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

PACO 500
INTRODUCTION TO PASTORAL COUNSELING

COURSE DESCRIPTION

Introduces students to a solution-based model for short-term counseling that incorporates knowledge of and practice in facilitation skills, cognitive behavioral approaches, and biblical teaching.

RATIONALE

In today’s world, people in our churches and in society at large are hurting. As people go outside their own families for help, 40% of Americans turn to a local clergy person first. Therefore, leaders in ministry need to be thoroughly equipped for the work of the counseling ministry. Since counseling should not be the primary ministry of pastors, it is imperative that what they do in counseling is done with efficiency and effectiveness.

I. PREREQUISITE

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

II. REQUIRED RESOURCE PURCHASE

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. RECOMMENDED RESOURCES


IV. ADDITIONAL MATERIALS FOR LEARNING

A. Computer with basic audio/video output equipment
B. Internet access (broadband recommended)
C. Microsoft Office 365
D. Reference Point Software (http://www.referencepointsoftware.com/). This is a highly recommended APA software available for purchase.
V. **MEASURABLE LEARNING OUTCOMES**

Upon successful completion of this course, the student will be able to:

A. Support assertions, arguments, and affirmations with appropriate content from the readings according to current APA formatting.

B. Identify his/her experience with and current approach to pastoral counseling as well as expectations as a student counselor.

C. Describe the necessary interpersonal and pastoral counseling skills to facilitate efficiency and effectiveness in pastoral counseling.

D. Discuss resources essential to cultivating a context for change and for fostering resiliency in the change process.

E. Develop a research-based framework for professional identity and ethics suitable for a non-licensure context.

F. Create an overview of a solution-based, short-term pastoral counseling strategy.

G. Utilize strengths/competencies in partnership with the care-seeker to build a better future under the authority of Scripture and the overarching goal of becoming imitators of Christ.

H. Develop a strategy for getting the care-seeker committed to action.

I. Connect the care-seeker to appropriate “others” in the body of Christ for the purpose of furthering growth and development by fostering accountability to the local church.

J. Apply the distinctive feature(s) of a solution-based, short-term counseling strategy to a required case study.

VI. **COURSE REQUIREMENTS AND ASSIGNMENTS**

A. Textbook readings and lecture presentations/notes

B. Course Requirements 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 (5)

   Discussion boards are collaborative learning experiences. Therefore, the student is required to provide a thread in response to the provided prompt for each forum. Each thread must be 400–450 words and demonstrate course-related knowledge. In addition to the thread, the student is required to reply to 1 other classmate’s thread. Each reply must be 200–250 words and demonstrate course-related knowledge. (MLO: A, C, D, F, G, H)

D. Pastoral Counseling Reflection Paper

   The student will write a 6-page paper in current APA format that focuses on his/her experience with pastoral counseling, current needs and expectations, and
approach to pastoral counseling. The paper must include 1 reference from each of
the assignment’s required readings. (MLO: A, B)

E. Solving My People Puzzle: Part 1

The student will write a 6–8-page paper in current APA format that focuses on
describing his/her relational style. The paper must include at least 1 reference
from each of the assignment’s required readings. (MLO: A, C)

F. Solving My People Puzzle: Part 2

The student will write a 4–6-page paper in current APA format that focuses on
managing his/her relational style. The paper must include at least 1 reference from
each of the assignment’s required readings. (MLO: A, C, D)

G. Identity and Ethics Paper

The student will write a 4–6-page paper in current APA format. The student
should briefly describe a research-based paradigm for biblical professionalism
and identify a potential professional partnership, including but not limited to a
support group(s), local association of peers, referral network, and credible
certification/licensure agencies/organizations. The paper must include at least 1
reference from each of the assignment’s required readings. (MLO: A, E)

H. Final Project

Based on the solution-based, short-term pastoral counseling model presented in
the course, the student will apply the distinctive features of a solution-based,
short-term strategy. The project will be completed through previous steps in the
Discussion Board Forums, culminating in the final submission of the project. The
paper will be 12–14 pages in current APA format. The paper must include at least
10 references. (MLO: A, C, D, G, H, I, J)

I. Exams (2)

Exam 1 will cover the Reading & Study material for the first 4 modules/weeks,
and Exam 2 will cover the Reading & Study material for all 8 modules/weeks.
Each exam will be open-book/open-notes, contain 35-40 multiple-choice,
true/false, and essay questions, and have a time limit of 1 hour and 30 minutes.
(MLO: A, C, D, F, H, I)

