

LIVING FAITH BIBLE INSTITUTE

BIBLICAL COUNSELING LAB 3 – COU 323

Course Level // Continuing Ed // 1 Credit Hour

Fall 2023 // October 21st – December 16th // In-Person & Online

Time: 9:45 am CST / Location: Annex West

Faculty Professor & Instructor: Jonathan Kindler

Education

- Bachelor of Advertising (Northwest Missouri State University)
- Masters in Marriage Family Counseling (MidAmerica Nazarene University)
- Licensed Professional Counselor (LPC)
- National Certified Counselor (NCC)

Experience

- Professional Counselor at Sound Mind, LLC (2014-Present)
- Teaching Elder at Midtown Baptist Temple (2018-Present)

Instructor: Josh O’Hora

Education

- Associate of Divinity (Living Faith Bible Institute)
- Bachelor of Arts in History/Secondary Education (University of Missouri-Kansas City)
- Masters in Marriage Family Counseling (MidAmerica Nazarene University)

Experience

- Licensed Professional Counselor at Sound Mind, LLC (2022-Present)
- Teaching Elder at Midtown Baptist Temple (2019-Present)

Teachers Assistant: Becca Bagunu becca.bagunu@lfbibible.org

I. COURSE DESCRIPTION

In this course, students will delve into the specialized area of trauma and grief in the context of biblical counseling. Building upon the foundational skills acquired in the Introduction to Biblical Counseling and Biblical Counseling Lab 1, students will further develop their advanced communication skills to effectively address trauma and grief-related issues.

Throughout the course, students will explore how biblical principles can be applied to various counseling scenarios involving trauma and grief. The course places a particular emphasis on understanding the impact of trauma and grief on individuals and families and equips students with practical strategies for providing compassionate and biblically-based support. The course incorporates a combination of learning methods to facilitate student growth and mastery of the subject matter.

By the end of the course, students will have a deeper understanding of trauma and grief and how to integrate biblical principles into the counseling process. They will have

gained practical experience in applying advanced communication skills to address trauma and grief-related issues, while also growing in their ability to provide empathetic support to individuals and families in need.

II. COURSE PREREQUISITES

A passing grade in Introduction to Biblical Counseling and Biblical Counseling Lab 1.

III. MEASURABLE LEARNING OUTCOMES

- Students will be able to define trauma and grief biblically. Analyze and apply relevant biblical principles to various counseling scenarios involving trauma and grief.
- Students will be able to employ communication techniques to address trauma and grief-related issues, including active listening, empathy, and appropriate response strategies and formulate intervention strategies rooted in biblical principles, tailored to address trauma and grief-related challenges within the counseling context.
- Students will be able to analyze and critically evaluate case studies involving trauma and grief, applying theoretical knowledge to real-world counseling scenarios.

IV. CLASS SCHEDULE

Week / Date	Topic	Assignments/Reading Due
Week One: October 21 st	Trauma: Understanding Trauma Biblically	Post lecture quiz / Read <i>Helping Your Family through PTSD</i> pg. 1-25
Week Two: October 28 th	Trauma: Healing Through Scripture	Post lecture quiz / Read <i>Helping Your Family through PTSD</i> pg. 26-50
Week Three: November 4 th	Trauma: Addressing Spiritual and Emotional Impact	Post lecture quiz / Read <i>Helping Your Family through PTSD</i> pg. 51-83
Week Four: November 11 th	Trauma: Providing Shepherding support and Care	Post lecture quiz / <i>God's Healing for Life's Losses</i> pg. 1-30
Week Five: November 18 th	Grief: Understanding Grief from a Biblical Perspective	Post lecture quiz / <i>God's Healing for Life's Losses</i> pg. 31-60
Week Six: December 2 nd	Grief: Navigating the Grief Process Biblically	Post lecture quiz / <i>God's Healing for Life's Losses</i> pg. 61-90
	Thanksgiving Break / No class Nov. 25th	
Week Seven: December 9 th	Grief: Fortifying Faith while Healing in Grief	Post lecture quiz / <i>God's Healing for Life's Losses</i> pg. 91-111
Week Eight: December 16 th	Grief: Supporting Others and Providing Biblical Comfort	Post lecture quiz / Reflection Essay #2 due / Final Assignment due

V. REQUIRED ASSIGNMENTS

- **Weekly class quizzes-** Students will take eight total quizzes, one after each weekly lecture or triadic practice where they will be asked questions surrounding both lecture and lab content. **(30% of total grade)**

- **Reflection Essay #1 -** The student will read *Helping Your Family through PTSD* by Greg E. Gifford **(30% of total grade – due Feb 4th@ 11:59 pm CST)**
 - Students essay will describe how the content from the readings has impacted their knowledge and understanding as a biblical counselor. How did the read further your understanding of grief and trauma.
 - Student will write 3 pages and use a minimum of two citations from the book.
 - Late submissions will not be accepted for the journals. See assignment for further instructions.

- **Reflection Essay #2 -** The student will read *God's Healing for Life's Losses* by Robert W. Kellemen **(30% of total grade – due dec 16th @11:59 pm CST)**
 - Students essay will describe how the content from the readings has impacted their knowledge and understanding as a biblical counselor. How did the read further your understanding of grief and trauma.
 - Student will write 3 pages and use a minimum of two citations from the book.
 - Late submissions will not be accepted for the journals. See assignment for further instructions.

