RE 536 PRINCIPLES OF CHRISTIAN COUNSELING
BMA Theological Seminary Syllabus – January 2016

Instructor:

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Required Textbooks:


Course Description:
Theories and techniques which are necessary for Christian counseling are taught. Development of 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.

This will be a blended course — a combination of Moodle and classroom instruction.
Course Assignments:

**What to do before January 11, 2016**
(Check Moodle for due dates.)

Read *How To be a People Helper* and answer the selected questions. 20%

Complete the following selected personal growth exercises beginning on page 209 of *How to be a People Helper*. You will turn this in on Moodle and be prepared to discuss this assignment in class.

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**Counseling philosophy:**

After reading *Counseling and Psychotherapy* prepare your own philosophy of Christian Counseling. The questions on page 7 of the textbook will help you describe who, how, and why you counsel. You will turn this in on Moodle and be prepared to discuss this assignment in class.

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) You will turn this in on Moodle and be prepared to discuss this assignment in class. 10%

**What to do January 11-13, 2016.**

Attendance and participation in class activities January 11-13, 2016. 20%

**Research orientation and proposal:**

Library research - critique 10 relevant articles - 10%

Prepare research proposal - 10%

**What do do after January 13, 2016**

Research Paper 20%

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.
CHRISTIAN COUNSELING — BIBLIOGRAPHY


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- by mail: Post Office Box 670 (1530 East Pine Street) Jacksonville, TX 75766-5407
- by phone: 800/259-5673
- by email: bmats@bmats.edu

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