VII. COURSE GRADING AND POLICIES

A. Points

<table>
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<th>Requirement</th>
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<tr>
<td>Course Requirements Checklist</td>
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<tr>
<td>Discussion Board Forums (5 at 75 pts ea)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Pastoral Counseling Reflection Paper</td>
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<td>Solving My People Puzzle: Part 1</td>
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<tr>
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<td>Identity and Ethics Paper</td>
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<td>Final Project</td>
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<td>Exam 1 (Modules 1–4)</td>
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Exam 2 (Modules 1–8)  

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**Total**  

1010

B. Scale

D- = 680–699   F = 0679

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. Tests/Exams

1. For timed tests/exams students are required to complete the exam within the assigned time. For students who exceed this time limit a penalty of 1 point may be deducted for each minute they exceed the assigned time limit.
2. Students must take the exam during the assigned module/week. Late submissions will be penalized at 5% per day, cumulative.
3. No test will be accepted seven (7) days after original due date without written approval from the professor. This approval must be sought prior to tests due date.

E. Dual Relationship

The faculty is responsible to interact with counseling students in a supervisory capacity/role. As such, faculty may provide students professional principles, guidance, and recommendations as it relates to the context of the student-client setting. The faculty is responsible to avoid dual relationships with students such as entering a student-counselor or student-pastor relationship. Thus, the faculty does not provide personal counseling addressing student personal problems. If a faculty member perceives that a student is in need of personal or professional counseling,
then that faculty member will recommend that the student pursue either pastoral or professional assistance from a counselor in their community.

F. Limits of Confidentiality

In the event of a student’s disclosure, either verbally or in writing, of threat of serious or foreseeable harm to self or others, abuse or neglect of a minor, elderly or disabled person, or current involvement in criminal activity, the faculty, staff, administrator, or supervisor will take immediate action. This action may include, but is not limited to, immediate notification of appropriate state law enforcement or social services personnel, emergency contacts, and notification of the appropriate program chair or online dean. The incident and action taken will become part of the student’s permanent record.

G. Disability Assistance

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

PAC 500


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<tr>
<th>MODULE/WEEK</th>
<th>READING &amp; STUDY</th>
<th>ASSIGNMENTS</th>
<th>POINTS</th>
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| 1           | Carbonell: Intro; chs. 1, 7  
Clinton & Hawkins: Intro (pp. 7–11); Anger;  
Death; Forgiveness; Grief & Loss; Suicide  
Johnson & Johnson: chs. 1–2, 7  
Kollar: preface; chs. 1–3, 19  
Petersen: chs. 1–3, 26–27  
2 presentations  
1 lecture note: Case Study  
4 websites | Course Requirements Checklist  
Class Introductions  
Pastoral Counseling Reflection Paper | 10  
0  
75 |
| 2           | Carbonell: chs. 2–6, 8–9  
Kollar: chs. 4–7  
Petersen: chs. 4–25  
3 presentations | Solving My People Puzzle: Part 1 | 100 |
| 3           | Kollar: chs. 8–9, 17  
1 presentation  
1 lecture note | DB Forum 1  
Solving My People Puzzle: Part 2 | 75  
100 |
| 4           | Kollar: chs. 10–11, 20  
2 presentations  
1 lecture note | DB Forum 2  
Exam 1 | 75  
100 |
| 5           | Kollar: chs. 12–15  
1 presentation  
1 article | DB Forum 3 | 75 |
| 6           | Johnson & Johnson: chs. 3–6, 8  
Kollar: ch. 16  
1 presentation  
1 lecture note  
3 websites | DB Forum 4  
Identity and Ethics Paper | 75  
75 |
| 7           | Kollar: pp. 234–240  
1 presentation | DB Forum 5 | 75 |
| 8           | Kollar: pp. 241–245  
1 presentation  
1 article  
2 websites | Final Project  
Exam 2 | 75  
100 |

TOTAL 1010

DB = Discussion Board

NOTE: Each course module/week begins on Monday morning at 12:00 a.m. (ET) and ends on Sunday night at 11:59 p.m. (ET). The final module/week ends at 11:59 p.m. (ET) on Friday.