ADVANCED CHRISTIAN COUNSELING MODELS AND PRACTICE
CO850
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PURPOSE:
This course is designed to facilitate graduating students’ synthesis and culmination of their coursework and clinical experiences. Students will reflect upon, demonstrate competency in and gain exposure to advanced therapeutic techniques. Students will also write a final paper of their personal philosophy of integration and how this philosophy impacts their counseling endeavors.

OBJECTIVES:

- Critique existing models and discuss current issues in integration as well as practical dilemmas faced by Christian counselors practicing within the larger secular culture
- Articulate beliefs regarding specific doctrinal statements and how said beliefs influence their counseling ministry
- Demonstrate familiarity with and competency in chosen modality, clinical skills and case conceptualization
- Gain additional training in chosen modality as well as feedback modality’s theory and technique implementation
- Synthesize coursework, clinical experiences and theological tenants into a final personal philosophy of integration document

COURSE REQUIREMENTS:

1. Required Reading:
   b. Additional journal articles will be assigned as well as reading in the student’s chosen counseling modality
      (Refer to final pages of syllabus for recommended reading resources)
2. Written Assignments:
   a. Series of six three-page papers
      Each of these papers will include a summary of your understanding of the following doctrines covered in TH 501 and 502 and how they specifically relate to and impact your own counseling theory and practice:
      - The doctrine of God and Biblical anthropology.
        o Due: First weekend of the course
      - Revelation and pneumatology
        o Due: Second weekend
      - Harmartiology and Sanctification
        o Due: Third weekend
   
   b. Reflective exercise
      Students will reflect on their own theological/spiritual, clinical and intra/interpersonal experiences during seminary and how those experiences have shaped their work as a counselor.
      Due: Friday, March 16
   
   c. Final Philosophy of Integration Paper
      Students will write a final paper that reflects and incorporates the three following components:
      i. A broad view of the student’s understanding of theology as related to counseling, utilizing but not limited to the above three papers.
      ii. Their own model of counseling (basis of practice), integration of theology with this model, as illustrated with a current or recently terminated case incorporating the following information:
         - Identifying information
         - Reason for referral
         - Presenting problem/s
         - Psychospiritual and psychosocial dynamics
         - Five axial diagnosis
         - Modality utilized and corresponding interventions
         - Termination/Resolution
         - Rationale for utilizing chosen modality, including client and counselor characteristics
      iii. Length of the paper should be approximately 15-20 pages, double-spaced written in APA style, with references as appropriate.

3. Attendance:
   Class will meet on Fridays from 6:30 to 9:30 and Saturdays from 8:30 to 4:30 on the following weekends: February 17-18; March 16-17; April 20-21. Attendance and full participation is expected during all class meetings. If you
miss up to three hours of class for any reason, you can either choose to 1. Have five points deducted from your final course grade or 2. Submit an annotation for an additional 500 pages of reading pertaining to course content as well as making up any pertinent assignments related to missed content to be decided by professor.

**EVALUATION:**

*Theology and Counseling* integration papers (10% each): 60%
Reflective Exercise: 10%
Final *Philosophy of Integration* paper: 30%
Proposed Agenda

Each weekend, we will discuss the two doctrines addressed in the paper due that weekend

First weekend:
- Discuss first assignment
- Critiquing models and methods of integration
- Discuss current issues and advances in integration
- Professional development issues (licensing, insurance panels, creating a CV, obtaining employment, etc.)

Second weekend:
- Discuss second assignment
- Advanced clinical issues
- Each student will submit a transcription of one session of a current client, and come prepared to present this clinical material. Transcription will be a verbatim transcript of full session. There should be evidence that interventions are congruent with stated modality. Transcript should also include evidence of fundamental counseling skills, such as reflective listening and empathic attunement. Transcription should reflect a clinical experience that is relevant to the discussion of integration.
- If applicable, student should also present tangible therapeutic artifacts. For example,
  - Child client’s art work for Play Therapy
  - Activity Scheduling worksheet for Behavior Therapy
  - Thought Records worksheet for Cognitive Therapy
  - Curriculum created and utilized in psychoeducational group therapy
  - Mindfulness exercises used in Dialectical Behavior Therapy
- Student will be asked to consider and receive feedback regarding
  - Effectiveness of modality
  - Other outcomes of therapy
  - Other modalities appropriate for student’s client or population served
  - Fit between student’s style/ability/temperament and model’s techniques/theories

Third weekend:
Discuss third assignment
Addressing specific issues related to Christian counseling in various contexts.
For example:
- Use of prayer
- Psychosis versus demonization
- Christian values in the context of secular institutions, professional organizations and clients with various faith backgrounds
- The use of faith and Christian community as resources for the healing process
Reading resources for integration


Reading resources for counseling modalities


