RE 536 PRINCIPLES OF CHRISTIAN COUNSELING
BMA Theological Seminary Syllabus - Spring 2015

Instructor:

Ronnie Johnson, Ph.D.
Professor of Christian Education, BMATS
Post Office Box 670
Jacksonville, TX 75766
(903) 586-2501
E-mail – Ronnie.Johnson@bmats.edu

Office hours will be posted on office door.

Required Textbook:


Course Description:

Theories and techniques which are necessary for Christian counseling are taught. Development or the student’s own philosophy of the counseling process is advanced. Practical counseling and evaluation techniques are introduced. Research into practical applications is made.

Course Objectives:

Upon completion of this course you should be able:

1. to demonstrate knowledge of the assumptions, concepts, therapy process, and techniques of major schools of counseling.
2. to evaluate the usefulness of current scholarly and professional articles related to Christian counseling.
3. to commence development of your own philosophy of and orientation toward the counseling process.
4. conduct analytical research concerning current issues and applications to ministry.
   to evaluate and compare the difference between pastoral counseling and professional counseling.
Course Assignments:

Attendance and participation in various class activities. 10%

Read *The Minirth Guide for Christian Counselors* and evaluate the value of the book for professional counselors, lay counselors, and pastoral counselors. What is useful to all counselors? What is more valuable for professional counselors than for lay counselors? What is useful for pastors? (2-4 pages) 5%

Guest speaker reports, case studies, or video exercises 10%

Reading Log 10%
Each student must critique 10 relevant journal articles.
Read ten articles relating to Christian Counseling.
Record (1) bibliographic information, (2) a short summary, and (3) a brief personal reaction.

Exam 20%

Research Paper 25%
Select any trend/issue which is of special interest to you in the area of Christian Counseling. Write a 12 - 15 page professional paper on the subject. Also prepare a 20 - 30 minute presentation of your findings for the class. Duplicate topics will be discouraged.

Final Exam 20%

All assignments will be discussed in detail. A schedule of activities will be distributed with due dates indicated. The content of this syllabus is subject to revision as announced in regular class sessions.
CHRISTIAN COUNSELING -- BIBLIOGRAPHY


<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Journals and Magazines</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Christian Counseling Today</strong>  (American Association of Christian Counselors)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Discipleship Journal</strong>  (The Navigators) (no longer in print)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Leadership</strong>  (Christianity Today)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Journal of Biblical Counseling</strong>  (Christian Counseling and Educational Foundation)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Journal of Counseling and Development</strong>  (American Counseling Association) = secular</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Journal of Pastoral Care</strong>  (Association for Clinical Pastoral Education and others)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Journal of Psychology and Theology</strong>  (Rosemead School of Psychology)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Journal of Religion and Health</strong>  (Blanton–Peal Institute)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Psychology Today</strong>  (Sussex Publishers) = secular + popular + New Age</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>