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 507**  
**THEOLOGY AND SPIRITUALITY IN COUNSELING**

**COURSE DESCRIPTION**

An examination of the content, comprehensiveness, and validity of several counseling theories that have been developed by prominent Christian counselors. (Formerly PACO 600).

**RATIONALE**

Counselors may find assistance with the development of higher levels of competency when they understand the content of and identify the strengths and weaknesses of several well-known approaches to counseling proposed by Christian authors and practitioners.

**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](http://bookstore.mbsdirect.net/liberty.htm)

**III. ADDITIONAL MATERIALS FOR LEARNING**

A. Computer with basic audio/video output equipment  
B. Internet access (broadband recommended)  
C. Microsoft Word  
   (Microsoft Office is available at a special discount to Liberty University students.)

**IV. MEASURABLE LEARNING OUTCOMES**

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

A. Estimate the content and strengths/weaknesses of some of the more prominent Christian counseling theories and approaches, including, but not limited to, those in the required texts.  
B. Demonstrate ability to synthesize a personal theory of counseling that rests on a solid theological/psychological/spiritual foundation.  
C. Articulate the contributions of psychology, theology, and spirituality to the development of a comprehensive model of Christian counseling.  
D. Describe the value of multitasking for developing counselor competence.
E. Explain the formula for change in the counseling methodology of each author of each text.
F. Articulate the value of good theology for the development of mental health in Christians.
G. Explain the role of biblical integration in the development of a Christian model of counseling.
H. Explain the concept and value of responsible eclecticism.

V. COURSE REQUIREMENTS AND ASSIGNMENTS
A. Textbook readings and lecture presentations
B. Course Requirements Checklist
   After reading the Syllabus and Student Expectations, the student will complete the related checklist found in Module/Week 1.
C. Discussion Board Forums (2)
   The student is required to provide a thread in response to the provided prompt for each forum. Each thread must be 400 words and demonstrate course-related knowledge. In addition to the thread, the student is required to reply to at least 2 other classmates’ threads. Each reply must be 200 words.
D. Comparison Papers (4)
   The student will write 4 comparison papers throughout the progression of this course. Each paper must be 5–7 pages and be in current APA format. The paper must include at least 3–5 references in addition to the course textbooks and the Bible.
E. Personal Theory Paper
   The student will write a 10–12-page Personal Theory Paper in current APA format that will focus on the theories of the required authors, as well as the creation of the student’s own personal theory. In preparation to this final submission, the student will submit a reference page and a working outline of his/her personal theory paper in earlier modules/weeks. The paper must include at least 8–10 references in addition to the course textbooks and the Bible.

VI. COURSE GRADING AND POLICIES
A. Points
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Points</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Course Requirements Checklist</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Discussion Board Forums (2 at 100 pts ea)</td>
<td>200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Comparison Papers (4 at 150 pts ea)</td>
<td>600</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Personal Theory Paper</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reference Page</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Outline</td>
<td>30</td>
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<tr>
<td>Final</td>
<td>150</td>
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B. Scale

D- = 680–699   F = 679 and below

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 class 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 5 points will be deducted for each minute they exceed the assigned time limit.
2. Students must take the exam during the assigned module. A 5% deduction from the tests final grade will be assigned for each day the test is late.
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 LUODAS@liberty.edu to make arrangements for academic accommodations. Further information can be found at www.liberty.edu/disabilitysupport.
# COURSE SCHEDULE

## PACO 507

Textbooks:  

### Module/Week | Reading & Study | Assignments | Points |
<table>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Crabb: chs. 1–5 2 presentations</td>
<td>Course Requirements Checklist, Class Introductions</td>
<td>10 0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Crabb: chs. 6–10 2 presentation</td>
<td>Comparison Paper 1</td>
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<td>3</td>
<td>Powlison: chs. 5–7 2 presentations</td>
<td>Comparison Paper 2</td>
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<td>Powlison: Appendix 2 and 4 1 presentation</td>
<td>DB Forum 1, Personal Theory Paper: Reference Page</td>
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<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Wilson: entire work 1 presentation</td>
<td>Comparison Paper 3</td>
<td>150</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>1 presentation 2 websites</td>
<td>DB Forum 2, Personal Theory Paper: Outline</td>
<td>100 30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Benner: entire work 1 presentation</td>
<td>Comparison Paper 4</td>
<td>150</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Review Course Material 1 presentation</td>
<td>Personal Theory Paper: Final</td>
<td>150</td>
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</tbody>
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**Total** | 1010

DB = Discussion Board

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