



# LEAVELL COLLEGE

AT NEW ORLEANS BAPTIST THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY

## CONTEMPORARY APPROACHES TO MARRIAGE AND FAMILY: LCPC3390-30 Fall 2020 (211)

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

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### COURSE DESCRIPTION

Students will have the opportunity to develop basic counseling skills. Students will also learn about prevalent issues in the field of marriage and family counseling and explore treatment approaches. *Prerequisite: Marriage and Family Issues.*

### COURSE STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES

At the conclusion of the semester, the student will:

1. Utilize skills concerning the ethical practice of marriage and family therapy and mandatory reporting.
2. Practice and skillfully perform advanced helping skills.
3. Pursue knowledge concerning prevalent issues in the field of marriage and family therapy and their treatment approaches.
4. Develop knowledge and skills in contemporary theories and therapies in the field of marriage and family therapy.

### COURSE TEXT

The following textbooks are required:

Thomas, John and Lisa Sosin. *Therapeutic Expedition: Equipping the Christian Counselor for the Journey.* Nashville, TN: Broadman & Holman Publishing Group, 2011.

### COURSE REQUIREMENTS

1. **Class Participation and Attendance** [10% of grade]  
Each student is expected to attend and participate in class. Students should have completed the assigned reading and be prepared for class discussion. This discussion

will take place in a professional manner that reflects the high expectations of students of Leavell College and, far more importantly, members of the Kingdom of God.

**2. Textbook Required Reading** [10% of grade]

Each student is expected to complete the assigned reading prior to class in order to be prepared to interact with the weekly class discussions. Textbook reading is assigned for each class unit and denoted on the *Course Outline* (below). Reading the assigned chapter(s) is extremely important as class discussions will not cover all of the assigned reading material, but are designed to supplement text reading and provide opportunities to process what you have read. Students will complete an acknowledgment form at the end of the semester indicating the percentage of the assigned text read as scheduled on the *Course Outline*.

**3. Book Review** [20% of grade]

Each student will be required to select a book for review regarding one of the topics covered during the last half of the semester. Students will be asked to submit a review and to provide a brief presentation on the book. Only documents submitted in MS Word or Word Perfect will be acceptable. **Due date:** November 5<sup>th</sup>.

**4. Reflection Paper** (20%)

Students are to write a 5-6 page (double-spaced) paper addressing one of the Marriage and Family Issues discussed. Submit your topic for prior approval. The paper is to follow the grammatical structure and formatting of the *Turabian* style of writing. **Due date:** December 10<sup>th</sup>.

**5. Exams** [20% each; 40% of grade total]

The student will complete a mid-term and final exam on Blackboard. The Midterm and Final Exam will consist of multiple choice, true/false, short answer, and discussion questions. If an emergency prevents a student from taking a scheduled exam, it is that student's responsibility to reschedule with the instructor. If a student misses an exam and does not get preapproval from the instructor and/or cannot provide documentation (doctor's note, police report, death of loved one) they will not be allowed to make up the exam. The exam must be made up within one week of the missed exam. After one week, the student will earn a grade of 0 for the assignment

**Due dates:** October 18<sup>th</sup> and December 14<sup>th</sup>.

**EVALUATION**

The final evaluation for the course will be tabulated according to the following percentage breakdown:

Participation/Discussion Boards	10%
Textbook—Required Reading	10%
Book Review	20%
Reflection Paper	20%
Exams (Midterm and Final)	40%
	100%

**GRADING SCALE**

- A: 93 - 100
- B: 85 - 92

C: 77 – 84  
 D: 70 – 76  
 F: below 70

### COURSE OUTLINE

Week	Dates	Topic	Textbook Reading	Assignment
1	Aug 27	Introduction / Syllabus  Ethical Issues in Marriage & Family Counseling	Introduction	
2	Sept 3	The Foundation & Fundamentals of Helping  The Hazards of Helping/ The Person of the Counselor	Chs. 1,2  Chs. 3,4	
3	Sept 10	Creating a Connection  Exploring the Problem	Ch. 5  Ch. 6	<b>Due on Blackboard by Sept 10: Selection of Book for Review</b>
4	Sept 17	Giving Feedback  Terminating Counseling	Ch. 7  Ch. 8	
5	Sept 24	Managing the Counseling Session  Conducting an Assessment	Ch. 9  Ch. 10	
6	Oct 1	Case Conceptualization & Treatment Planning  Strategies for Bringing about Changes	Ch. 11  Ch. 12	
7	Oct 8	General Helping Strategies  Spiritual Strategies	Ch. 12  Ch. 13	
8	Oct 15	Professional Issues in Counseling	Ch. 15	<b>Due on Blackboard by Oct. 15: Mid-Term Exam</b>
9	Oct. 19-24	Fall Break		
10	Oct 29	Premarital Counseling		
11	Nov 5	Theology of Sexuality		<b>Due on Blackboard by Nov. 5: Book Review</b>
12	Nov 12	Infertility		<b>Due on Blackboard by Nov. 12: Topic for Reflection Paper</b>
13	Nov 19	Infidelity		
14	Nov 23–28	Thanksgiving Break-No Class		

