

**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***

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### **LIFC 302**

### **MARRIAGE COACHING**

#### **COURSE DESCRIPTION**

An examination and analysis of professional coaching applications that serve marital relationship concerns. The course covers marital issues from a Christian worldview with special attention given to a biblical foundation of marriage coaching and differences between coaching and counseling models.

#### **RATIONALE**

As a basis for their work, marriage coaches should have a thorough understanding of coaching models, theory, and application. This understanding serves to heighten the coaches' effectiveness in formulating effective coaching strategies and in aiding in the delivery of advice in an efficient and timely manner.

#### **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 output equipment
- B. Internet access (broadband recommended)
- C. Blackboard [recommended browsers](#)
- D. Microsoft Office

#### **IV. MEASUREABLE LEARNING OUTCOMES**

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

- A. Examine and explain the contemporary issues addressed within the field of marriage coaching.
- B. Analyze the major theoretical models in marriage coaching and how they relate to the actual practice of coaching.
- C. Appraise marriage coaching and its applicability in the context of couples' lives.

- D. Compare and contrast marriage coaching with counseling and social work.
- E. Construct a framework from which marriage coaching services can be delivered.
- F. Analyze the difference between secular and Christian models of marriage coaching.

**I. COURSE REQUIREMENTS AND ASSIGNMENTS**

- A. Textbook readings and lecture presentations/notes

Regular readings will be assigned to allow the student to complete the reading of the required texts within the 8 modules/weeks allotted for the course. (MLO: A, B, C, D)

- 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 post 1 thread of 250–500 words and 2 replies of 150–250 words each for each forum. For each thread, the student must support his/her assertions with professional resources in APA format. Each reply must incorporate support from the course materials. (MLO: A, B, C, D, E, F)

- D. Article Reviews (2)

For each Article Review Assignment, the student will critically analyze an article, discussing the methods, results, and discussion of the article. Each paper will contain the student's review of an empirical research article published within the last 8 years with citation and reference of the article in current APA format following the sample provided. Each review must be 500–700 words. (MLO: A, B, C, D, E, F)

- E. Research Paper: Outline

The outline will include a title page, body outline, and reference page in current APA format. The reference page must include at least 6 empirical, peer-reviewed references. This assignment will prepare the student for the final paper. (MLO: A, B, C, D, E, F)

F. Research Paper: Final Draft

For this paper, the student will choose an issue from the list provided and write a 5-6-page paper (not including the title page, abstract, or reference page) addressing the issue or question. This assignment must strictly adhere to current APA format. This assignment will enable the student to explore an area of interest in the field of marriage coaching in an in-depth manner and provide the student with practice expressing his/her content knowledge in writing. The paper must include at least 6 relevant, empirical, peer-reviewed research sources (written no earlier than 2005), in addition to the course textbooks and the Bible. (MLO: A, B, C, D, E, F)

G. Quizzes (4)

The quizzes will cover the assigned reading. Each quiz will be open-book/open-note, contain 30–50 multiple-choice and true/false questions, and have a time limit of 1 hour and 30 minutes. (MLO: A, C, D)

## II. COURSE GRADING AND POLICIES

A. Points

Course Requirements Checklist	10
Discussion Board Forums (4 at 80 pts ea)	320
Article Reviews (2 at 100 pts ea)	200
Research Paper: Outline	100
Research Paper: Final Draft	200
Quizzes (4 at 45 pts ea)	180
<b>Total</b>	<b>1010</b>

B. Scale

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

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, with no test/exam being accepted seven (7) days after the original due date without written approval from the professor. Whenever possible, this approval must be sought prior to the test/exam 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 Accommodation Support (ODAS) at [LUOODAS@liberty.edu](mailto:LUOODAS@liberty.edu) to make arrangements for academic accommodations. Further information can be found at [www.liberty.edu/disabilitysupport](http://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](mailto: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***

### **LIFC 302**

Textbooks: Parrott & Parrott, *The Complete Guide to Marriage Mentoring* (2005).  
Williams & Williams, *Marriage Coaching* (2011).

<b>MODULE/ WEEK</b>	<b>READING &amp; STUDY</b>	<b>ASSIGNMENTS</b>	<b>POINTS</b>
<b>1</b>	Parrott & Parrott: chs. 1–4 Williams & Williams: chs. 1–5 1 presentation	Course Requirements Checklist Class Introductions DB Forum 1	10 0 80
<b>2</b>	Parrott & Parrott: chs. 5–7 1 presentation	Article Review 1 Quiz 1	100 45
<b>3</b>	Parrott & Parrott: chs. 8–11 1 presentation	Research Paper: Outline	100
<b>4</b>	1 presentation 1 lecture note	DB Forum 2 Quiz 2	80 45
<b>5</b>	Parrott & Parrott: chs. 12–14 Williams & Williams: chs. 6–8 1 presentation	DB Forum 3	80
<b>6</b>	1 presentation 1 lecture note	Research Paper: Final Draft Quiz 3	200 45
<b>7</b>	Parrott & Parrott: chs. 15–16 Williams & Williams: chs. 9–12 1 presentation	Article Review 2	100
<b>8</b>	Parrott & Parrott: chs. 17–18 1 presentation	DB Forum 4 Quiz 4	80 45
<b>TOTAL</b>			<b>1010</b>

DB = Discussion Board

**NOTE:** Each course module/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 module/week ends at 11:59 p.m. (ET) on **Friday**.