



Gordon-Conwell Theological Seminary-Boston
The Center for Urban Ministerial Education-CUME
PC 521 Introduction to Pastoral Counseling
Class hours: Thursday @ 7:00PM-10:00PM
Instructor: Dr. Carlot D. Celestin
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Course Description

This class is an introduction to pastoral counseling. It provides a paradigm from which students will study multiple causes and contexts of behavior. It focuses on the general principles of wholeness, and relationships. The course evaluates and integrates various theoretical stances that were once considered irreconcilable with biblical or theological concepts of pastoral counseling. It focuses on the ethical issues faced by churches, for example, abortion, adultery, substance abuse, death and dying, intrafamilial conflicts and divorce, sexual addictions, domestic abuse and suicide.

Course goal

The goal of this class is to provide students with the basic preparation they need for the complex ministerial task they encounter in the context of the urban church. It aims is to equip the student to develop an understanding and appreciation for major contemporary theoretical formulations and to critique these theories on the basis of biblical and/or theological understanding.

Course objective

Upon the completion of this semester, students who faithfully attend to the requirements of the class will be able:

1. To understand the requirements of the law in mental health for professionals.
2. To know how to apply the ethical standards and codes in the practice of counseling
3. To learn about the professional issues in the practice of counseling and how faith and ethics, law and ethics, psychology and faith, psychology and ethics intertwine.
4. To conduct counseling session without perplexities.

Course Correlation

Students are expected to read critically the source materials summarized in the text, paying particular attention to basic assumptions and constructs in order to understand the methodologies derived from them. Students are expected to read from a variety of sources to develop an adequate understanding of basic pastoral counseling.

Required Course Textbooks

1. Sanders, K. Randolph. (1997). *Christian Counseling Ethics: A Handbook for Therapists, Pastors, and Counselors*. Downers, Grove: IVP Academy.
2. Miller, William R. and Jackson, Kathleen A. (2010). (2nd ed.). *Practical Psychology for Pastors*. Englewood, New Jersey: Prentice-Hall Inc.
3. Howard Clinebell (1984). *Basic Types of Pastoral Care and Counseling: Resources for the Ministry of Healing and Growth*. Nashville: Abingdon Press.
4. Ian F. Jones. (2006). *The Counsel of Heaven on Earth*. Nashville, TN: H&B.



Recommended Resources for the Final Exam

- American Psychological Association Ethics Code (Effective June 1, 2003)
<http://www.apa.org/ethics/>
- Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996 Public Law 104-191 (HIPAA) <http://www.hhs.gov/ocr/hipaa/> or www.hipaadvisory.com
- Massachusetts General Laws (MGL): www.Massachusettsgenerallaws.com
 - Chapter 13, Sections 88-90—Creation of Board of Registration of Allied Mental Health and Human Services Professionals
 - Chapter 19A—Elder abuse and protection
 - Chapter 19C—Disabled persons abuse and protection
 - Chapter 119—Protection of children (section 51A—reports)
 - Chapter 112 Section 12CC—Inspection of records
 - Ch. 112, Sections 61-65, 163-172-Licensing provisions for registration of allied
 - Chapter 123A—Care, treatment, and rehabilitation of sexually dangerous persons

Class requirements

1. *Reading Log - Reading Log*- the reading log is a tally of material read for this class. **Due a week from the last day of class. Late work will not be accepted.**

Grading criteria for the reading assignments

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|--------------------|--------------------|
| a. 2000 Pages =7% | c. 1200 Pages = 3% |
| b. 1600 Pages = 5% | d. 800 Pages = 1% |
2. **Students** will write 2 **Critical Summaries of an** (ethical case study) which describes an actual ethical dilemma the student has experienced in his pastoral experience. This summary must include a model or models and the application of the model or models that the student chooses to follow. The student will also include all possible courses of action regarding the dilemma and the consequences of choice (s), if any. Student must be prepared to present this summary to the class for discussion and interaction. The instructor will discuss the assigned dates for each student's presentation.
 3. Student will submit a confidential reflection paper (1 page double space) in each class reporting on his or her emotional reaction to the previous class and course material.
 4. Students must write a bibliographical essay to discuss the focal point of each textbook assigned for this class (Not to exceed 1 page double space for each book or resource). This discussion must accomplish the following goals:
 - a. Explain the significance of the topic for readers
 - b. Identify and discuss the most important perspectives about the topic. The key is to make clear what you find useful about the resources, or what you think others will find useful about the resources. The best way to do that is to categorize the resources in some way and then discuss their individual merits. 10 pages maximum.
 5. Final exam- based on your familiarity with the recommended resources

