



15800 Calvary Rd  
Kansas City, MO 64147

# Syllabus

**Course:** SS248D/ND Family Living

**Credit:** 3 hours

**Semester:** Fall 2026

**Dates:** Session 1: August 17 – October 9

**Time:** 8:00-9:20 a.m. Mondays and Wednesdays

**Location:** CABRE 103

**Instructor:** Shaun LePage, ThM, shaun.lepage@calvary.edu, (office) 816-768-6971, (mobile) 785-840-8568; Office: CABRE 107

## I. COURSE DESCRIPTION

A biblical study of human family relationships with an accompanying examination of contemporary viewpoints toward the same family-related subjects. The subjects studied in the course will include but not be limited to the following: gender (masculinity and femininity), singleness, marriage, family, family planning, parenting, sexual intimacy, homosexuality, divorce and remarriage, and the relationship of family to church, school, and society.

*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. COURSE OBJECTIVES

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

1. Articulate a biblical understanding of human family relationships. (PLO\* - #1, 2, 3, 4) (A\*\* - A, B, C, & D)
2. Critically evaluate unbiblical viewpoints concerning human family relationships. (PLO - #1, 2, 3, 4) (A - A, B, C, & D)

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

3. Demonstrate greater confidence in the biblical worldview as the proper foundation of human family relationships. (PLO - #1, 2, 3, 4) (A - A, B, C, & D)

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

1. Articulate and defend the biblical understanding of gender (masculinity & femininity), singleness, sexuality, marriage, family, and other family related issues. (PLO - #1, 2, 3, 4) (A - A, B, C, & D)
2. Critically evaluate current cultural understanding of gender (masculinity & femininity), singleness, sexuality, marriage, family, and other family related issues. (PLO - #1, 2, 3, 4) (A - A, B, & C)
3. Research and biblically evaluate current trends in practical issues concerning human family relationships. (PLO - #1, 2, 3, 4) (A - A, B, & C)

### III. TEXTBOOKS FOR THE COURSE

A. English Bible (NAS, NASB-U, NKJV, NET, ESV, or other by approval).

1. The Bible is a required textbook in every course at Calvary University.
2. 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.
3. Please ask the professor if you have questions about a particular translation or version.

B. Reed, Jeff. *Enjoying Your Relationship: First Principles of Marriage*. Ames, IA: BILD International, 2014. ISBN 1-891441-04-3, Retail Price: \$9.00. <https://store.bild.org/enjoying-your-relationship/>

C. Reed, Jeff. *Passing On Your Beliefs: First Principles of Family Life*. Ames, IA: BILD International, 2014. ISBN 1-891441-05-17, Retail Price: \$9.00. <https://store.bild.org/passing-on-your-beliefs/>

#### IV. COURSE ASSIGNMENTS AND GRADING

- A. **Lecture Quizzes** (240 points; 30 each). Students will document principles from the lectures and respond personally to key ideas discussed in class.
- B. **Reading** (300 points; 50 each)
1. Students will read the textbooks (Reed) and complete the included exercises (Assignment C) according to a schedule provided in Canvas.
  2. Students will also read articles chosen by the instructor and complete a reading summary of each article.
- C. **Weekly Papers: Four-part First Principles Study Process** (300 points; 50 each). Students will write answers to “Study the Scriptures” and “Think Through the Issues” questions included in the textbooks according to the schedule provided in Canvas.
- D. **Discussion of work done in Assignment C** (160 points; 20 each). The instructor will lead weekly discussions based on Assignments A and C above. Students will be graded based on the substance of response and discussion participation. Online students who cannot join via livestream will record video responses.

#### V. GRADING FOR THE COURSE

- A. Assignment A = 300 points
- B. Assignment B = 230 points
- C. Assignment C = 300 points
- D. Assignment D = 170 points
- E. **TOTAL:** 1000 points

#### VI. POINTS AND FINAL GRADE

- A. 930-1000 points = A
- B. 900-929 points = A-
- C. 870-899 points = B+
- D. 830-869 points = B
- E. 800-829 points = B-

- F. 770-799 points = C+
- G. 730-769 points = C
- H. 700-729 points = C-
- I. 670-699 points = D+
- J. 630-669 points = D
- K. 600-629 points = D-
- L. 0-559 points = F

## **VII. TENTATIVE COURSE SCHEDULE**

- A. Week 1: Introduction to Family Living; Biblical Foundations for the Family
- B. Week 2: Biblical Theology of Family in the Old Testament
- C. Week 3: Biblical Theology of Family in the New Testament
- D. Week 4: Biblical Marriage; Singleness, Divorce and Remarriage
- E. Week 5: Biblical Sexuality, Manhood and Womanhood, Homosexuality and Gender Dysphoria
- F. Week 6: Reproduction and Parenting
- G. Week 7: The Family and the Household of God
- H. Week 8: Conclusions and Student Presentations

## **VIII. NOTES**

- A. \* PLO = Program Learning Objectives (see Calvary University Catalog, p.142)
- B. \*\* A = Assignments; showing how the assignments for this course are directly linked to the objectives.
- C. Punctual reading and writing, as well as attendance and participation in classroom discussions, will allow the student to get the most out of the course.
- D. About Disabilities: Students with disabilities have the responsibility of informing the Accommodations Support Coordinator ([aso@calvary.edu](mailto:aso@calvary.edu)) of any disabling condition that may require support.
- E. About Assistance for All Course Assignments: The Clark Academic Center

(learning@calvary.edu) is dedicated to providing 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.

- F. About Changes to this Syllabus: The instructor reserves the right to make changes to this syllabus at any time during the course, but any changes made will only be done after clearly communicating the need for the change and the specific change to be made via in- class announcement and Canvas announcement.
- G. About Grading: Grading criteria for all written assignments: All class papers must follow the Turabian style according to A Manual for Writers of Research Papers, Theses, and Dissertations, 8th edition and the Calvary Style Guide, 2019 update. See the “Clark Academic Center” page on the CU website for a “Turabian Help” (<https://www.calvary.edu/clark-academic-center/>).
- H. About Rubrics: An assignment-specific rubric will be provided for each assignment.
- I. About Late Assignments: Assignments are due when posted on Canvas. After that time, late assignment grades will be automatically lowered 5% for each day it is late.
- J. About Plagiarism: 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. Plagiarism of any kind will not be tolerated. Most assignments at Calvary require the student to produce original work. Therefore, unless specifically permitted by the instructor, the use of AI-generated content 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. AI, however, may be utilized in cases where the instructor has explicitly permitted its use to accomplish specific tasks. It is only in these cases that AI-generated (or modified) content may be submitted by the student. If there are any questions as to the permissibility of AI use for an assignment, please ask your instructor for clarification.