.edu), 504-282-4455 ext. 8004) with documentation of the condition for which you seek accommodation, an explanation of helpful accommodations received in the past, and a description of the specific accommodations you desire. The Director of Testing and Counseling will document your request and communicate on your behalf with the professors who teach the course(s) for which you are registered. The seminary reserves the right to consider each request for “special” accommodations on a case by case basis pursuant to the criteria enumerated above.

### **Diversity**

The Counseling Program at NOBTS affirms the Christian doctrinal position that God created man in His own image, and that Christ died for man; therefore, every person of every race possesses full dignity and is worthy of respect and Christian love. We believe the counseling profession affords our students and graduates the opportunity to be “salt and light” (Matthew 5:13-16) whatever their places of service, and that a robust appreciation for and sensitivity to human diversity is key to that end. Further, a learning environment diverse in its people, curricula, scholarship, research, and creative activities expands opportunities for intellectual inquiry and engagement, helps students develop critical thinking skills, and prepares students for social and civic responsibilities. Students and faculty benefit from diversity. The quality of learning, research, scholarship, and creative activities are enhanced by a climate of inclusion, understanding, and appreciation of the full range of human experience. We are committed to nurturing and training a diverse student body in an atmosphere of mutual respect and appreciation of differences. As a result, the counseling program is committed to diversity and equal opportunity and recognizes that it must represent the diversity inherent in American society, reflected in our local community, and aligned with the core values of the NOBTS community.

### **Emergencies**

In cases of emergency, such as hurricanes, disease outbreaks, or other disasters, go to the seminary website ([www.nobts.edu](http://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 Canvas for information specific to this course. Because Canvas is available, the course will continue even if the main campus is closed. 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.

### **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 Canvas Grade Book. The student will find comments in the grading rubric, as well as on graded paper assignments.

### **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 8 points per class period.

### **Help for Writing Papers at “The Write Stuff”**

“The Write Stuff” 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 APA style helps and guidelines.

### **Plagiarism on Written Assignments**

NOBTS has a no tolerance policy for plagiarism. Plagiarism in certain cases may result in expulsion from the seminary. See the NOBTS Student Handbook for definition, penalties, and policies associated with plagiarism.

### **Course Schedule**

#### **Reading and Assignment Schedule (subject to change)**

<b>Week</b>	<b>Learning Experience</b>	<b>Reading &amp; Other Assignments</b>	<b>Philippians</b>
<b>Week 1 Thursday 1/19</b>	Introduction to Course Strategies for Memorizing Scripture	<b>Complete Pre-Survey</b>	<b>1:1- 1:11</b>
<b>Week 2 Thursday 1/26</b>	Benefits of Memorizing Scripture		<b>1:12-1:21</b>
<b>Week 3 Thursday 2/2</b>	Transformation of the Nature & Character of the Christian Counselor		<b>1:22-1:30</b>
<b>Week 4 Thursday 2/9</b>		<b>Quiz 1 – Chapter 1</b>	
<b>Week 5 Thursday 2/16</b>	Praying Scripture	<b>A Voice in the Wind QQTP due</b>	<b>2:1-2:8</b>
<b>Week 6 Tuesday 2/23</b>	The Importance of Emotional Health		<b>2:9-2:13</b>
<b>Week 7 Thursday 3/2</b>	Gospel Centered Counseling		<b>2:14-2:21</b>
<b>Week 8 Thursday 3/9</b>		<b>Quiz 2 – Chapters 1 &amp; 2</b>	<b>2:22-2:30</b>

<b>Week</b>	<b>Learning Experience</b>	<b>Reading &amp; Other Assignments</b>	<b>Philippians</b>
<b>Week 9 Thursday 3/16</b>	<b>Spring Break</b>		<b>3:1-3:6</b>
<b>Week 10 Thursday 3/23</b>	Role of Scripture in Counseling	<b>Biblical Counseling Basics QQTP Due</b>	<b>3:7-3:16</b>
<b>Week 11 Thursday 3/30</b>	Developing and Maintaining Spiritual and Relational Health		<b>3:17-3:21</b>
<b>Week 12 Thursday 4/6</b>		<b>Quiz 3 – Chapters 1-3</b>	
<b>Week 13 Thursday 4/13</b>	The Grand Narrative of Scripture		<b>4:1-4:7</b>
<b>Week 14 Thursday 4/20</b>		<b>Woven QQTP Due</b>	<b>4:8-4:13</b>
<b>Week 15 Thursday 4/27</b>		<b>Quiz 4 – Chapters 1-4</b>	<b>4:14-23</b>
<b>5/4</b>	<b>Final Exam</b>		

### **Selected Bibliography**

Allender, D. & Longman III, T. (1994). *Cry of the soul: How our emotions reveal our deepest questions about God*. Dallas: Word.

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. (1993). *Changes that heal: How to understand your past to ensure a healthier future*. Grand Rapids, IL: Zondervan.

Dorani, D.M.(1996). *Getting the message: A plan for interpreting and applying the Bible*. Phillipsburg, NJ: P. & R.

Emler, 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*. 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*: Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan.

Vernick, Leslie. (2003). *How to live right when your life goes wrong*. Colorado Springs, CO: Waterbrook Press.