Week	Dates	Topic	Textbook Reading	Assignment
15	Dec 3	Pornography		
16	Dec 10	Same-Sex Attraction Review		<b>Due on Blackboard by Dec. 10: Reflection Paper</b>
<b>Final Exam</b>	<b>Dec 14</b>	<b>Final Exam</b>		<b>Due on Blackboard by Dec. 14: Final Exam</b>

### ADDITIONAL COURSE INFORMATION

1. Attendance Policy: Leavell College follows the attendance policy as stated in the Leavell College catalog.
2. Policy for Late Submissions: All late assignments will be penalized five points for the first day and one point per day thereafter, with no assignments being accepted more than two weeks past the due date.
3. Plagiarism Policy: A high standard of personal integrity is expected of all Leavell College 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 committing other such forms of dishonesty are strictly forbidden. *Although anything cited in three sources is considered public domain, we require that all sources be cited.* Any infraction may result in failing the assignment and the course. Any infraction will be reported to the Dean of Leavell College for further action.
4. Classroom and Online Decorum: Each student is expected to demonstrate appropriate Christian behavior. The student is expected to interact with other students in a fashion that will promote learning and respect for the opinions of the others in the course. A spirit of Christian charity is expected at all times. Electronic devices should be used only for classroom purposes as indicated by the professor.
5. Special Needs: If you need accommodations for a disability, please set up a meeting with the professor for consideration of any modifications you may need.
6. Emergency Plan: In the event the NOBTS schedule is impacted due to a natural event, go to the seminary's website for pertinent information. Class will continue as scheduled through the Blackboard site. Please note announcements and assignments on the course's Blackboard site.
7. Technical Assistance: For general NOBTS technical help, go to [www.NOBTS.edu/itc/](http://www.NOBTS.edu/itc/)

## SELECTED BIBLIOGRAPHY

- Carder, Dave. *Torn Asunder: Recovering from an Extramarital Affair*. Chicago, IL: Moody Publishers, 2008.
- Carnes, Patrick, David Delmonico, & Elizabeth Griffin. *In the Shadows of the Net: Breaking Free of Compulsive Online Sexual Behavior*. Center City, MN: Hazelden Foundation, 2007.
- Clinton, Tim E. & Joshua Straub. *God Attachment: Why You Believe, Act, and Feel the Way You Do about God*. New York: Howard Books, 2010.
- Corey, Gerald, Marianne Corey, Cindy Corey, & Patrick Callanan. *Issues and Ethics in the Helping Professions*. Belmont, CA: Brooks/Cole, 2014.
- Cozolino, Louis. *The Neuroscience of Human Relationships: Attachment and the Developing Social Brain*. New York: W. W. Norton & Company, Inc, 2014.
- Egan, Gerard. *Exercises in Helping Skills for Egan's The Skilled Helper*. Belmont, CA: Brooks/Cole, 2009.
- Garrett, Becky, Donna Gibbs, & Phyllis Rabon. *Water from a Rock: Comfort in the Midst of Infertility*. Chicago, IL: Moody Publishers, 2002.
- Lambert, Heath B. *Finally Free: Fighting for Purity with the Power of Grace*. Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan, 2013.
- Laaser, Debra. (2008). *Shattered Vows: Hope and Healing for Women Who Have Been Sexually Betrayed*. Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan, 2008.
- Saake, Jennifer. (2005). *Hannah's Hope: Seeking God's Heart in the Midst of Infertility, Miscarriage, and Adoption Loss*. Colorado Springs, CO: Nav Press, 2005.
- Sanders, Randolph K. *Christian Counseling Ethics: A Handbook for Psychologists, Therapists, and Pastors*. Downers Grove, IL: Intervarsity Press, 2013.
- Siegel, Daniel J. *The Developing Mind: How Relationships and the Brain Interact to Shape Who We Are*. New York: Guilford Press, 2012.
- Struthers, William M. *Wired for Intimacy: How Pornography Hijacks the Male Brain*. Downers Grove, IL: Intervarsity Press, 2009.
- Yarhouse, Mark A. *Homosexuality and the Christian: A Guide for Parents, Pastors, and Friends*. Ada, MI: Bethany House Publishers, 2010.
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