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 509
SPIRITUAL FORMATION IN PASTORAL COUNSELING

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course prepares students to counsel 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 establish a framework for spiritual formation in pastoral counseling, students must be able to describe and defend a research-based definition of spiritual formation. This definition lays the foundation for the discovery and development of life-changing wisdom strategies for students’ personal and professional growth and 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:

III. ADDITIONAL MATERIALS FOR LEARNING

A. Computer with basic audio/video output equipment
B. Internet access (broadband recommended)
C. Microsoft Office
   (Office 365 is available at a special discount to LU students.)
D. Reference Point Software or PERRLA for APA supports APA research/writing guidelines. Software may be purchased through the following links:
   • http://www.referencepointsoftware.com/about-us/ (last checked 09/08/17)
   • https://www.perrla.com/APADetails.aspx (last checked 09/08/17)
E. Webex, Skype for Business, Jing, and Office Mix (free for all Liberty University students):
   • How to join a Webex meeting:
     http://www.liberty.edu/ittemp/index.cfm?PID=30889
• How to install Skype for Business through Office 365: http://www.liberty.edu/ittemp/index.cfm?PID=30889
F. Jing by TechSmith: https://www.techsmith.com/jing.html
G. Office Mix add-in for MS Power Point: https://mix.office.com/en-us/Home

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 guidelines. (Measured by assignments V. C-E)
B. Define and discuss words/phrases used in his/her research-based definition of spiritual formation. (Measured by assignment V. D)
C. Compare his/her experience and/or current approach to spiritual formation with a research-based definition of spiritual formation. (Measured by assignment V. D)
D. Assess and evaluate strengths and weaknesses in the development and management of his/her personality patterns, as well as in his/her current approach to spiritual formation (Measured by assignment V. C, D, E)
E. Choose, arrange, and explain essential elements required for personal growth and development and the practice of pastoral counseling. (Measured by assignments V. D, E)
F. Describe and apply truths, insights, and techniques gleaned from assigned readings, assessments, lectures, pertinent research, and the Bible to his/her personal growth and development and practice of pastoral counseling. (Measured by assignments V. C-E)

V. COURSE REQUIREMENTS AND ASSIGNMENTS

A. Textbook readings, assessments, web-engagements, and lecture presentations/notes.
   It would be wise to back up course work on an external source. If your computer crashes, it is next to impossible to rebuild lost files. Unless otherwise stated, all assignments must be submitted through Blackboard. Do not submit assignments through email unless requested by Professor. See Course Schedule for more details.

B. Course Requirements Checklist
   After reading Course Guides and Student Expectations, the student will complete the related checklist found in Week 1>Assignments.

C. Research-based interactive forums are employed to resource the collaborative, cumulative learning experience:
   ▪ Self-Report Tasks (4).

   Four student self-reports are assessed: 1) subscription to Question & Answer Center, 2) completion of a narrated Class Introduction (via Jing, Office Mix, or other audio/video software), 3) completion of Week 1 readings, and 4)
completion of 2 self-administered assessments. Further details are provided in the Question and Answer Center, Class Introduction forum, and Course Content>Assignment Instructions. See Course Schedule for due dates.

- **Subject Matter Conversation(s).**

  Subject Matter Conversations (SMC) are meaningfully developed via Weekly SnapShots and Webex or Skype for Business forums. For example, as part of the collaborative, cumulative learning process, the first SMC will focus on getting acquainted and acclimated.

  In the event a Subject Matter Conversation is missed due to extenuating circumstances or technical issues, the SMC will be assessed through a substantive response to the recorded SMC via Question & Answer Center. Specific instructions are provided in Assignment Instructions. Review dress code expectation—Syllabus VI. F. Dress Code. See Course Schedule for dates and times.

D. **Meaning-Making Forums (6)**

Due to the nature of these collaborative, cumulative research-based forums, the meaning-making forums will have a “paper-like feel” (i.e. more is expected than in a typical discussion-based forum). In this respect, each student will write a substantive research-based thread in response to prompts in each forum.

Each thread must be at least 450 words and noticeably integrate course-related knowledge. In the same week/module, the student will write a substantive research-based reply via the forum’s QUOTE feature to 1 other classmate’s threads. Each reply must noticeably integrate course related knowledge and be at least 150 words.

Since these forums inform the cumulative learning experience, thoughtful integration of insights must be noticeably supported from the readings and/or assessments, pertinent research, and when appropriate, the Bible.

