



COURSE INSTRUCTOR:

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COURSE DESCRIPTION – GBC 535 CRISIS COUNSELING

Crisis Counseling provides a foundation for understanding and counseling those in a time of turbulent crisis. The course includes such concerns as the biblical view of a crisis, the theology of crisis counseling, the characteristics and dynamics of a crisis, the steps of crisis intervention, and counseling principles and procedures within a crisis. We will also give attention to biblical and practical surveys of specific crisis situations such as trauma, Post-Traumatic Stress, fear, sudden loss, and suicide.

MBU INSTITUTIONAL OUTCOMES SUPPORTED BY THIS COURSE

1. Written Communication: Students will write correctly and cohesively with compelling argumentation.
2. Critical Analysis: Students will evaluate concepts from a biblical worldview with logical reasoning and intellectual honesty.
3. Biblical Interpretation: Students will interpret Scripture using the historical-grammatical method with careful attention to the immediate and broad biblical context.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

1. The student should be able to define and explain the nature of a crisis and the problems associated with a crisis.
2. The student shall be able to articulate a theology of crisis.
3. The student shall be able to summarize a counseling model in helping a counselee in returning to biblical stability.
4. The student shall be able to design a counseling plan for systematically involving himself in a crisis, moving the individuals scripturally from chaos to biblical growth.

5. The student shall be able to describe various crisis situations and the peculiar characteristics each crisis produces.
6. The student shall demonstrate the exegetical skill to apply the scriptures to individual crisis situations.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Course materials, including notes for the course, are available on the LMS (courses.mbbc.edu).

1. **Research Paper:** Write a 10-15 page (excluding bibliography) research paper on a particular crisis situation. The paper should be exegetical, theological, and practical in nature, following the *Turabian* writing style and the seminary style guide. A list of possible topics is provided for you below, but you may pursue a topic of your own with prior approval.

Objectives

- Students should acquire and enhance their skills for researching a particular counseling problem.
- Students should learn to assemble and articulate an exegetical and biblical theology for a specific counseling problem that both accurately reflects the text and speaks to the contemporary counseling problem authoritatively.
- Students should be able to synthesize the theology with the presenting crisis problem that yields an effective model (methodology) for counseling.

Formatting

- All papers should include a bibliography of at least 10 sources, with at least 4 coming from journal articles or essays. Sources must appear in a citation within a footnote to be counted as a source. Research should come from competent journals and scholarly works.
- Students should demonstrate a proficiency in research strategies through careful analysis, organization, and communication of data, arguments, and conceptual development.
- You must have a clearly stated thesis statement in the introduction and a good thesis restatement and summary in the conclusion. The paper should prove the thesis through sound biblical interpretation and careful argumentation including a survey of the different views.

- Students should use footnotes following *Turabian* style guidelines. Your paper should include the following elements: bibliography, title page, and headings for main points.
- Type your paper using twelve-point Times New Roman or Courier.

Content

- Structure: Your research project should include the following elements: (1) Description of the problem, including taxonomy, etiology, and pathology; (2) Theological foundations of the problem including solid exegetical analysis and theological methodology; (3) Survey of the prescriptive theoretical models to the problem, both secular and biblical, identifying the biblical methodology through careful analysis and argumentation.
- Your research should reflect usage of the exegetical method, following the grammatical-historical, contextual hermeneutic. Students who are trained in the biblical languages must include the biblical languages (not transliterations) in your explanations, including word studies and grammatical/syntactical features. For those who are not proficient in the original languages, you must use technical exegetical commentaries (you may transliterate).
- The paper must be completed in order to receive a grade higher than an F in the course. Your research and writing must be completely original. You may not turn in a reworked paper from another scholarly endeavor.

