

**Birmingham Theological Seminary
2200 Briarwood Way
Birmingham, Alabama 35243
205-776-5650**

Fall 2010
Introduction to Biblical Counseling BC7501
Professor: Dr. Luis Orteza, MAR, M.DIV, MS, D. Min.
Class Hours: 2

Cell Phone: 205-307-9542
Email: uorteza@bellsouth.net

COURSE PURPOSE

The purpose of this course is to lay down the foundation upon which the student will be able to develop his/her Biblical approach to solving the problems of living. For the student earning a Master of Arts in Biblical Counseling, the course will outline the broad parameters of Biblical Counseling which will be particularized throughout the program. For the non-counseling major, this course provides a basic framework upon which a growing understanding of counseling can be built within the context of his or her ministry.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

1. The student will be able to define Biblical Counseling.
2. The student will be able to delineate the presuppositional nature of Biblical Counseling.
3. The student will be able to differentiate Biblical Counseling from secular counseling and a Christian integrationist perspective.
4. The student will be able to articulate a Biblical Methodology enabling her/him to begin to conduct responsible biblical counseling.

COURSE TEXTS

Required Texts:

*Adams, Jay E. **Competent to Counsel.***
*MacArthur, Jr. John F. & Mack, Wayne A. **Introduction to Biblical Counseling***
*Powlison, David **The Biblical Counseling Movement***

Collateral Texts:

*Eyrich, Howard E. & Hinson, Bill **Totally Sufficient***

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

1. Reading assignments (see schedule)
2. Interview 10 Christians using the attached questionnaire. Write a five-page paper summarizing the results and your response to the results. (Briarwood members, please use no more than three Briarwood people in your survey). Your paper should also include a chart displaying your results.
3. Read two assigned chapters from *Power Religion* (in the back of your syllabus) and write a two-page response to each.
4. Mid-term over Adams' *Competent to Counsel and The Biblical Counseling Movement*
5. Between week 6 and end of semester, read and write a two to three page response to two (choose 2) articles in MacArthur's and Mack's book *Intro to Biblical Counseling part II*.
6. By the end of the semester, read the rest of MacArthur's book
7. Final exam over lecture material and readings

COURSE GRADING

1. Mid-term 25% (over Adams and Powlison)
2. Five papers each count 10% (total 50%)
 - a. 2 articles from MacArthur's book
 - b. *Power Religion* Chapter 8 – Integration or Inundation? (David Powlison)
 - c. *Power Religion* Chapter 9- Codependency and the Cult of Self (Edward Welch).
 - e. *Survey Response*
3. Final Exam 25%

All course materials must be submitted by the last day of class. Thereafter, course materials may be submitted for up to six (6) weeks after the end of the semester directly to the office of the Registrar with the permission of the professor. If a student submits course materials after the end of the semester but within the six (6) weeks grace period, the student's grade will be lowered by one letter grade. The course materials will not be accepted after the six (6) week grace period and a failing grade will be posted to the student's transcript.

READING ASSIGNMENTS AND LECTURES
2010

September 7

No reading assigned

Due September 14, 2010

Adams pp. 1-50

Powlison pp. 1-16

Due September 21, 2010

Adams pp. 51-100

Powlison pp. 21-45

Due September 28, 2010

Adams pp.101-150

Powlison pp. 51-71

Due October 5, 2010 ?

Adams pp. 151-200

Powlison 75-90

No classes week of October 18-22, 2010

Adams pp. 201-251

Powlison 95-139

Due October 26, 2010

Adams pp.252-270

Powlison pp. 143-193

Due November 2, 2010

Powlison pp. 201-269

Lecture first hour /Adams & Powlison completed by this time

MID-TERM second hour

Due November 9, 2010

Complete reading the articles from MacArthur's book and response papers

Due November 16, 2010

Survey response

Due November 23, 2010

Power Religion –Chapter 8 by David Powlison

Due November 30,2010

Power Religion- Chapter 9 by Ed Welch

December 7, 2010

Class Discussion

Final

