Note:

Course content may be changed, term to term, without notice. The information below is provided as a guide for course selection and is not binding in any form, and should not be used to purchase course materials.
COURSE SYLLABUS

CCOU 301
CHRISTIAN COUNSELING FOR MARRIAGE AND FAMILY

COURSE DESCRIPTION
A broad overview of the dynamics of marriage and family relationships set the foundation of this course. Exploring structure, functionality, systems and how they should be addressed in counseling situations provide the framework for counseling this population group.

RATIONALE
Marriage is close to the heart of God. Couples are encouraged to seek God’s way into this intimate bond, to define a vision for their own marriage, and then to give it away as they grow and help other couples.

I. PREREQUISITES
For information regarding prerequisites for this course, please refer to the Academic Course Catalog.

II. REQUIRED RESOURCE PURCHASES
Click on the following link to view the required resource(s) for the term in which you are registered: http://bookstore.mbsdirect.net/liberty.htm

III. ADDITIONAL MATERIALS FOR LEARNING
A. Computer with basic audio/video equipment
B. Internet access (broadband recommended)
C. Microsoft Office

IV. MEASURABLE LEARNING OUTCOMES
Upon successful completion of this course, the student will be able to:
A. Describe the biblical foundations for marriage.
B. Assess marital problems in a positive, solution-focused way.
C. Describe relational dynamics that lead to the development of healthy families.
D. Discuss the dynamics leading to proper mate selection in marriage.
E. Identify elements involved in making successful transitions in the marriage cycle.
F. Discuss attachment theory and its contributions to our understanding of relationships.
G. Explain the theory of hope-focused marriage counseling.
H. Identify the most common legal-ethical issues in marriage ministry.

V. **COURSE REQUIREMENTS AND ASSIGNMENTS**

A. Textbook readings and lecture presentations/notes

B. Course Requirement Checklist

   After reading the Course Syllabus and **Student Expectations**, the student will complete the related checklist found in Module/Week 1

C. Discussion Board Forums (3)

   There are 3 Discussion Board Forums to be completed in this course. The student is required to post 1 thread of at least 250 words. The student must also post a minimum of 2 replies with each reply consisting of a minimum of 100 words. For each thread, the student must support his/her assertions with at least 2 sources in current APA format. Each reply must incorporate at least 1 source. Acceptable sources include peer-reviewed journal articles, course textbooks, course video presentations, and the Bible.

D. Research Paper

   The student will write an 8–10-page paper in current APA format on a developed topic supplied by the Clinton & Sibey or Balswick & Balswick texts. The student will choose 1 topic that the course text addresses and augment his/her research by using at least 8 scholarly references in addition to the course textbook and the Bible. The research paper will be submitted in 3 parts:

   - **Topic, Preliminary Research, and Rationale**
     
     The student will choose a topic from the course textbook, provide a rationale for choosing this topic, and then demonstrate preliminary research by incorporating a minimum of 4 sources in-text and cited on a reference page. This assignment provides the student the opportunity to gain approval and feedback from the instructor in matters of content in preparation for the final research paper.

   - **Title Page, Abstract, and Reference Page**
     
     The student will submit a completed title page, abstract, and reference page, which will include all required sources. This assignment provides the student the opportunity to gain feedback from the instructor in major areas related specifically to current APA format.

   - **Final Research Paper Submission**
     
     The Final Research Paper will be submitted through SafeAssign.

E. Exams (4)

   The student will complete 4 open-book/open-note exams that assess the student’s retention of material from the course lectures and textbook readings. The exams will include 50 multiple-choice questions. Exams 1 and 3 will also include 5 short essay questions.
VI. COURSE GRADING AND POLICIES

A. Points

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Requirement</th>
<th>Points</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Course Requirements Checklist</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Discussion Board Forums (3 at 50 pts ea)</td>
<td>150</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Research Paper</td>
<td>75</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Topic, Preliminary Research, and Rationale</td>
<td>75</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Title Page, Abstract, and Reference Page</td>
<td>75</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final Research Paper Submission</td>
<td>250</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Exams (2 at 125 pts ea, 2 at 100 pts ea)</td>
<td>450</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>1010</strong></td>
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</table>

B. Scale

- A = 900–1010
- B = 800–899
- C = 700–799
- D = 600–699
- F = 0–599

C. Late Assignment Policy

If the student is unable to complete an assignment on time, then he or she must contact the instructor immediately by email.

Assignments that are submitted after the due date without prior approval from the instructor will receive the following deductions:

1. Late assignments submitted within one week of the due date will receive a 10% deduction.
2. Assignments submitted more than one week late will receive a 20% deduction.
3. Assignments submitted two weeks late or after the final date of the course will not be accepted.
4. Late Discussion Board threads or replies will not be accepted.

Special circumstances (e.g. death in the family, personal health issues) will be reviewed by the instructor on a case-by-case basis.

D. Disability Assistance

Students with a documented disability may contact Liberty University Online’s Office of Disability Academic Support (ODAS) at LUOODAS@liberty.edu to make arrangements for academic accommodations. Further information can be found at www.liberty.edu/disabilitysupport.
### Course Schedule

**CCOU 301**


<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Module/Week</th>
<th>Reading &amp; Study</th>
<th>Assignments</th>
<th>Points</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Clinton &amp; Sibcy: chs. 1–5 4 lesson notes 4 presentations</td>
<td>Course Requirements Checklist Class Introductions DB Forum 1</td>
<td>10 0 50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Clinton &amp; Sibcy: chs. 6–9 4 lesson notes 4 presentations</td>
<td>Exam 1</td>
<td>125</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Clinton &amp; Sibcy: chs. 10–12 4 lesson notes 4 presentations</td>
<td>Research Paper – Topic, Preliminary Research, and Rationale</td>
<td>75</td>
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<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Balswick &amp; Balswick: chs. 1–5 4 lesson notes 4 presentations</td>
<td>DB Forum 2 Exam 2</td>
<td>50 100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Balswick &amp; Balswick: chs. 6–10 4 lesson notes 4 presentations</td>
<td>Research Paper – Title Page, Abstract, and Reference Page</td>
<td>75</td>
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<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Balswick &amp; Balswick: chs. 11–14 4 lesson notes 4 presentations</td>
<td>Exam 3</td>
<td>125</td>
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<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Balswick &amp; Balswick: chs. 19–20 2 lesson notes 2 presentations</td>
<td>DB Forum 3 Exam 4</td>
<td>50 100</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>1010</strong></td>
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**DB = Discussion Board**

**NOTE:** Each course week (except Module/Week 1) begins on Tuesday morning at 12:00 a.m. (ET) and ends on Monday night at 11:59 p.m. (ET). The final week ends at 11:59 p.m. (ET) on Friday.