Suggested Research Topics

Trauma	Critical/Terminal illness	Infidelity
Marital breakdown	Runaway	Violent assault
Financial loss or collapse	Natural disaster	Terrorist attack
Hostage situation	Potential suicide (victim)	Successful suicide (survivors)
Job loss	Attempted suicide (victim)	Arrest
Sudden death	Accident	Miscarriage
Still birth	Post abortion trauma	Panic attack
Mass shooting/bombing	Mania	Schizophrenia
Home invasion	Combat PTSD	House fire
Unexpected pregnancy (teenage or adult)	Abuse	Others (student choice)

2. **Reading:** Read all the course texts: *Crisis Counseling*, by Scott Floyd and *The Cry of the Soul*, by Allender and Longman. You should complete an additional number of pages to total 850 pages (excess reading will receive credit up to 900 pages only) from journals and reputable books. The student is encouraged to read broadly. Submit your reading report using the standardized form at the end of the syllabus or the Excel worksheet in the course content. Students are not limited to the bibliography for reading and are encouraged to

research journal articles that would contribute to their overall mastery of the subject. **You may include reading for your research paper in your report.**

Class Case Studies: We will have occasional cases studies in class. Students are expected to read and interact with the studies for classroom discussion. The reading may be counted for outside reading.

3. **Reading Summaries:** Write **two separate** 500-1000 word synopses of your two textbooks. Post your summaries in the Discussion forum posts. Interact with the authors concerning areas of agreement, disagreement, strengths, weaknesses, personal benefit, and content. Then interact with two other students within 48 hours of the initial due date. See course schedule for due dates.
4. **Final Exam:** Students will take the final online anytime during the week of finals using the LMS. Study guide is available online.
5. **Discussion Forums:** Masters students benefit greatly when they have the opportunity for more interaction and discussion over the topics we discuss in class. To facilitate this inaction, I may open a variety of discussion forums in our LMS. The discussions are optional and will not be graded, but my goal is to generate more free discussion and analysis over the issues we cover.
6. **Counseling MP3s (optional but encouraged):** Audio recordings from the CCEF conference, “Running Scared” are available in the library. You may choose what sessions you listen to and substitute up to two sessions for reading (35 pages of reading = one session; record these pages on your reading report also). You are welcome to listen to more sessions for personal enrichment, but only two may be used for reading credit.

DUE DATES: All work is due by the project due date, April 27, (by midnight) unless otherwise directed. Please submit all work through the LMS drop boxes.

COURSE GRADING SYSTEM

Research Paper 40%
 Final Exam 25%
 Reading summaries 20%
 Reading 15%

<i>Grading Scale</i>			
A	100-93%	C+	82%
A-	92%	C	81-75%
B+	91%	C-	74%
B	90-84%	D	73-65%
B-	83%	F	64% & below

- A – exceptional, superior work, consistently exceeding course expectations
- B – good, above average work, occasionally exceeding course expectations
- C – average work, barely meeting course expectations
- D – below average work, rarely meeting course expectations
- F – failing work, not meeting course expectations

Study Expectations: Students should expect to spend approximately 2 hours working/studying out of class for every hour in class.

COURSE POLICIES

- 1. Course Information:** Additional information, including announcements, is available at the Maranatha LMS (my.mbu.edu). Students are strongly encouraged to check the system regularly for updates and announcements. Additionally, all course materials are available for student use, **including class notes, either for electronic or written use.**
- 2. Attendance: Follow seminary guidelines.**
- 3. Collaboration and Cheating:** To receive information concerning a quiz or a test (prior to taking it) from any source is considered cheating. Cheating will be recorded as a zero and the student will be referred to the Dean of Students for appropriate penalty. You may collaborate on your preparation for quizzes and tests **with one other student**, providing you have done your own work first. Exchanging quiz and test study guide answers via email is prohibited. **Using another student's or a previous student's study guides, tests, test notes, quizzes, or class notes is considered cheating.** Refer to the student handbook for information.
- 4. Late work:** Any written work not turned in on time (midnight the day it is due) will be penalized a third of a letter grade per day.
- 5. ADA Policy:** The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) is a federal anti-discrimination statute that provides comprehensive civil rights protection for persons with disabilities. Among other things, the law requires that all students with disabilities be given a learning environment that provides for reasonable accommodation of their disabilities. If you believe you have a disability requiring an accommodation, please contact the Academic Success Program Director, in the Library, (ph. 920/206-2340) or email academicsuccess@mbu.edu.
- 6. Academic Success Center.** Once source for academic help in any course is the Academic Success Center. If you require specific targeted academic help for any reason, contact the Student Success Center located in the Cedarholm Library. If you would like more information regarding targeted academic help, please contact the Student Success Center director at academicsuccess@mbu.edu.

