

Course: CO244D Introduction to Biblical Counseling
Credit: 3 credit hours
Semester: Session #2 (October 21st-December 13th)
Time: Tuesday & Thursday (8:00am-9:20am)
Professor: **Dr. Luther Smith** MRS, MACP, Psy.D
Class Rm: East Education #105
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I. DESCRIPTION

An introductory study of the definitive approach to counseling based on biblical truth and effecting biblical change. Content includes comparison of the biblical model as compared to modern philosophies, emphasis on the centrality of the gospel, and an explanation of counseling components, principles, and methods. This is a pre-requisite for all counseling courses. (Prerequisite: BI115)

This course is offered in two formats: in-person and online. Students registered for in-person attend the classes in person, online students attend the classes via the online classroom. For both in-person and online students, assignments and interaction outside of the class period are done in the learning management system.

II. OBJECTIVES

A. General competencies to be achieved:

1. The student will be able to distinguish how and why biblical counseling differs from all other kinds of counseling (PLO 1, 3).
2. The student will identify the basic elements necessary for a successful counseling session (PLO 3, 5).
3. The student will be able to identify what is required personally and professionally to become an effective biblical counselor (PLO 3).
4. Students will be able to list and explain Scriptures concerning the sufficiency and superiority of the Scripture for handling the personal and interpersonal problems of life (PLO 1, 4, 5).

B. Specific competencies to be achieved:

1. The student will learn the great importance of worldview in each counseling session (PLO 1).
2. The student will identify necessary skills for gathering and analyzing data and the assign interventions and homework that results in life transformation (PLO 3, 5).
3. The student will identify how to gain involvement in the counselee's life through respect, sincerity, and compassion (PLO 4, 5).
4. The student will work through a personal problem in their own life employing Scripture and material from class (PLO 3, 5).

III. REQUIREMENTS

A. Reading Assignments

Reading Journals: (3 pages each) the student will write a three (3) page Journal following each class period that demonstrates a mastery of the reading assignment and class material and the student's personal reflection on what they read from the chapters in the book. The student will also need to demonstrate an ability to compare and contrast this information. Each journal will be due according to the course schedule. There will be a total of seven (7) journals. **Each journal will be worth 20 points** (GC 1, 4; SC 1, 3).

B. Written Assignments

Canvas Video Discussion: **Note: You must have a webcam in order to complete this assignment.** The student will examine a Scripture each week that will be given by the instructor. Student will post a 5–10-minute video reading that verse(s), give the general context of the verse, describe if this verse is a descriptive passage or a prescriptive passage, and based on this knowledge explain how these verses can be used to counsel biblically and with what situation. Each student will post a 3–5-minute reply video to at least two of their classmates. There will be a total of seven (7) Canvas discussions. **Each will be worth 30 points** (GC 2, 3, 4; SC 1, 2).

Video Case Study Assignment: (1-2 pages maximum) Student will watch the case studies on Canvas on week four and week five of class taking notes regarding the problem of the counselee, the counselor's technique, the verbal/non-verbal language of the counselee, and the process. The notes will be uploaded to Canvas on week six and week seven. **Notes will be worth 50 points** (GC 1, 2, 3, 4; SC 2, 3).

Psalm 119 Project: Student will read Psalm 119 each week detailing some of the features of the Psalm and its importance using the consistent literal grammatical method for proper application using a worksheet provided by the instructor. This

Psalm will also be discussed in class on week two. **This ongoing project will be worth 50 points (GC 4).**

C. Quizzes

There will be seven quizzes in this course. The quizzes will cover information from the lectures from the previous week and will be taken on Canvas. They will consist of true/false, and multiple choice. There are six (6) quizzes in the course. **Each quiz is worth 10 points each (GC 2, 4).**

D. Introduction to Biblical Counseling Final Exam

The student will be given a final exam. The final will be timed and will be given 1 hour and 30 minutes to complete. The final will consist of sixty (60) true/false and multiple-choice questions based on the lectures and information from the video discussions. The final is worth 100 points (GC 1, 2, 3; SC 1, 2, 3).

E. 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.**

F. Class Participation

As an institution, Calvary University does not take attendance. However, for purposes of the Carnegie Unit Worksheet, in-class attendance may be classified as an academic activity. If a professor considers in-class attendance as part of a course's grade structure, this policy should be clearly stated on the syllabus

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, excluding emergencies and/or excused absences 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 (as these count for 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. Projects and Presentations

B. Grading

1. Weight given to each assignment			
Journal Summaries of reading <i>20pts</i>	140pts	14%	
Intro To Bib. Counsel Final Exam	100pts	10%	
Canvas Video Discussion <i>25pts</i>	150pts	15%	
Video Case Study Notes <i>100pts</i>	200pts	20%	
Psalm 119 Project	100pts	10%	
Quizzes <i>10pts</i>	70pts	7%	
Class Participation <i>25pts</i>	200pts	20%	

Grading Scale

Grade Value 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

V. 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

Shields & Bredfeldt. 2001. *Caring for Souls: Counseling Under the Authority of Scripture*. Moody Publishers ISBN: 978-0802437419. Retail price: \$30.92 Kindle edition available.

Smith, L. 2022. *Foundations for Counseling Biblically*. ISBN-13: 978-1565071735. Retail price: \$20.25. Kindle version available.

