

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

PSYC 520

PSYCHOLOGY AND CHRISTIANITY

COURSE DESCRIPTION

Exploration of the relationship between psychological science and Christian faith. Topics include philosophical foundations and models of conceptualizing the relationship between the disciplines.

RATIONALE

One's view of the relationship between psychology and the Christian faith will guide one's practice of psychology, both professionally and personally. For the student to be an informed Christian practitioner of psychology in its varied forms, he or she should be able to articulate a coherent view of the relationship between psychology and Christianity. This course will help the student to develop and articulate a model of the relationship between his or her faith and the discipline of psychology.

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. MEASURABLE LEARNING OUTCOMES

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

- A. Describe the importance of epistemological issues to the relationship between faith and psychology.
- B. Describe the various approaches to the relationship between faith and psychology.
- C. Evaluate the strengths and weaknesses of various models of integration.

- D. Apply theoretical approaches to integration to real life situations.

V. COURSE REQUIREMENTS AND ASSIGNMENTS

- A. Textbook readings

- 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 create a thread in response to the provided prompt for each forum. You must support your assertions with at least 3 citations in current APA format. Each thread must be at least 500 words and demonstrate course-related knowledge. In addition to the thread, the student is required to reply to at least 1 other classmate's thread. Each reply must be at least 300 words and must be supported by at least 2 citations in current APA format. You may use the course textbooks, scholarly articles, and the Bible as sources.

- D. Reflection

The student will write a double-spaced reflection paper of at least 2 pages on how he or she currently understands the relationship between Christianity and psychological science.

- E. 4-MAT Review Paper

The student will write a 4-page review paper covering the [McMinn](#) text. The 4-MAT review system is a way of responding to readings that requires the learner to interact with new ideas on several levels.

- F. Integration Paper

The student will write an Integration Paper of at least 5 pages in current APA format that focuses on his or her *current* perception of the relationship between psychological science and Christian faith. The student will also discuss how their view has changed (if any) from the first day of class. The paper must cite the course textbooks and the Bible.

- G. Integration Presentation

The student will create a PowerPoint (or Prezi) presentation that could be used to educate professionals both in academia and in the Church with regards to the various conceptualizations of integration of Christianity and Psychology. The presentation should include a title slide, at least 15 slides of "body" and a slide including references, in current APA format. These presentations will be submitted to the instructor for grading purposes, as well as, posted (on the Discussion Board page) so other classmates can see your work and comment.

H. Exams (4)

Each exam will cover assigned readings and presentations and is open-book/open-notes, containing 30 multiple-choice questions and 1 essay question. Each exam will have a 1-hour and 30-minute time limit.

Exam 1 covers material (readings) from Modules 1 and 2.

Exam 2 covers material (readings) from Modules 3 and 4.

Exam 3 covers material (readings) from Module 5

Exam 4 covers material (readings) from Modules 7 and 8

VI. COURSE GRADING AND POLICIES

A. Points

Course Requirements Checklist		10
Discussion Board Forums (4 at 60 pts each)		240
Reflection		70
4-MAT Review Paper		100
Integration Paper		150
Integration Presentation		100
Exams (4 at 85 pts ea.)	(Modules 2, 4, 5, 8)	340
	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. 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

PSYC 520

Textbooks: Entwistle, *Integrative Approaches to Psychology and Christianity* (2015).
 Johnson, *Psychology and Christianity: Five Views* (2010).
 McMinn, *Psychology, Theology, and Spirituality in Christian Counseling* (2011).

MODULE/ WEEK	READING & STUDY	ASSIGNMENTS	POINTS
1	Entwistle: Introduction, chs. 1–3 Johnson: ch. 1 McMinn: chs. 1–2	Course Requirements Checklist Class Introductions Reflection	10 0 70
2	Entwistle: chs. 4–5 McMinn: chs. 3–5	DB Forum 1 Exam 1	60 85
3	Entwistle: chs. 6–7 McMinn: chs. 6–8	4-MAT Review Paper	100
4	Entwistle: chs. 8–10	DB Forum 2 Exam 2	60 85
5	Entwistle: ch. 10 Johnson: chs. 2, 4, 6	DB Forum 3 Exam 3	60 85
6	Entwistle: ch. 11 Johnson: chs. 3, 5	Integration Presentation Assignment	100
7	Entwistle: ch. 12	Integration Paper DB Forum 4	150 60
8	Entwistle: ch. 13 Johnson: ch. 7	Exam 4	85
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**.