- **Final Assignment: Vignette Analysis and Counseling Plan** - In this final assignment, you will apply the knowledge and skills you have acquired throughout the course to a comprehensive case study focused on trauma and grief in the context of biblical counseling. This assignment is designed to assess your ability to integrate biblical principles, utilize advanced communication skills, and develop practical strategies to address trauma and grief-related issues. **(40% of total grade – due Dec 16th @11:59 pm CST)**
 - Vignette Analysis
 - Carefully read the provided vignette, which involves a fictional client experiencing trauma and grief.
 - Analyze the vignette, identifying key psychological, emotional, and relational challenges related to trauma and grief.
 - Apply relevant biblical principles to address the client's struggles, showcasing your understanding of faith-based approaches to counseling in this context.
 - Identify potential strengths and resources within the client that can be utilized during the counseling process.
 - Provide a clear and concise summary of your vignette analysis.
 - Counseling Plan Development
 - Develop a comprehensive counseling plan tailored to the client's specific needs and circumstances.
 - Outline a step-by-step approach for addressing the trauma and grief-related challenges identified in the case study. Walking through Each stage of counseling (exploration, insight, action).

- Incorporate communication tools (see lab 1 & 2 material), active listening, empathy, and appropriate response strategies into your plan.
- Detail specific intervention strategies rooted in biblical principles, indicating how they will be implemented during counseling sessions.
- Include goals and measurable objectives for the counseling process, highlighting the expected outcomes for the client.
- Submission Guidelines:
 - Your assignment should be submitted as a well-organized document in PDF format.
 - Ensure your case study analysis and counseling plan are clearly labeled and structured for easy readability.
 - Properly cite any biblical references, scholarly sources, or course materials used to support your analysis and strategies.

VI. REQUIRED TEXTS

The Holy Bible, Authorized Version

Kellemen, Robert W. *God's Healing for Life's Losses: How to Find Hope When You're Hurting*

Greg E. Gillford *Helping Your Family through PTSD*

VII. METHODS OF INSTRUCTION

- Independent reading and study, Pastor/Professor lectures, small group discussion, question/answer.
- Each week's lecture will conclude with a weekly post-lecture online quiz.
 - LFBI quizzes will remain posted for 10-days before they are removed. Incomplete quizzes will be an automatic "0". Ensure your success by staying on pace with lectures and completing assignments in a timely manner. Do not contact professors or institute administrators about "missed quizzes" unless you have a doctor's note or in case in the case of clear administrative error.

VIII. COURSE GRADING POLICY

LFBI Grading Scale

A: 92-100% Excellent. Mastery of course material.

B: 83-91% Good. Reasonable understanding of course material.

C: 74-82% Satisfactory. Basic comprehension of course material.

D: 65-73% Poor. Minimal knowledge of course material.

LFBI Grade-Point Calculation

A // 97-100	C // 77-79
A- // 92-96	C- // 74-76
B+ // 89-91	D+ // 71-73
B // 86-88	D // 68-70
B- // 83-85	D- // 65-67
C+ // 80-82	F // 0-64

Transferring credits: we transfer students' grade-point averages based on the above scale. LFBI does not transfer letter grades. This is critical to the consideration of student honors at graduation. LFBI Instructors will calculate a percentage grade on each assignment entered in Moodle.

IX. ATTENDANCE POLICY

- Living Faith Bible Institute requires 100% attendance. All attendance issues will be handled directly by the course instructor within your specific class. From there, it may be deferred to the Registrar's Office. If a student misses' class but believes it may be excused, they will contact the Registrar. We believe that students have many potential extenuating circumstances that contribute to absence and for this reason, course records distinguish between excused and unexcused absence. The Registrar's Office staff is available to help students regarding any concern with attendance.
- Whether you are attending classes online or in person, it is important for students to put together a personal attendance plan. Being present and prepared for class is critical to getting the instructional experience necessary for growth. The following are the attendance requirements and policies for LFBI:
 - Students are responsible for all missed information, instruction and assignments accrued while absent from class.
 - For online students, if you miss the live viewing of any class lecture, you will have **ten days** to view the class online before the corresponding quiz becomes inaccessible and you are considered absent.
 - All students who miss class (i.e., sickness, missions' trips, work schedules) will be expected to stay caught up with each week's class. Instructors may, at their discretion, grant extensions to students who miss class under special circumstances.
 - Students who wish to contest an unexcused absence may fill out the Absence Form on the Resource page of myLFBI for review by the Registrar's Office.
 - When in live attendance, the student is expected to show common courtesy to the professor and fellow students by being punctual. Students who are regularly late to class or are a distraction to other students are susceptible to being reported to the Registrar's Office.

X. DROP POLICY

- Students have until the second week of semester classes to enroll for credit. The penalty for late enrollment is missing the quizzes for the sessions while they were not enrolled.
- There will be no refunds for early withdrawal beyond the second week of class or for incomplete classes.
- Students who enroll in Fall or Spring courses may be re-assigned as an “audit student” upon request prior to the end of week 4 but will not receive a refund. After week 4, all students will receive their earned grade.
- Students will receive a failing grade for an incomplete course. The failing grade will go on their transcript. Contact the registrar to change enrollment status prior to the designated time.
- Students may retake a class for credit the next time it is offered by re-enrolling and paying tuition. Both grades will be recorded on the transcript.

XI. OTHER POLICIES

- **Academic Misconduct**
Academic misconduct is strictly prohibited and will result in an F for the course as well as a board review of student enrollment status.
- **Disability Statement**
Students with a documented disability may contact the LFBI offices to make arrangements for academic accommodations.
- **Classroom Policies**
Classroom policies will be established and enforced by the individual instructor. Cell phones, internet social networking and other distractions take away from the learning environment. Use these on class assigned breaks only.

This syllabus is subject to change by verbal or written announcement by the professor.

LIVING FAITH BIBLE INSTITUTE // 3953 Walnut St. KCMO 64133 // LFBI.ORG