

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

COUN 687

COUNSELING WOMEN

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course examines the most common problems women bring to counseling, including both developmental and situational crises. It explores biblical perspectives and the most effective treatments for these situations.

RATIONALE

There are many issues that specifically apply to psychological women throughout their lifespan. It is good for the practitioner to develop a theoretical rationale and a course of action that will guide him/her as he/she works with women and their specific issues in counseling.

I. PREREQUISITES

None

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. 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. Identify theoretical, sociological, and biological considerations in counseling women.
- B. Evaluate concepts related to the developmental issues women face throughout their lifetime and how it impacts the counseling process.
- C. Evaluate his/her own assumptions about gender and gender roles.
- D. Analyze the tension women experience, especially Christian women, in light of the feminist movement.
- E. Distinguish the DSM-IV disorders that are most common in women.

- F. Analyze the best treatment for the DSM-IV disorders that are most common in women.
- G. Construct a biblical worldview in counseling women which includes synthesizing professional knowledge and biblical concepts.

V. COURSE REQUIREMENTS AND ASSIGNMENTS

- A. Textbook readings and lecture presentations/notes
- B. Discussion Board forums (6)

There are three classwide Discussion Board forums and three Group Discussion Board forums throughout the course. The purpose of all Discussion Board forums is to generate interaction among students regarding relevant current course topics. Students are required to submit an initial thread of at least 400-450 words by 11:59 p.m. (ET) on Thursday of the module/week in which the forum is assigned. Students will post substantive replies to at least two other students' posts of at least 200-250 words each by 11:59 p.m. (ET) on Sunday of the same module/week with the exception of Module/Week 8 when replies are due by 11:59 p.m. (ET) on Friday.

- C. Reflective Journal Assignment

This assignment provides an opportunity for students to evaluate their journey through the developmental stages and transitions in life and also to reflect on how the impact of these transitions may help or hinder their work as counselors. This paper will be 4-8 pages in length and will integrate concepts learned from the class materials as well as personal research from at least one additional professional source outside of the class materials. This assignment will be due by 11:59 p.m. (ET) on Sunday of Week/Module 3.

- D. Research Project

Research Project Topic: Students must select one topic and post it in the Research Project Topic Discussion Board forum in order to receive approval from the instructor. Topics will be approved on a "first come, first served" basis and may not be repeated. Topics must be submitted by 11:59 p.m. (ET) on Sunday of Module/Week 1.

Research Project: Part A - A major part of the Research Project is the Research Paper. This includes selecting an instructor-approved topic of the student's choice and then researching the topic as if he/she were preparing to teach a workshop to fellow counselors. This paper will be 12-15 pages in length and should include 12-15 sources. This part of the project will be due by 11:59 p.m. (ET) on Sunday of Week/Module 6.

Research Project: Part B - The second part of the Research Project is the Presentation Handout that the student will create to serve as an outline of the project that the student could present to fellow counselors. The Presentation Handout will be a 2-5 page document that the student would present at a workshop on the research topic. The student is encouraged to be creative while

including the main points for the Research Paper and at least 5 sources. The Presentation Handout will be due by 11:59 p.m. (ET) on Sunday of Week/Module 7 and students will make their projects available to the entire class through the Research Project File Exchange.

E. Exams (2)

All exams will be open-book and include a Case Study reading followed by essay questions. Students will have 2 hours and 45 minutes to complete each exam. Exams will cover the information studied throughout the modules/weeks. Exam 1 is due by 11:59 p.m. (ET) on Sunday of Module/Week 4. Exam 2 is due by 11:59 p.m. (ET) on Friday of Module/Week 8.

VI. COURSE GRADING AND POLICIES

A. Points

Discussion Board forums (6 at 50 pts ea)		300
Reflective Journal Assignment		125
Research Project		
Part A		225
Part B		100
Exam 1	(Modules 1–4)	125
Exam 2	(Modules 5–8)	125
	Total	1000

B. Scale

A = 940–1000 A- = 920–939 B+ = 900–919 B = 860–899 B- = 840–859
 C+ = 820–839 C = 780–819 C- = 760–779 D+ = 740–759 D = 700–739
 D- = 680–699 F = 679 and below

C. Late Policy

1. Papers/projects:

- a. 5% deduction per day.
- b. No assignment will be accepted (7) days after original due date without written approval from the professor. This approval must be sought prior to assignment due date.

2. Discussion Boards

- a. No Discussion Board posts accepted after DB has closed without prior permission of professor. Late posts will not be factored into DB grade.
- b. If the professor grants students permission to submit posts after the DB has closed, the following requirements apply:
 - i. 5% deduction per day.
 - ii. No assignment will be accepted (7) days after original due date without written approval from the professor. This approval must be sought prior to assignment due date.

- iii. Professor may require alternate assignment if Discussion Board has closed. These assignments must be completed within terms of late policy. No assignment will be accepted (7) days after original due date.

3. Tests/Exams

- a. 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.
- b. 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.
- c. No test will be accepted (7) days after original due date without written approval from the professor. This approval must be sought prior to tests due date.

D. 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 his/her community.

E. 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.

F. 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.

COURSE SCHEDULE

COUN 687

Textbooks: Clinton & Langberg, *Quick-Reference Guide to Counseling Women* (2011).
DeMoss, *Becoming God's True Woman* (2008).
Kopala & Keitel, *Handbook of Counseling Women* (2003).

WEEK/ MODULE	READING & STUDY	ASSIGNMENTS	POINTS
1	Clinton & Langberg: ch. Roles of Women DeMoss: chs. 1–6 Kopala & Keitel: ch. 1 2 presentations	Course Requirements Checklist Class Introductions Research Project Topic Group DB Forum 1	0 0 0 50
2	Clinton & Langberg: chs. Divorce and Relationships with Men DeMoss: chs. 7 & 9 Kopala & Keitel: chs. 9 & 14 3 presentations 1 article	DB Forum 1	50
3	Clinton & Langberg: (select 3) chs. Aging, Grief & Loss, Infertility, Menopause, Miscarriage, Pregnancy, Singleness, and Single Parenting DeMoss: chs. 9–10 Kopala & Keitel: chs. 8, 16–18 2 presentations	Reflective Journal Assignment	125
4	Clinton & Langberg: chs. Self-Worth & Approval and Eating Disorders Kopala & Keitel: chs. 13 & 30 4 presentations 1 article	Group DB Forum 2 Exam 1	50 125
5	Clinton & Langberg: chs. Fear & Anxiety and Depression Kopala & Keitel: chs. 27– 28 5 presentations 1 article	DB Forum 2	50
6	Clinton & Langberg: chs. Child Sexual Abuse, Emotional Abuse, Physical Abuse, and Rape Kopala & Keitel: ch. 19 3 presentations 1 article	Research Project: Part A	225

WEEK/ MODULE	READING & STUDY	ASSIGNMENTS	POINTS
7	Clinton & Langberg: ch. Sex Addiction Kopala & Keitel: ch. 29 2 presentations 1 article	Group DB Forum 3 Research Project: Part B	50 100
8	Clinton & Langberg: ch. Strength in Conflict and Stress Kopala & Keitel: chs. 21–22 2 presentations	DB Forum 3 Exam 2	50 125
TOTAL			1000

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.