

Course: CO345 LS & N Marriage & Family Counseling
Credit: 3 semester hours
Semester: Spring 2022, Cycle 6
Time: Tuesday 1:00-4:00pm
Room: East Education Building 129
Instructor: Mrs. Pamela Cubas, MA MFT
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I. DESCRIPTION

An in-depth consideration of premarital and marital counseling. Attention is given to the preparation for and the experience of family life and the possible impediments to family life within the biblical perspective. (**Prerequisite: CO244 Introduction to Biblical Counseling**)

This is a blended class, meaning that both campus and online students take this class together. Campus students attend the classes in person, online students attend the classes via the online classroom. All interaction and assignments for campus and online students are done in the online classroom.

II. OBJECTIVES

A. General competencies to be achieved. The student will:

1. Be exposed to a variety of marriage and family issues and how to biblically counsel in these areas (PLO 1, 3, 4, 5).
2. Be exposed to a variety of marriage and family material useful for counseling (PLO 3, 4).
3. Prepare the student for master's level work (PLO 6).

B. Specific competencies to be achieved. The student will:

1. Become acquainted with various tools available in helping with premarital and marital counseling (PLO 3).
2. Scripturally evaluate role definitions and how they function in our present-day society (PLO 3, 4, 5, 6).
3. Cover topics such as finances, romance, domestic violence, communication, sexuality, blended and extended families, birth control, children, and family counseling issues (PLO 3, 4, 5, 6).

Our Mission: To prepare Christians to serve in the church and the world according to the biblical worldview.

III. REQUIREMENTS

A. Reading Assignments

1. **Reading Journals:** (3 pages maximum). The student will write an initial **2-page journal** reflecting on how they would define worldview and how one's worldview affects how they see and counsel people. **This journal is due on the first day of class.** They will also write a **3-page Journal** following **each class** period that demonstrates a mastery of the reading assignment and class material and the student's personal reflection with what they read from the chapters in the book. The student will also need to demonstrate an ability to compare this information to their current world view. Each Journal will be due according to the course schedule. There will be a **total of 7 Journals**. Each journal will be worth 20 points (GC 1, 3; SC 2).
2. **Marriage Vignettes:** (2-3 pages maximum) Student will write and comment on marital dilemmas. The student will identify the marital problem, answer the questions pertaining to the vignette, and would give their process in how they would resolve this problem. **There will be a total of 7 vignette reviews.** Each journal will be worth 50 points (GC 1, 2, 3; SC 1, 3, 4).

B. Written Assignments

1. **Marriage & Family Video Discussion:** **Note: You must have a webcam in order to complete this assignment.** Each week the instructor will give topics concerning marriage and family, which will be presented on the discussion board in Canvas. Student will post a 5-10 minute response video with a discussion that is supplied by the instructor on CANVAS. Each student will post a 3-5 minute reply video to at least two of their classmates. **There will be a total of six (6) counseling video discussions.** Each discussion will be worth 50 points (GC 1, 2, 3; SC 1, 3, 4).

- C. **Marriage & Family Counseling Final Exam:** The student will be given a final exam. The final will be timed and will be given approximately 1 hour and 30 minutes to complete. The final exam will consist of forty (40) true/false and multiple-choice questions (80 points) as well as **one counseling vignette response** (80 points) based on the lectures and information from the video discussions and book readings. The final is worth 160 points (GC 1, 2, 3; SC 1, 2, 3).

D. Class Behavior

Students are expected to maintain classroom decorum that includes respect for other students and the professor, prompt and excellent attendance, and an attitude that seeks to take full advantage of the educational opportunity. Students are to refrain from using cell phones and handheld devices during class. Playing games, browsing the

internet, using email, instant messaging, or text messaging, etc. are considered unacceptable when class is in session. In addition, the student will be expected to contribute to class discussions in a positive manner which shows respect for the views of others. Failure to maintain this standard may result in a **full letter grade deduction from their overall grade.**

E. Class Participation

Campus/Livestream Students: Students are expected to attend all scheduled meetings of courses for which they are registered (as this also counts for class participation). If a student begins a course and is unable to attend a class, he/she will not receive the points allotted for this course. There are eight (8) class sessions, which correspond to the eight-week cycle. **Each class participation session is worth 25 points.**

Online Students: The online student is to watch the recording and answer the questions provided by his/her professor (these count toward class participation). They are to be completed and uploaded on Canvas before the next class session. If a student fails to complete this assignment within the due date, he/she will not receive the points allotted for this course. There are eight (8) class sessions, which correspond to the eight-week cycle. **Each class participation session is worth 25 points.**

IV. METHODS

A. Teaching

1. Lectures by the instructor
2. Large group discussion
3. Research and writing
4. Quizzes on the lectures

B. Grading

1. Weight given to course assignments

| | | |
|--|---------|-----|
| 7 Reading Journals <i>20pts each</i> | 140 pts | 14% |
| 7 Marriage & Family Vignette <i>50pts each</i> | 350 pts | 35% |
| 7 Marriage & Family Video Discussion <i>25 pts</i> | 150 pts | 15% |
| Final Exam | 160 pts | 16% |
| Class Participation | 200 pts | 20% |

2. Letter/Numerical Grade Scale

Grading Scale
Grade Point Value
Per Semester Hour

| | | |
|----|--------|-----|
| A | 100-93 | 4.0 |
| A- | 92-90 | 3.7 |
| B+ | 89-87 | 3.3 |
| B | 86-83 | 3.0 |
| B- | 82-80 | 2.7 |
| C+ | 79-77 | 2.3 |
| C | 76-73 | 2.0 |
| C- | 72-70 | 1.7 |
| D+ | 69-67 | 1.3 |
| D | 66-63 | 1.0 |
| D- | 62-60 | 0.7 |
| F | 59-0 | 0.0 |

VI. MATERIALS

A. Bible

The Bible is a required textbook in every course at Calvary University. To facilitate academic level study, students are required to use for assignments and research an English translation or version of the Bible based on formal equivalence (*meaning that the translation is generally word-for-word from the original languages*), including any of the following: New American Standard (NASB), English Standard Version (ESV), New King James (NKJV), or King James (KJV). Other translations and versions based on dynamic equivalence (*paraphrases and thought-for-thought translations like NLT and NIV*) may be used as supplemental sources. Please ask the professor if you have questions about a particular translation or version.

