

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 506

INTEGRATION OF PSYCHOLOGY AND THEOLOGY

COURSE DESCRIPTION

The course introduces students to the process of pastoral counseling with a variety of religious clients, particularly religious clients who would define themselves as evangelical Christians. The course provides a systematic overview of Christian doctrines, a discussion of various theological viewpoints regarding those doctrines, and an examination of how psychological and theological concepts relate to each other.

RATIONALE

In order to practice Christian counseling, professional counselors must be able to articulate a Christian worldview and understand the way in which their worldview informs counseling theory and practice. Integration of Psychology and Theology provides the student with an overview of integration models as a theoretical and practical foundation for faith-based counseling.

I. PREREQUISITES

For information regarding prerequisites for this course, please refer to the [Academic Course Catalog](#).

II. REQUIRED RESOURCE PURCHASES

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 equipment
- B. Internet access (broadband recommended)
- C. Microsoft Office

IV. MEASURABLE LEARNING OUTCOMES

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

- A. Develop a working familiarity with five paradigms for integrating psychology, theology, and spirituality in the counseling process.
- B. Develop a personal theory of integrative counseling that includes a coherent rationale for the interdisciplinary application of psychological, theological, and spiritual principles.
- C. Demonstrate understanding of principles of multi-tasking and use of a counseling grid to address the holistic needs of clients.
- D. Demonstrate emerging competence in assessing client needs in an integrative pattern.
- E. Show emerging self-awareness as a counselor-in-training in terms of personal worldview, theology, and spirituality.

- F. Engage in intrapersonal integration and personal spiritual formation through readings and class interactions.
- G. Demonstrate competence in ethical issues related to integrative counseling practice.

V. COURSE REQUIREMENTS AND ASSIGNMENTS

- A. Textbook readings and lecture presentations/notes
- 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 (7)

Discussion boards are collaborative learning experiences. Therefore, the student will participate in 7 Discussion Board Forums that are to be completed in 2 stages. The student will post a thread in response to the presented discussion question. Each thread must be at least 200 words and demonstrate course-related knowledge. In addition to the thread, the student will also reply to 1 classmate’s thread. The reply must be at least 100 words. 4-MAT Book Reviews (2)

The student will write a book review for 2 of the 4 required textbooks for this course. 4-MAT Book Review 1 will cover the Nouwen textbook and 4-MAT Book Review 2 will cover the Ortberg textbook. Each review must be approximately 5 pages and double-spaced. Use of current APA format, correct grammar, and correct spelling is required. Each review will be submitted via SafeAssign.

- D. Reflection Essay

The student will write a 250–300-word essay in which a detailed plan for personal self-care is developed. The student must incorporate at least 2 biblical principles and cite at least 2 Bible references. The student must also interact with the literature by using at least 3 sources (books, online articles, etc.). Use of current APA format, correct grammar, and correct spelling is required. The essay will be submitted via SafeAssign.

- E. Exams (2)

The student will take 1 Midterm Exam and 1 Final Exam. Both exams will consist of 50 multiple-choice questions. The Midterm exam covers the material from Modules/Weeks 1–4. The Final exam covers the material from Modules/Weeks 5–8. Each exam is open-book/open-notes and has a time limit of 1 hour and 30 minutes.

VI. COURSE GRADING AND POLICIES

- A. Points

Course Requirements Checklist		10
Discussion Board Forums (7 at 50 pts ea)		350
4-MAT Book Reviews (2 at 100 pts ea)		200
Reflection Essay		50
Mid-term Exam	(Modules 1–4)	200
Final Exam	(Modules 5–8)	200
	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. Tests/Exams

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.

Students must take the exam during the assigned module/week. Late submissions will be penalized at 5% per day, cumulative, with no text/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.

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 their 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. Further information can be found at www.liberty.edu/disabilitysupport.

COURSE SCHEDULE

PACO 506

Textbooks: Entwistle, *Integrative Approaches to Psychology and Christianity* (2015).
 McMinn, *Psychology, Theology, and Spirituality in Christian Counseling* (2011).
 Nouwen, *Reaching Out: The Three Movements of the Spiritual Life* (1975).
 Ortberg, *The Life You've Always Wanted* (2002).

MODULE/ WEEK	READING & STUDY	ASSIGNMENTS	POINTS
1	Entwistle: chs. 1–8 4 presentations	Course Requirements Checklist Class Introductions DB Forum 1	10 0 50
2	Entwistle: chs. 9–13 4 presentations	DB Forum 2	50
3	Nouwen: pp. 3–162 3 presentations	DB Forum 3 Nouwen 4-MAT Book Review	50 100
4	McMinn: chs. 1–2 2 presentations 1 lecture note	DB Forum 4 Midterm Exam	50 200
5	McMinn: chs. 3–4 Ortberg: pp. 11–156 3 presentations	DB Forum 5	50
6	McMinn: chs. 5–6 Ortberg: pp. 157–221 3 presentations	DB Forum 6 Ortberg 4-MAT Book Review	50 100
7	McMinn: chs. 7–8, Conclusion 2 presentations	DB Forum 7	50
8	1 presentation	Reflection Essay Final Exam	50 200
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**.