COURSE BIBLIOGRAPHY

Journal Articles

Adams, Jay. "A Reminder on Suicide." *Journal of Pastoral Practice* 5:2 (1981).

_____. "Counseling and the Sovereignty of God." *Journal of Biblical Counseling* 11:2 (Winter, 1993), 4.

- Black, Jeffrey. "Making Sense of the Christian Suicide." *The Journal of Biblical Counseling* 18:3 (Spring, 2000), 11-20
- Blore, Judy. "How to Help a Grieving Child." *Journal Biblical Counseling* 16:2 (Winter, 1998), 24.
- Bobick, Michael. "The Difference Christ Makes in a Crisis." *Journal of Biblical Counseling* 19:2 (Winter, 2001), 14.
- Boyd, Jeffrey H. "A Biblical Theology of Chronic Illness." *Trinity Journal* 24:2 (Fall 2003), 189-206.
- Jeffrey, Karen. "Helping Women with Post-Abortion." *Journal of Biblical Counseling* 17:3 (Spring, 1999), 23.
- Schwab, George M. "The Book of Job and Counsel in the Whirlwind." *Journal of Biblical Counseling* 17:1 (Fall, 1998), 31.
- Powlison, David. "Predator, Prey, and Protector: Helping Victims Think and Act from Psalm 10." *Journal of Biblical Counseling* 16:3 (Spring, 1998), 27.
- Welch, Edward. "Exalting Pain? Ignoring Pain? What do we do with Pain?" *Journal of Biblical Counseling* 12:3 (Spring, 1994), 4.
- _____. "Helping Victims of Domestic Violence." *Journal of Biblical Counseling* 15:2 (Winter, 1997), 51.

Books

- *Adams, Jay E. *How to Handle Trouble*. Phillipsburg, N.J.: P & R Publishing, 1982.
- Beers, V. Gilbert. *Finding Purpose in your Pain*. Grand Rapids, MI: Revell, 1988.
- Brown, Steve. *When Your Rope Breaks*. Grand Rapids, MI: Baker Books, 1988.
- *Collins, Gary R. *Christian Counseling: A Comprehensive Guide*. Rev. ed. Waco: Word Books, 1988. (Note: although eclectic, Collins has some helpful information concerning Crisis Counseling).
- Conway, Jim, Sally Conway, & Becky Sanders. *Trusting God in a Family Crisis*. Downers Grove: InterVarsity Press, 1989.
- Cutrer, William. *The Church Leader's Handbook: A Guide to Counseling Families and Individuals in Crisis*. Grand Rapids: Kregal, 2009.