B. Required Textbooks

Köstenberger, Andreas J. *God, Marriage, and Family: Rebuilding the Biblical Foundation*. 2nd ed. Wheaton, IL.: Crossway, 2010. ISBN: 978-1433503641 Retail Price \$23.49. Kindle version available.

Gottman, John. 2010. *The Seven Principles for Making Marriage Work*. New York: Harmony. ISBN: 9780553447712. Retail price: \$13.49. Kindle edition available.

Note: It is your responsibility as a student at Calvary University to have your textbooks *before* class begins so that you can complete all the readings assigned. Please make sure that you have all your assigned textbooks prior to the start of class. Failure to have your assigned textbooks at the start of the class will result in a zero in every assignment that is not completed.

VII. CLASS POLICIES

Academic Dishonesty

Plagiarism is defined as copying any part of a book or paper without identifying the author. This also includes taking another person's ideas and presenting them as your own.

Writing Style

All class papers must follow the APA style according to the *Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association, 7th edition*. You can find APA resources under the Getting Started Checklist located in the Marriage and Family home page on Canvas.

Late Work

All assignments and readings are due at the class period assigned. Unless under extreme circumstances, which will be determined at the discretion of the instructor, **no late work will be accepted.**

Disabilities Statement

Students with disabilities have the responsibility of informing the Accommodations Support Coordinator (aso@calvary.edu) of any disabling condition that may require support.

Learning Center

The Clark Academic Center located in the library building, provides free academic assistance for all students. Student tutors aid with all facets of the writing process, tutor in various subject areas, prepare students for exams and facilitate tests. Please take advantage of this service.

VIII. TENTATIVE CLASS SCHEDULE

| Week/Date | Class Topics | Assignments |
|------------------|--|---|
| Week 1 | Introduction To Course Lecture: What is a Worldview? How does our worldview impact our counsel? Why is Marriage Counseling Important? | <i>Seven Principles</i> (Chs. 1-2) DUE Köstenberger (Intro) DUE Worldview Reflection Journal DUE Journal Entry #1 DUE Reading Journal #1 DUE |
| Week 2 | Marital Foundations Discussion Lecture: God's Model for Family | <i>Seven Principles</i> (Ch. 12) DUE Köstenberger (Chs. 1-2) DUE Reading Journal #2 DUE Marriage Family Vignette #1 DUE Marriage Family Discussion #1 DUE Quiz #1 (weeks 1 and 2) DUE |
| Week 3 | Family Foundations Discussion Marriage Family Vignette Discussion Lecture: Biblical perspective on family roles and expectations. Communication, Boundaries, Love, Respect, Handling Conflict | <i>Seven Principles</i> (Ch. 11) DUE Köstenberger (Chs. 5-6) DUE Reading Journal #3 DUE Marriage Family Vignette #2 DUE Marriage Family Discussion #2 DUE Quiz #2 DUE |
| Week 4 | Intervention Application Discussion Family Vignette Discussion Lecture: Special circumstances: Adoption/Death/Hope Parenting, Teens/Adult Children | <i>Seven Principles</i> (Chs. 4) DUE Köstenberger (Ch. 7, 8) DUE Journal Articles (Strickland and Smith) Reading Journal #4 DUE Marriage Family Vignette #3 DUE Marriage Family Discussion #3 DUE Quiz #3 DUE |
| Week 5 | Marital Intervention Application Discussion Marriage Vignette Discussion Lecture: Commitment, Love, Romance, and Intimacy. | <i>Seven Principles</i> (Ch. 5, 6) DUE Köstenberger (Chaps. 3, 4) DUE Reading Journal #5 DUE Marriage Family Vignette #4 DUE Marriage Family Discussion #4 DUE Quiz #4 DUE |
| Week 6 | Marital Intervention Discussion Marriage Family Vignette Discussion Lecture: Divorce/Remarriage, Domestic Violence, & Homosexuality. | <i>Seven Principles</i> (Chs. 3, 8) DUE Köstenberger (Chs. 10,11, Appendix) DUE Journal Article (Queries and Controversies) DUE Reading Journal #6 DUE Marriage Family Vignette #5 DUE Marriage Family Discussion #5 DUE Quiz #5 DUE |
| Week 7 | Marital Intervention Discussion Marriage Family Vignette Discussion Lecture: Finances, Words/ Manipulation, Sexual Harm. | <i>Seven Principles</i> (Chaps 9-11) DUE Köstenberger (Ch. 13) DUE Marriage Family Vignette #6 DUE Marriage Family Discussion #6 DUE |
| Week 8 | Marital Intervention Discussion Marriage Family Vignette Discussion Lecture: Singleness/Family of God | <i>Seven Principles</i> (Chaps 12) DUE Köstenberger (Chs. 9, 12, 14) DUE Marriage Family Vignette #7 DUE Final Exam DUE |