Abridged APA parenthetical citations should be used for required resources in each post; complete citations and References should be used for secondary resources in each post. All posts must be written with clarity and conciseness, without spelling, grammar, and word choice errors, and adhere to content-building forum instructions and rubric. Specific instructions are provided in the assignment folder of the course. See Course Schedule for due dates.

E. **Practical Book Reviews (2)**

The student will write 2 book reviews; see Assignment Instructions. Practical Book Review 1 will cover the Ortberg text and Practical Book Review 2 will cover the Hess & Arnold text. The body of each review will be at least 4 pages, double-spaced, and typed in 12 pt Times New Roman font. Use of current APA format, correct grammar, and correct spelling is required. See Course Schedule for due dates.

VI. **COURSE GRADING AND POLICIES**
**A. Points**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Requirement</th>
<th>Points</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Course Requirements Checklist</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Self-Report Tasks (4 @ 10, 30, 30)</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Subject Matter Conversations (2 @ 50 pts ea.)</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Meaning-Making Forums (6 @ 100 pts ea)</td>
<td>600</td>
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<tr>
<td>Practical Book Reviews (2 @ 100 pts ea)</td>
<td>200</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>1010</strong></td>
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</tbody>
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**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](http://www.liberty.edu/disabilitysupport).

**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](http://www.liberty.edu/disabilitysupport).
## Course Schedule

**PACO 509 Spiritual Formation in Pastoral Counseling**

**Textbooks:**
- Bradberry & Greaves (2009)
- Epperly, *A Center in the Cyclone* (2014)
- Issler, *Living into the Life of Jesus* (2012)
- Ortberg, *The Me I Want to Be* (2014)

**Self-Administered Assessments:**
- Taking Flight DISC Profile code
- Emotional Intelligence Appraisal/Talent Smart EI code

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Module/Week</th>
<th>Reading &amp; Study</th>
<th>Assignments</th>
<th>Points</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| **1** | Weekly SnapShot Announcement  
1 presentation  
Pettit: Forward, chs. 1, 9,  
Conclusion/take careful notes  
Ortberg – entire/take notes  
1 article | Course Requirements Checklist/W  
**Subject Matter Conversation 1/(TBD)**  
Self-Report Tasks 1-3 (QAC subscription/W,  
narrated introduction/W,  
and completion of Week 1 readings/S) | 10  
50  
10  
30  
30 |
| **2** | Weekly SnapShot Announcement  
2 presentations  
1 website: Ask the Counselor  
Pettit: ch. 2/take notes  
2 articles  
Hess & Arnold - entire | MMF 1: Thread/F; Reply/S  
Practical Book Review 1 – Ortberg/S | 100  
100 |
| **3** | Weekly SnapShot Announcement  
Issler – entire/take notes  
Pettit: chs. 3-4/take notes  
Rosenberg & Silvert/review after completing DISC assessment  
1 article (Embodied Cognition)  
1 presentation | Self-Report Task 4  
Practical Book Review 2 – Hess & Arnold/S | 30  
100 |
| **4** | Weekly SnapShot Announcement  
Pettit: chs. 5-6/take notes  
Epperly: chs. 1-5/take notes  
2 Presentations | MMF 2: Thread/F; Reply/S | 100 |
| **5** | Weekly SnapShot Announcement  
Pettit: chs. 7,8,10/take notes  
Epperly: chs. 6-12/take notes | **Subject Matter Conversation 2/(TBD)**  
MMF 3: Thread/F; Reply/S | 50  
100 |
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1 Presentations</td>
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<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Weekly SnapShot Announcement Review Readings, Assessments, and Assignments</td>
<td>MMF 4: Thread/F; Reply/S</td>
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<td>7</td>
<td>Weekly SnapShot Announcement Review Readings, Assessments, and Assignments</td>
<td>MMF 5: Thread/F; Reply/S</td>
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<td>100</td>
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<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Weekly SnapShot Announcement 4 Presentations 1 website: Serious Leisure/take notes</td>
<td>MMF 6: Thread/W; Reply/F</td>
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<td>100</td>
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<td><strong>TOTAL</strong></td>
<td><strong>1010</strong></td>
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</table>

Weekday Abbreviations: S, M, T, W, TR, F, SA  
MMF: Meaning-Making Forum; QAC = Question & Answer Center  
**Subject Matter Conversations (TBA via Weekly SnapShots, Webex, Skype, or recorded link)**

**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.** Assignment feedback is usually turned around within 5 days of submission deadline. Late assignment feedback is usually turned around within 5 days of late submission date. Final Grades are posted within 5 days of end of term.