

Course: CO604 E & N-E & LSO Professional Orientation
Credit: 3 credit hours
Semester: Spring 2026 (Session #1)(January 12th-March 6th)
Time: Monday, 6:00pm-9:00pm
Room: CABRE Rm. 103
Instructor: Dr. Luther Smith
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I. DESCRIPTION

This course will be an introduction of the counseling profession. This course will examine the basic history, philosophy, social, and psychological fundamentals of counseling, in addition to the particular abilities and characteristics necessary for counseling in a professional setting. This course is designed to supply foundational concepts and skills required for certification and licensure.

This course uses a blended model of delivery, 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 Canvas.

Note: The State of Missouri requires that classes for licensure be taken synchronously (either in class or Livestream). If you are taking courses for Licensure for the state of Missouri, you must be present either in class or Livestream for every class. Failure to do so may result in not meeting requirements for State Licensure in Missouri.

II. OBJECTIVES

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

1. Have a thorough understanding of vocational counseling/career development (PLO 1, 2).
2. Be able to distinguish the different perspectives regarding vocational development (PLO 1, 2, 4, 5, 6).
3. Assess the skills of individuals and match these skills to a potential career and vocation (PLO 2, 3, 4, 6).
4. Understand how mores and traditions factor into vocational/career development (PLO 2, 4, 5)

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

Our Mission: To Prepare Christians to serve in the church and the world according to the Biblical worldview.

1. Explain and define vocation and the importance of vocational counseling (PLO 1, 2, 4, 5, 6).
2. Develop and organize a plan to assist counselees in finding a career and developing skills necessary for the career (PLO 1).
3. Illustrate cultural and ethnic sensitivity necessary for proper career development (PLO 1, 2, 4,).

III. REQUIREMENTS

A. Reading Assignments

1. **Reading Journals:** (four (4) pages each) The student will write a **four (4) 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 with their current world view. The journal format will be provided by the instructor on the first day of class. Each journal will be due according to the course schedule. There will be a **total of six (6) journals**. Each journal will be worth 25 points (GC 1, 2; SC 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6).
2. **Professional Orientation Discussions:** **Student must have a webcam to complete this assignment.** Student will post a 5–10-minute initial video with a discussion that is supplied by the instructor on CANVAS. Each reflection and discussion will come from the information from the book and how it is related to the lectures covered in class. 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) reflections.** Each reflection will be worth 25 points (GC 1, 2, 3; SC 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6).

B. Written Assignments

1. **Ethical Dilemma Report:** Student will write a professional orientation report where they will examine a vignette that has an ethical dilemma. Student will have to write out their reasoning for the choices they make in how they will address the ethical dilemma, taking into consideration the law and ethical guidelines of the counseling process. This paper is to be 20-25 pages **maximum** (excluding the cover page and bibliography). The paper will be worth 600 points (GC 1, 2; SC 1, 2, 3, 4).
2. **Final Exam:** The final exam will consist of true/false, and multiple choice. The student will be examined on the material from the lectures and the textbook. The final exam will be timed approximately for 1.5 hours. The final exam will consist of a **total of fifty (50) questions** and is worth 100 points (GC 1, 2; SC 1, 2, 3, 4).

Class Participation & 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.**

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

6 Journals (completed according to schedule) <i>25pts each</i>	150 pts	15%
6 Selected Reading Reflections <i>25pts each</i>	150 pts	15%
Research Method Report	600 pts	50%
Final Exam	100 pts	10%
2. Letter/Numerical Grade Scale

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

Pope K. & Vasquez M (2016). *Ethics in psychotherapy & counseling*. Fifth edition. Wiley publications. ISBN: 978-1119195443. \$43.96. Kindle version is not available.

Note: It is your responsibility as a student at Calvary University to have your textbooks *before* class begins so that you are able to complete all of the readings assigned. Please make sure that you have all of your assigned textbooks prior to the start of class. Failure to have your assigned textbooks at the start of the class will result in

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

VII. CLASS POLICIES

Attendance

Campus Students: Campus students are expected to attend all scheduled meetings of courses for which they are registered. An Intensive lasts for 8 weeks. If a student begins a course and is unable to attend a class, he/she will be marked absent for the class. If a student misses two consecutive nights of class, he/she will be administratively withdrawn from the course and receives an AF or AP grade.

Online Students: The online students are expected to attend all scheduled meetings of courses for which they are registered by watching the recording and answer the questions provided by his/her professor. 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 they will receive an absence for the course. If a student misses two consecutive nights of class, he/she will be administratively withdrawn from the course and receives an AF or AP grade.

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 put 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 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.

VII. TENTATIVE CLASS SCHEDULE

Week/Date	Class Topics	Assignments
Week 1	Introduction to Course Overview of syllabus Lectures #1: Morality, Ethics, and Counseling (Part One & Two)	Read <i>Ethics in Psy. & Counsel</i> (chaps.1-6) DUE CO604 Professional Orientation Reading Journal DUE
Week 2	Professional Orientation Vignette Lecture #2: Values Ethical Decision-Making In counseling.	Read <i>Ethics in Psy. & Counsel</i> (chaps. 15-17) DUE CO604 Professional Orientation Reading Journal DUE CO604 Professional Orientation Discussion DUE
Week 3	Professional Orientation Vignette Lecture #3: Multiculturalism Ethics, and the Biblical worldview	Read <i>Ethics in Psy. & Counsel</i> (chaps. 18, 23) DUE CO604 Professional Orientation Reading Journal DUE CO604 Professional Orientation Discussion DUE
Week 4	Professional Orientation Vignette Lecture #4: Client's Right's & Confidentiality	Read <i>Ethics in Psy. & Counsel</i> (chaps. 19, 24) DUE CO604 Professional Orientation Reading Journal DUE CO604 Professional Orientation Discussion DUE
Week 5	Professional Orientation Vignette Lecture #5: Competency and Self-Care	Read <i>Ethics in Psy. & Counsel</i> (chaps. 12-13) DUE CO604 Professional Orientation Reading Journal DUE CO604 Professional Orientation Discussion DUE
Week 6	Professional Orientation Vignette Lecture #6: Boundaries And Ethics in MFT	Read <i>Ethics in Psy. & Counsel</i> (chaps. 21-22) DUE CO604 Professional Orientation Reading Journal DUE CO604 Professional Orientation Discussion DUE
Week 7	Professional Orientation Vignette Lecture #7: Research And Counseling	Read <i>Ethics in Psy. & Counsel</i> (chaps. 16, 25-26) DUE CO604 Professional Orientation Discussion DUE
Week 8	Professional Orientation Vignette Debrief and Postmortem of class	Read <i>Ethics in Psy. & Counsel</i> (chap. 27) DUE Ethical Dilemma Report DUE CO604 Professional Orientation Final Exam DUE