

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. 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. ADDITIONAL MATERIALS FOR LEARNING

- A. Computer with basic audio/video equipment
- B. Internet access (broadband recommended)
- C. Blackboard [recommended browsers](#)
- D. Microsoft Office
- E. APA Formatting Help

<http://ezproxy.liberty.edu/login?url=http://APAStyleCENTRAL.apa.org>

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 (2)

There are 2 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 & Sibcy 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 30 multiple-choice questions. Exams 1 and 3 will also include 6 short essay questions.

F. Interview

The student will choose a marital status and conduct an interview of an individual/couple asking at least 10 open-ended questions based upon readings/videos from the course. Afterwards, the student will write a 3-5 page paper including a reaction page. The paper will summarize the interview in a thoughtful, analytical manner including what the student has learned as a reaction page. An appendix of the interview transcript should be attached.

VI. COURSE GRADING AND POLICIES

A. Points

Course Requirements Checklist	10
Discussion Board Forums (2 at 75 pts ea)	150
Research Paper	
Topic, Preliminary Research, and Rationale	75
Title Page, Abstract, and Reference Page	75
Final Research Paper Submission	250
Exams (4)	
(2) 2 pts each ques./6 essays-5 pts.,	180
(2) 2 pts each ques.	120
Interview	150

Total 1010

B. Scale

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

C. Disability Assistance

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

If you have a complaint related to disability discrimination or an accommodation that was not provided, you may contact ODAS or the Office of Equity and Compliance by phone at (434) 592-4999 or by email at equityandcompliance@liberty.edu. Click to see a full copy of Liberty's [Discrimination, Harassment, and Sexual Misconduct Policy](#) or the [Student Disability Grievance Policy and Procedures](#).

COURSE SCHEDULE

CCOU 301

Textbooks: Balswick & Balswick, *The Family* (2014).
Clinton & Sibcy, *Why You Do the Things You Do* (2006).

MODULE/ WEEK	READING & STUDY	ASSIGNMENTS	POINTS
1	Clinton & Sibcy: chs. 1–5 1 presentation	Course Requirements Checklist Class Introductions DB Forum 1	10 0 75
2	Clinton & Sibcy: chs. 6–9 2 presentations	Exam 1	90
3	Clinton & Sibcy: chs. 10–12 1 presentation	Research Paper – Topic, Preliminary Research, and Rationale	75
4	Balswick & Balswick: chs. 1–5 1 presentation	Interview Exam 2	150 60
5	Balswick & Balswick: chs. 6–10 2 presentations	Research Paper – Title Page, Abstract, and Reference Page DB Forum 2	75 75
6	Balswick & Balswick: chs. 11–14 1 presentation	Exam 3	90
7	Balswick & Balswick: chs. 15–18 1 presentation	Research Paper – Final Research Paper Submission	250
8	Balswick & Balswick: chs. 19–20 2 presentations	Exam 4	60
TOTAL			1010

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.