PC511: Pastoral Counseling with Dr. Raymond Pendleton and Dr. Pablo Polischuk

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Snapshot of Course Requirements
PC511 requires timely completion of the following five course requirements:
1. Required Reading - 15% of your final grade
2. Papers - Each paper will be 25% of your final grade
3. Counseling Practicum and Case Study Responses - 35% of your final grade
4. Interactivity (required for course grade to be submitted to registration office)
5. Online Course Checkout/Reading Report (after you have finished all course requirements above)

Required Reading
1. Textbook

The textbook for the course is William R. Miller's Practical Psychology for Pastors (Englewood, NJ: Prentice-Hall Inc., 2010) (ISBN-13: 978-1608996131). This book provides a foundation for pastoral counseling and is a volume which should be read in its entirety. This is especially important if you have no personal background in psychology.

2. Reading Log

In order to develop a solid background in Pastoral Counseling, you are expected to read a variety of materials to supplement the textbook reading. Books may be chosen from the bibliography here, or they may be selected by the student as long as they fall into the several categories which are indicated in the bibliography. In addition to books, other resources may also be utilized (e.g. films, audio and video recordings).

The student is to read 1500 pages OR for sixty hours over and above the textbook to receive an “A” for this section of the course. The student’s grade for reading drops by one third of a letter per 100 pages or five hours (hence, 1400 pp. = 55 hrs. = “A-”; 1300 pp. = 50 hrs. = “B+”; etc.). The student will submit a reading log at the end of the course (to be submitted with your "Course Checkout," left menu). This log should indicate books read and either pages completed or hours spent reading.

Papers

Two papers are required for this course. The first paper on integration, while it is brief, will require your best reflective and integrative efforts. This is a research paper in which you will demonstrate your ability to develop a model for the integration of Biblical, theological, and psychological data. You will need to begin with a clear Biblical anthropology and describe how you will utilize all of the data about the human experience in the counseling process. Integration for the Christian must always begin with a sound Biblical anthropology that should provide a framework for construction of a coherent methodology. Books such as Gary Collins’ The Rebuilding of Psychology, Kirk Farnsworth’s Wholehearted Integration, some of the writings of Newton Maloney, several issues of The Journal of
Theology and Psychology, (of particular interest is the Summer 1976 issue), and an article by David Carlson entitled “Jesus' Style of Relating,” will help you get started in your thinking. **The paper is limited to three (3) pages, plus a bibliography.**

The second paper is also a research paper. This paper should deal with a particular topic in Pastoral Counseling of interest to you. The purpose of this paper is to develop a rationale for your approach to a specific problem in pastoral care and counseling. Select a topic in which you have interest and read fairly extensively in order to promote clear thinking with respect to effective pastoral care in that particular area. **The topic paper should be a maximum of six (6) pages and must include adequate bibliographic materials.** Both papers should include Biblical materials, well integrated into the text of the paper, and concise theological reflections on the topic(s) presented.

See Guidelines for Required Assignments under "Modules" for more information and instructions (a PDF of this information is also available under "Resources").

**Counseling Practicum**

The counseling practicum is the portion of this course in which you demonstrate your ability to put into practice the things you are learning from your reading and listening. You will complete a counseling practicum in which you will role-play as counselor in three separate cases. You should select one person to be counseled for each session. This person may respond out of a personal life situation or may role-play a specific situation about which he/she has extensive knowledge. Having both the counselee and an observer respond to the questionnaires gives us a good picture of the experience from their point of view. The video recording gives us a picture of how well you have internalized the lesson material presented in class.

There are three options for fulfilling this requirement. See the Counseling Practicum module (under "Modules") for detailed instructions on each option. Please read over each option carefully, and choose one that best suits your situation.

**Case Study Response Papers**

At two points in the course (after Lectures 4 and 6) you will be asked to stop the audio lecture and read and answer questions about a case study. You are required to write a 1-2 page response paper on each case study. Your responses to the case studies should always come from a pastoral perspective in shaping a plan of approach. The case study allows you to identify certain areas that need attention from you as a pastor. You should begin by asking the question, “What does this person, family or couple need from God?”

See Guidelines for Required Assignments (under "Modules") for more information and instructions.

**Submitting Assignments**

Assignments can be submitted electronically through the Drop Box tool in Sakai. On the left menu, under "Project Tools," select "Drop Box." To add a file, click “Add” and upload from there.