- Hutchison, John. *Thinking Right When Things Go Wrong*. Grand Rapids: Kregel, 2005.
- Koenig, Harold G and Weaver, Andrew J. *Counseling Troubled Older Adults : a Handbook for Pastors and Religious Caregivers*. Nashville: Abingdon Press, 1997.
- Lester, Andrew D. *Pastoral Care with Children in Crisis*. Louisville: Westminster/John Knox Press, 1985.
- MacIntosh, Mike. *When Your World Falls Apart: Life Lessons from a Ground Zero Chaplain*. Colorado Springs: Victor, 2002.
- *Mottram, Kenneth P. *Caring for those in Crisis: Facing Ethical Dilemmas with Patients and Families*. Grand Rapids: Brazos Press, 2007.
- *Piper, John and Justin Taylor, eds. *Suffering and the Sovereignty of God*. Wheaton: Crossway, 2006. Available for **free** download at: <http://www.desiringgod.org/resource-library/online-books/by-title>.
- Roberts, Barbara. *Helping Those Who Hurt: A Handbook for Caring and Crisis - eBook*. Colorado Springs: NAV Press, 2010.
- Rowatt, G. Wade. *Pastoral Care with Adolescents in Crisis*. Louisville: Westminster/John Knox Press, 1989.
- *Stone, Howard. *Crisis Counseling*. 3rd edition. Augsburg/Fortress Press, 2009.
- *Swihart, Judson and Gerald Richardson. *Counseling in Times of Crisis*. Gary Collins, ed. Waco: Word Books, 1987.
- Switzer, David K. "Crisis Intervention and Problem Solving." *Clinical Handbook of Pastoral Counseling*. Robert Wicks, Richard Parsons, & Donald Capps, eds. Vol. 1:132-61. Mahwah, N.J.: Paulist Press, 1993.
- _____. *Pastoral Care Emergencies: Ministering to People in Crisis*. Mahwah, N.J.: Paulist Press, 1989.
- *Tada, Joni and Steven Estes. *When God Weeps*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 1997.
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- *_____. *Crisis Counseling: What to Do and Say during the First 72 Hours*. Ventura, CA.: Regal Books, 1993.
- _____. *Helping Those Who Hurt: How to be there for Your Friends in Need*. Minneapolis, MN: Bethany House, 2003.

_____. *Will My Life Ever Be the Same?* Eugene, OR: Harvest House, 2002.

Specific Crises

*Adsit, Chris. *The Combat Trauma Healing Manual: Christ-centered Solutions for Combat Trauma*. Newport News: Military Ministry Press, 2007.

*Adsit, Chris, Rahnella Adsit, and Marshelle Carter Waddell. *When War Comes Home: Christ-centered Healing for Wives of Combat Veterans*. Newport News: Military Ministry Press, 2007.

Aldredge-Clanton, Jann. *Counseling People with Cancer*. 1st ed. Louisville, KY: Westminster John Knox Press, 1998.

Anderson, S. J. *When Someone Wants to Die*. Downers Grove: InterVarsity Press, 1988 [for counselees].

Biebel, David B. *If God Is So Good, Why Do I Hurt So Bad?* Colorado Springs: NavPress, 1991.

Black, Jeffrey S. *Suicide: Understanding and Intervening*. Phillipsburg, NJ: P & R Pub, 2003.

Blore, Judy. "Helping the Grieving Child or Teenager." *The Journal of Biblical Counseling* 25:1 (Winter 2007).

Carlson, Dwight and Susan. *When Life Isn't Fair*. Eugene, OR.: Harvest House Publishers.

Carr, Lloyd and Gwendolyn. *The Fierce Goodbye*. Downers Grove: InterVarsity Press, 1990 [both counselors and counselees]

Clarke, Rita-Lou. *Pastoral Care of Battered Women*. Louisville: Westminster/John Knox Press, 1986.

Dobson, James. *When God Doesn't Make Sense*. Wheaton: Tyndale House Publishers, 1993.

Emler, Michael. "When It Won't Go Away: A Biblical Response to Chronic Pain." *The Journal of Biblical Counseling* (Winter 2005).

Gossack, Julie. "Life After the Suicide of a Love One." *The Journal of Biblical Counseling* (Winter 2006).

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- Tripp, Paul David. "When Grief Enters Your Door." *The Journal of Biblical Counseling* (Winter 2005).
- Vining John Kie. *When Home is Where the Hurt is: a Ministry Intervention Guide For Trauma Victims*. Family Ministries.
- Vredevelt, Pam. *Empty Arms: Hope and Support for those Who Have Suffered a Miscarriage, Stillbirth or Tubal Pregnancy*. 2nd ed. Sisters, OR: Multnomah, 1994.
- Welch, Edward. *Running Scared: Fear, Worry, and the God of Rest*. Greensboro, NC: New Growth Press, 2007.