Smith, L. 2022. *Foundations of Counseling Biblically Workbook*. ISBN: 979-8811641352. Retail price: \$16.55. Kindle version not available (**Note: This is an optional workbook since these are the notes of the slides from the course**).

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 receiving a zero for every assignment that must completed.

Selected Readings, which will be passed out by the instructor.

VI. CLASS POLICIES

Academic Dishonesty

Plagiarism is defined as copying any content without identifying the source. This also includes taking another person's or AI entity's ideas or constructs and presenting them as your own. The use of AI generated content in student work is prohibited (even if cited) as it does not represent original work created by the student and is an unreliable aggregate of ideas from other sources. Plagiarism of any kind will not be tolerated.

A Secondary Statement Regarding Using AI For All Reports/Projects

Artificial intelligence (AI) in academic use could be beneficial for you as the student. However, when misused it may limit your ability to think critically. As the professor *I cannot catch nor stop you in the act of using AI for your papers and research*. However, it is my expectation that you as the student will do your best by your ability and skill as a human being in the subject(s) that you desire to study. Below is the percentage threshold concerning the effort you place in your paper and the presence of AI within your paper.

0-10 percent of AI*	No points deducted from your paper/project.
11-20 percent of AI*	A third of your overall points are deducted from your paper/project.
21-30 percent of AI*	75% of your overall points will be deducted from your paper/project.
30+ Percent of AI	You will receive no points for the paper/project.

*Keep in mind this deduction is *added* to the points that you would lose due to other things (Improper writing style, grammar, etc.).

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 *Introduction to Biblical Counseling* Course on Canvas.

Late Work

Papers, projects, etc. are due at the class period assigned. Unless under an emergency or 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 (**learning@calvary.edu**) provides free academic assistance for Calvary University 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.

VII. TENTATIVE CLASS SCHEDULE

Week/Date	Class Topics	Assignments
Week 1	Introduction to Course Overview of syllabus Lecture #1: Psalm 19 A walkthrough	Read <i>Counseling For Souls</i> (chap.1) DUE Read <i>Found. Counseling Biblically</i> (chap.1) DUE Read <i>Covenant To Care</i> (chap. 1) DUE CO244 Intro to Bib. Counsel. journal reading #1 DUE
Week 2	Lecture #2: Continue Psalm 19 walkthrough And brief worldview of Survey of counseling	Read <i>Caring For Souls</i> (chap. 2) DUE Read <i>Found. Counseling Biblically</i> (chaps. 2) DUE CO244 Intro to Bib. Counsel. journal reading #2 DUE CO244 Intro To Bib. Counsel. Canvas Class Discussion #1 DUE CO244 Intro to Bib. Counseling Quiz #1 DUE CANVAS Class Discussion #1 DUE
Week 3	Go over Class Discussion Go over Psalm 119 Lecture #3: Meaning of Counseling and importance Of the discipline	Read <i>Caring For Souls</i> (Chap. 3) DUE Read <i>Found. Counseling Biblically</i> (chap.3) DUE CO244 Intro to Bib. Counsel. journal reading #3 DUE CO244 Intro to Bib. Counsel. Canvas Class Discussion #2 DUE CO244 Intro to Bib. Counsel. Quiz #2 DUE
Week 4	Counseling Activity #1 Go over Psalm 119 Lecture #4: Biblical counseling And Attributes of God	Read <i>Caring For Souls</i> (Chap. 9) DUE Read <i>Found. Counseling Biblically</i> (chap. 4) DUE CO244 Intro to Bib. Counsel. journal reading #4 DUE CO244 Intro to Bib. Counsel. Canvas Class Discussion #3 DUE CO244 Intro to Bib. Counsel. Quiz #3 DUE
Week 5	Counseling Activity #2 Lecture #5: Biblical Counseling and The Gospel	Read <i>Caring For Souls</i> (chaps. 10 & 11) DUE Read <i>Found. Counseling Biblically</i> (chap. 5) DUE CO244 Intro to Bib. Counsel. journal reading #5 DUE CO244 Intro to Bib. Counsel. Canvas Class Discussion #4 DUE CO244 Intro to Bib. Counsel. Quiz #4 DUE
Week 6	Lecture #6: Rom. 6-8 A Walkthrough	Read <i>Caring For Souls</i> (chaps. 12 & 13) DUE Read <i>Found. Counseling Biblically</i> (chap. 6) DUE CO244 Intro to Bib. Counsel. journal reading #6 DUE CO244 Intro to Bib. Counsel. Notes #1 DUE CO244 Intro to Bib. Counsel. Canvas Class Discussion #5 DUE CO244 Intro to Bib. Counsel. Quiz #
Week 7	Go over video notes Go over Class Discussions Lecture #7: Hope and the C's of counseling (Grief and loss)	Read <i>Caring For Souls</i> (chap. 14 & 15) DUE Read <i>Found. Counseling Biblically</i> (Chap. 7) DUE Read <i>Covenant To Care</i> (Chap. 10) DUE Canvas Class Discussions DUE Video Notes DUE Quiz #6 DUE Psalm 119 project DUE

Week 8

Lecture #8: 5 C's of Counseling
(Active sin)

Read *Care for Souls* (Chaps. 15 & 16) **DUE**
CO244 Intro to Bib. Counsel. journal reading #8 **DUE**
CO244 Intro to Bib. Counsel. Quiz #7 **DUE**
CO244 Intro to Bib. Counsel Final Exam **DUE**
Psalm 119 Project **DUE**