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 500
INTRODUCTION TO PASTORAL COUNSELING

COURSE DESCRIPTION

Introduces students to a solution-based model for short-term counseling that incorporates knowledge of and practice in facilitation skills, cognitive behavioral approaches, and biblical teaching.

RATIONALE

In today's world, people in our churches and in society at large are hurting. As people go outside their own families for help, 40% of Americans turn to a local clergy person first. Therefore, leaders in ministry need to be thoroughly equipped for the work of the counseling ministry. Since counseling should not be the primary ministry of pastors, it is imperative that what they do in counseling is done with efficiency and effectiveness.

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:
https://bookstore.mbsdirect.net/vbm/vb_home.php?FVCUSNO=1589&url=liberty.htm

III. ADDITIONAL MATERIALS FOR LEARNING

A.   Computer with basic audio/video output equipment

B.   Internet access (broadband recommended)

C.   Microsoft Office 365

D.   Reference Point Software (http://www.referencepointsoftware.com/). This is a highly recommended APA software available for purchase.

IV.   MEASURABLE LEARNING OUTCOMES

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

A.   Support assertions, arguments, and affirmations with appropriate content from the readings according to current APA formatting.

B.   Identify his/her experience with and current approach to pastoral counseling as well as expectations as a student counselor.

C. Describe the necessary interpersonal and pastoral counseling skills to facilitate efficiency and effectiveness in pastoral counseling.

D. Discuss resources essential to cultivating a context for change and for fostering resiliency in the change process.

E. Develop a research-based framework for professional identity and ethics suitable for a non-licensure context.

F. Create an overview of a solution-based, short-term pastoral counseling strategy.

G. Utilize strengths/competencies in partnership with the care-seeker to build a better future under the authority of Scripture and the overarching goal of becoming imitators of Christ.

H. Develop a strategy for getting the care-seeker committed to action.

I. Connect the care-seeker to appropriate "others" in the body of Christ for the purpose of furthering growth and development by fostering accountability to the local church.

J. Apply the distinctive feature(s) of a solution-based, short-term counseling strategy to a required case study.

V. **COURSE REQUIREMENTS AND ASSIGNMENTS**

A. Textbook readings and lecture presentations/notes

B. Course Requirements Checklist

After reading the Syllabus and Student Expectations, the student will complete the related checklist found in Week 1.

C. Discussion Board Forums (5)

In this course, discussion boards are collaborative, content-building learning experiences. Therefore, the student is required to provide a thread in response to the provided prompt for each forum. Each thread must be at least 450 words and demonstrate course-related knowledge. In addition to the thread, the student is required to reply to 1 other classmate's thread. Each reply must be at least 250 words and demonstrate course-related knowledge. (MLO: A, C, D, F, G, H)

D. Pastoral Counseling Reflection Paper

The student will write a 6-page paper in current APA format that focuses on his/her experience with pastoral counseling, current needs and expectations, and approach to pastoral counseling. The paper must include 1 reference from each of the assignment's required readings. (MLO: A, B)

E. Solving My People Puzzle: Part 1

The student will write a 6–8-page paper in current APA format that focuses on describing his/her relational style. The paper must include at least 1 reference from each of the assignment's required readings. (MLO: A, C)

F. Solving My People Puzzle: Part 2

The student will write a 4–6-page paper in current APA format that focuses on managing his/her relational style. The paper must include at least 1 reference from each of the assignment's required readings. (MLO: A, C, D)

G. Identity and Ethics Paper

The student will write a 4–6-page paper in current APA format. The student should briefly describe a research-based paradigm for biblical professionalism and identify a potential professional partnership, including but not limited to a support group(s), local association of peers, referral network, and credible certification/licensure agencies/organizations. The paper must include at least 1 reference from each of the assignment's required readings. (MLO: A, E)

H. Final Project

Based on the solution-based, short-term pastoral counseling model presented in the course, the student will apply the distinctive features of a solution-based, short-term strategy. In part, the project will integrate pertinent subject matter from previous learning activities, such as the steps in the Discussion Board Forums, and culminate in the final submission of the project. The paper will be 12–14 pages in current APA format. The paper must include at least 10 references. (MLO: A, C, D, G, H, I, J)

I. Exam

The Exam will cover the Reading & Study material for the first 4 modules/weeks. This exam will be open-book/open-notes, contain 36 multiple-choice, true/false, and essay questions, and have a time limit of 1 hour and 30 minutes. (MLO: A, C, D, F, H, I)

VI. COURSE GRADING AND POLICIES

A. Points

Course Requirements Checklist		10
Discussion Board Forums (5 at 90 pts ea)		450
Pastoral Counseling Reflection Paper		75
Solving My People Puzzle: Part 1		100
Solving My People Puzzle: Part 2		100
Identity and Ethics Paper		75
Final Project		100
Exam	(Modules 1–4)	100
	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. Style Guidelines

All assignments for this course are to be formatted in accordance with the latest edition of the APA-style manual (*Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association*). Supplemental writing aids are available via the Online Writing Center.

D. Extra Credit

No additional "for credit" assignments will be permitted beyond those given in the course requirements stated above.

E. Course Changes

Course requirements are subject to change by the administration of the University at any time with appropriate notice.

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 500

Textbooks: Carbonell, *How to Solve the People Puzzle* (2015).
Clinton & Hawkins, *The Quick Reference Guide to Biblical Counseling* (2009).
Johnson & Johnson, *The Pastor's Guide to Psychological Disorders and Treatments* (2014).
Kollar, *Solution-Focused Pastoral Counseling* (2011).
Petersen, *Why Don't We Listen Better?* (2015).

MODULE/ WEEK	READING & STUDY	ASSIGNMENTS	POINTS
1	Carbonell: intro; chs. 1, 7 Clinton & Hawkins: Intro (pp. 7-11); Anger; Death; Forgiveness; Grief & Loss; Suicide Johnson & Johnson: chs. 1–2, 7 Kollar: preface; chs. 1–3, 19 Petersen: chs. 1–3, 26-27 2 presentations 1 lecture note: Case Study 4 websites	Course Requirements Checklist Class Introductions Pastoral Counseling Reflection Paper	10 0 75
2	Carbonell: chs. 2–6, 8–9 Kollar: chs. 4–7 Petersen: chs. 4-25 3 presentations	Solving My People Puzzle: Part 1	100
3	Kollar: chs. 8–9, 17 1 presentation 1 lecture note	DB Forum 1 Solving My People Puzzle: Part 2	90 100
4	Kollar: chs. 10–11, 20 2 presentations 1 lecture note	DB Forum 2 Exam	90 100
5	Kollar: chs. 12–15 1 presentation 1 article	DB Forum 3	90
6	Johnson & Johnson: chs. 3–6, 8 Kollar: ch. 16 1 presentation 1 lecture note 3 websites	DB Forum 4 Identity and Ethics Paper	90 75

MODULE/ WEEK	READING & STUDY	ASSIGNMENTS	POINTS
7	Kollar: pp. 234–240 1 presentation	DB Forum 5	90
8	Kollar: pp. 241–245 1 presentation 1 article 2 websites	Final Project	100
		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 ends at 11:59 p.m. (ET) on Friday. **Make note that Friday is the hard date for Module/Week 8 assignments.** Final Grades will be posted within 5 days of term ending.