Wiersbe, Warren W and Wiersbe, David W. *Comforting the Bereaved*. Chicago: Moody Press, 1985.

Yancey, Philip. *Disappointment with God: Three Questions No One Asks Aloud*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan Publishing House, 1988.

_____. *Where Is God When It Hurts?* Grand Rapids: Zondervan Publishing House, 1990.

Zibolsky, Kay. *The Sorrow of Sexual Assault the Joy of Healing*. Gainesville, FL: Synergy, 2002.

Commentaries:

The Bible Knowledge Commentary

NIV Application Commentary

Tyndale Commentary on the OT/NT, Eerdmans/IVP

The New International Biblical Commentary Series (NIBC), Hendrickson

The New American Commentary Series (NAC), Broadman and Holman

The New International Commentary on the OT/NT (NICOT/NICNT), Eerdmans

Baker Exegetical Commentary Series (BEC), Baker

The Expositor's Bible Commentary (EBC), Zondervan

Word Biblical Commentary (WBC), Word Publishers

The New International Greek New Testament Commentary (NIGNT), Eerdmans

Avoid: Oliver B. Greene, Matthew Henry, Harry Ironside, Charles Spurgeon, David Sorenson, J. Vernon McGee, and the like (these are useful devotional commentaries, but they are **not** academically valid for research).

Counseling:

Baker Encyclopedia of Psychology and Counseling

Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders DSM-5

Research and Writing:

Vyhmeister, Nancy Jean. *Quality Research Papers* (Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2001).

Exegesis, Hermeneutics, and Research:

McKnight, Scot. *Introducing New Testament Interpretation*. Grand Rapids: Baker Books, 1989.

Osborne, Grant R. *The Hermeneutical Spiral*. Downers Grove: InerVarsity Press, 1991.

Vyhmeister, Nancy Jean. *Your Indispensable Guide to Writing Quality Research Papers*. Grand Rapids: Baker Books, 2001.

Zuck, Roy B. *Basic Bible Interpretation*. Wheaton: Victor Books, 1991.

COURSE AGENDA

<i>Day</i>	<i>Date</i>	<i>Class Discussion</i>	<i>Notes</i>
T	1/21	Course Introduction	
Th	1/23		
T	1/28		
Th	1/30	Introduction to Crisis Counseling	
T	2/4		
Th	2/6	Theology of a Crisis	
T	2/11		
Th	2/13	Crisis in the Book of Job	
T	2/18		Floyd reading summary post due
Th	2/20		
T	2/25	Crisis Methodology	
Th	2/27		
T	3/3		
Th	3/5	Fear in Crisis	Anne Case Study
T	3/10		
Th	3/12		Midterm grades 3/13
T	3/17	Trauma Counseling	Allender reading summary post due
Th	3/19		
T	3/24	Spring Break	
Th	3/26		
T	3/31		
Th	4/2	Telephone Intervention	
T	4/7		
Th	4/9	Understanding Suicide	
T	4/14		Research Paper due
Th	4/16		
T	4/21	Dealing with Sudden Death	
Th	4/23		Project due date: 4/27 Reading Report due
T	4/28		
Th	4/30		
14	5/4-6	Final Exam	Take online during exam week

READING REPORT

Dr. Meyer

Student name _____

Course: Crisis Counseling

Title of Book/Journal Article	Author	Date Read	Pages Read	Total Pages
<i>Example: Christian Theology</i>	<i>Erickson</i>	<i>1/11</i>	<i>97-123</i>	<i>27</i>
<i>Crisis Counseling</i>	Floyd	Term		
<i>The Cry of the Soul</i>	Allender/Longman	Term		
Include textbook reading in your final total				

TOTAL NUMBER OF PAGES READ _____