Some guidelines for this process:

- Paper submissions should be in .doc, .docx or .pdf format.
- Submitting your work through drop box is considered a formal (and final) submission. Nothing further will be needed on your part.
- All submissions are time/date stamped and will be retrieved by the Semlink office and routed to your professor for grading.
- Assignments may be returned to you electronically, in most cases through your Sakai drop box or via email. If your assignment was graded by hand, it will be scanned and delivered to you as a PDF file.
- Remember to use a full heading, including your name, professor, course, and date.

Please let the Semlink office know if you have any further questions about electronic submission. semlink@gordonconwell.edu or 978-646-4144.

**Interactivity**

As a member of the Association of Theological Schools, Gordon-Conwell Theological Seminary recognizes the value of interactivity in
distance learning and complies with the standards for accreditation set by ATS which include interactivity as a compulsory component of any distance learning program that wishes to continue granting credit for its courses. The purpose of Semlink interactivity is to enhance learning by providing an online environment for students to engage meaningfully and substantively with professors, teaching fellows, and other students in order to achieve an enriching and academically challenging distance learning experience.

There are two interactivity requirements for this course:

1. **An online discussion forum**: converse with other students and with instructors on the Semlink forum. You are required to participate four (4) times in the discussions relating to your area of study. To ensure successful completion of this requirement, please complete your participation in the discussion forums at least one week prior to your course due date. This will allow sufficient time for you to resubmit any responses if necessary.

2. **Email-based conversation** with your Semlink teaching fellow. You are required to email a total of three (3) times, including your original response to the conversation starter. Please allow a minimum of one month to complete this conversation to allow time for the teaching fellow to respond. Allow five business days for a response to each of your submissions.

To begin your interactivity (and for more details about this requirement), see the Interactivity section under Modules. This section will explain in more detail what is expected for this requirement.

**If you fail to complete the interactivity requirements, you will fail your course.**

**Grading**

Your final grade for the course will be computed on the following basis:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Component</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Reading</td>
<td>15%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Integration Paper</td>
<td>25%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Topic Paper</td>
<td>25%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Counseling Practicum</td>
<td>15% (5% / evaluation)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Case Study Response Paper</td>
<td>20% (10% each)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Interaction Completion Required</td>
<td></td>
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**Course Outline**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Section</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Required Reading</th>
<th>Lecture</th>
<th>Suggested Schedule</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Introduction and Foundations</td>
<td>Miller and Jackson, Chapter 1</td>
<td>1a 1b</td>
<td>Week One</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Listening Skills</td>
<td>Miller and Jackson, Chapters 4, 5</td>
<td>2a 2b</td>
<td>Week Two</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>The Process of Counseling</td>
<td>Miller and Jackson, Chapters 2, 3, 7, 9</td>
<td>3a 3b 3c 3d</td>
<td>Weeks Three and Four Begin first paper on integration. (See syllabus for more information)</td>
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<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Pastoral Care in Crisis</td>
<td>Miller and Jackson, Chapters 13, 14</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>Week Five Complete first paper on integration. Write first case study response.</td>
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<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Pastoral Care in Grief and Loss</td>
<td>Miller and Jackson, Chapter 12</td>
<td>5a 5b</td>
<td>Week Six Complete first triad practice report. (See syllabus for more information)</td>
</tr>
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<td>6</td>
<td>Intrapsychic Understanding (I)</td>
<td>Miller and Jackson, Chapters 10, 11, 15, 16, 17</td>
<td>6a 6b</td>
<td>Week Seven Write second case study response.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Intrapsychic Understanding (II)</td>
<td>Miller and Jackson, Chapters 10, 11,</td>
<td>7a 7b</td>
<td>Week Eight Complete second trial practice report. (See syllabus for more</td>
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<tr>
<td>Week</td>
<td>Section</td>
<td>Text</td>
<td>Information</td>
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<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Interpersonal Understanding</td>
<td>Miller and Jackson, Chapter 18</td>
<td>8a, 8b</td>
<td>Week Nine</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Guidelines for Confidentiality and Referral</td>
<td>Miller and Jackson, Chapters 19, 20</td>
<td>9a, 9b</td>
<td>Week Ten Complete final triad practice report. Complete second paper. (See syllabus for more information)</td>
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