**Grading Scale**

1. Log 7%
2. 2 Critical Summaries 15% each = 30%
3. Reflection paper 1 x 13 = 13%
4. Bibliographical Essay 30%
5. Final exam = 20% (see the recommended resources)

Course Outline

2/2	Embracing our Ethical Mandate -----→ The present challenge of Pastoral Care and Counseling -----→ The Pastor as counselor/four phases of counseling-----→ Where do we start? -----→	Sanders, 1 Clinebell, 1 Miller, 1-2 Jones, 1
2/9	Psychotherapy and Christian Ethics -----→ A Holistic Liberation Growth Model of Pastoral Care + Counseling Before beginning: some practical issues -----→ Creation: The starting place for Biblical Christian Counseling -→	Sanders, 2 Clinebell, 2 Miller, 3-4 Jones, 2
2/16	Essential Elements for Ethical Counsel -----→ Mission, Biblical Bases + Uniqueness of Pastoral Care + Counseling Not listening and Listening -----→ Lostness: The Human Location -----→	Sanders, 3 Clinebell, 3 Miller, 4-5 Jones, 3
2/23 Week Off	Qualifications of the Christian Mental Health Professional ---→ The Foundation of All Types of Caring and Counseling -----→ Perspective and Personality Theory -----→ Characteristics of Biblical Christian Counseling	Sanders, 4 Clinebell, 4 Miller, 6 Jones, 4
3/1	Pastors who counsel -----→ Facilitating Spiritual Wholeness: The Heart of Pastoral Care + Counseling Perspective+Personality Theory/Getting Organized: four helpful questions The Guiding Commandment in Biblical Christian Counseling	Sanders, 5 Clinebell, 5 Miller, 7 Jones, 5
3/8	Sexual Misconduct and the Abuse of Power-----→ Counseling on Ethical, Values and Meaning Issues -----→ The Process of choice/confusion reduction and change-----→ Jesus the Messiah: The Counselor of Heaven and Earth	Sanders, 6 Clinebell, 6 Miller, 8-10 Jones, 6
3/15	Christian Responses to the Unethical Healer -----→ Supportive Care and Counseling -----→ Self-change skills -----→ Communication and Biblical Counseling	Sanders, 7 Clinebell, 7 Miller, 11 Jones, 7
3/22	Ethics in Marital Therapy and Premarital Counseling -----→ Crisis Care and Counseling -----→ Mood and Depression -----→ Extracting the Precious from the Worthless	Sanders, 8 Clinebell, 8 Miller, 12 Jones, 8
3/29 Week Off	The Homosexual Client -----→ Bereavement Care and Counseling -----→ Suicide/Stress and Anxiety -----→ The Holy Spirit and the Spiritual Gifts in Biblical Christian Counseling	Sanders, 9 Clinebell, 9 Miller, 13-4 Jones, 9
	The Child Client -----→	Sanders, 10



4/5	Marriage Enrichment and Marriage Counseling -----> Anger and Aggression -----> Biblical Traits and the Spiritual Disciplines in Counseling	Clinebel,10 Miller, 15 Jones, 10
4/12	Clients with Chronic Conditions -----> Family Enrichment and Counseling -----> The Addictive Behaviors-----> Establishing the Location of Counselors	Sanders, 11 Clinebel,11 Miller, 16 Jones, 11
4/19	Deprogramming-----> Referral Counseling-----> Psychosis: Major Mental Disorder----->	Sanders, 12 Clinebel,12 Miller, 17
4/26	Relationship Counseling/termination & referral/building resources	Miller,18-2

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