

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 617

THEORIES AND TECHNIQUES IN PASTORAL COUNSELING

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course introduces students to selected theories of counseling and psychotherapy. It involves an intensive counseling experience designed to enhance self-awareness, promote personality exploration, and provide case discussion and analysis. Fundamentals of the therapeutic relationship and essential skills are examined.

RATIONALE

This course addresses the need for students to have curricular experiences and demonstrate their knowledge in the common core area of “helping relationships.” The ability to integrate and apply an understanding of the theories and techniques to one’s personal and professional life is critical in pastoral counselor development.

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 RESOURCE

Hawkins, R., & Clinton, T. (2009). *The quick reference guide to biblical counseling*. Grand Rapids, MI: Baker Books. ISBN: 9780801072253.

IV. MEASURABLE LEARNING OUTCOMES

The departments learning outcomes are found below. Upon successful completion of this course, the student will be able to:

- A. Conceptualize the manner in which effective counseling proceeds from problem identification to problem resolution based on their understanding of themselves and counselor characteristics and behaviors that influence helping processes.
- B. Demonstrate essential interviewing and counseling skills so that they are able to develop therapeutic relationships with clients.
- C. Design, explain, and demonstrate rudimentary intervention strategies and successfully terminate counselor-client relationships.

- D. Conceptualize ethical and legal considerations regarding establishing and maintaining therapeutic relationships.
- E. Demonstrate the ability to explore personal issues and relate them to counseling as evidenced by completion of the pre-intensive work, the basic skills/intake self-evaluation forms completed during intensive week, and participation in the experiential activities during the intensive week.
- F. Demonstrate the ability to self-critique pastoral counseling work through appropriate and insightful self-reflection as evidenced by the satisfactory completion of the basic skills/intake self-evaluation forms completed during intensive week.

V. COURSE REQUIREMENTS AND ASSIGNMENTS:

- A. Textbook readings and lecture presentations
- 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 (4)

Discussion boards are collaborative learning experiences. Therefore, the student is required to create a thread in response to the provided prompt for each forum, and will also respond to at least 2 of their classmate's posts. The original thread should be at least 350 words and must demonstrate course-related knowledge, and must be supported by at least 2 sources, one of which must be in addition to the texts and presentations, as well as appropriate scriptures. Reply posts will be assigned in the week following the original post and should be at least 150 words apiece. Additional information is available in Course Content. (Relates to learning outcomes A, B, C, D).

- D. Movie Reviews

The student is to complete a movie review by watching a movie of his/her choosing that has a strong pastoral counseling theme. The student must then complete a 3 - 4 page critique of the movie as it relates to the topic of pastoral counseling (the page count does not include the title page). The student must pay particular attention to how the ideas presented in this movie might be used in pastoral counseling. This assignment must have a title page with the student's name, the course number, the instructor's name, the assignment number (Movie Review), and the date. The instructions for completing the Movie review are in the course content section of the course under Course Guides and Assignment Instructions

F. 4MAT Review

The student will complete a 4MAT review during the course of his/her study. The review will cover a book of the student's own choosing in the area of pastoral counseling. This assignment must have a title page with the student's name, the course number, the instructor's name, the assignment number (4MAT Review), and the date. The instructions for completing the 4MAT review are in the course content section of the course under Course Guides and Assignment Instructions.

G. Quizzes (8)

These quizzes are open-book/open-notes, covering the 15 chapters of Thomas, J. C., & Sosin, L. (2011). *Therapeutic expedition: Equipping the Christian counselor for the journey*. There will be 1 quiz covering 1–2 chapters for each module/week of the course course. (Relates to learning outcomes A, B, C, D).

VII. COURSE GRADING AND POLICIES

A. Points

Course Requirements Checklist	10
Discussion Board Forums (4 at 100 pts ea)	400
Movie Review	100
4MAT Review	100
Quizzes (8 at 50 pts ea)	400
Total	1010

B. Scale

A = 940–1010 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 = 0–679

C. Test/Exams

- a. For timed quizzes/tests/exams, students are required to complete the assignment within the assigned time limit.
- b. Students must take a quiz during the assigned module/week. A late submission will be accepted up to seven (7) days from the original due date; however, it will be penalized at 5% per day, cumulative.

D. Dual Relationships

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.

E. Limits of Confidentiality

In the event of a student's disclosure, either verbally, or in writing, of either 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 distance learning 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. Further information can be found at www.liberty.edu/disabilitysupport.

COURSE SCHEDULE

PACO 617

Textbooks: Hawkins & Clinton, *The New Christian Counselor* (2015).
Thomas & Sosin, *Therapeutic Expedition* (2011).

MODULE /WEEK	READING & STUDY	ASSIGNMENTS	POINTS
1	Thomas & Sosin: chs. 1–2	Course Requirements Checklist	10
		Class Introductions	0
		DB Forum 1 Thread	50
		Quiz 1	50
2	Hawkins & Clinton: chs. 1–2 Thomas & Sosin: chs. 3–4	DB Forum 1 Replies	50
		Quiz 2	50
3	Hawkins & Clinton: chs. 3–4 Thomas & Sosin: chs. 5–6	DB Forum 2 Thread	50
		Quiz 3	50
4	Hawkins & Clinton: chs. 5–6 Thomas & Sosin: chs. 7–8	DB Forum 2 Replies	50
		Movie Review	100
		Quiz 4	50
5	Hawkins & Clinton: chs. 7–8 Thomas & Sosin: chs. 9–10	DB Forum 3 Thread	50
		Quiz 5	50
6	Hawkins & Clinton: chs. 9–10 Thomas & Sosin: chs. 11–12	DB Forum 3 Replies	50
		4MAT Review	100
		Quiz 6	50
7	Hawkins & Clinton: chs. 11–12 Thomas & Sosin: chs. 13–14	DB Forum 4 Thread	50
		Quiz 7	50
8	Thomas & Sosin: ch. 15	DB Forum 4 Replies	50
		Quiz 8	50
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 (8) ends at 11:59 p.m. (ET) on **Friday**.