

Graduate Programs Counseling Studies Core



Introduction to Biblical Counsel (3 credits)

This course offers a general introduction to biblical sufficiency-based personal ministry. The biblical basis for biblical counseling will be examined, biblical counseling will be defined, and the goal of biblical counseling will be explained. Biblical counseling will be distinguished from both humanistic, psychologically-based systems and evangelical integrationist theories. The essential qualities of an effective soul care provider will be detailed.

The Dynamics of Biblical Change (3 credits)

This course describes various views of personal spiritual growth and offers a biblical view of progressive sanctification. The concept of motivation is explored from a biblical perspective. A biblical view of self and evangelical perspectives concerning the issue of forgiveness are explained.

Research Methods for Biblical Counseling (3 credits)

This course explains academic research methodology and the method for writing academic research papers in proper form and style.

Hermeneutics for Biblical Counseling (3 credits)

This course provides advanced instruction on the principles of sound biblical interpretation and application.

The Counseling Process and Counseling Procedures (3 credits)

This course provides an overview of a comprehensive, biblical, methodological model for promoting God-glorifying change in people. It also details specific procedural aspects of the ministry skill of biblical counseling.

Counseling Laboratory (3 credits)

This course helps students learn counseling skills through the use of role-play and peer evaluation.

Marriage & Family Counseling (3 credits)

This course will consider such issues as dating/courtship, marriage proposals, functions of a family, premarital counseling, marital roles, communication, financial counseling, counseling victims of spousal abuse, rebuilding a marriage after an adulterous affair, dealing with sexual problems, and parent/child relationships.

Biblical Counseling in the Local Church (3 credits)

This course provides instruction on how to develop a local church corporate culture of personal discipleship, how to select and equip counselors in and for the local church, and how to establish a local church biblical counseling and training center.

Biblical Counseling and Medical Issues (3 credits)

This course is a survey of the physical and physiological factors that influence areas in a person's life that may be of importance when counseling that person.

Common Issues Addressed in Counseling (3 credits)

This course will address a variety of the challenges faced by Christians. These may include but not be limited to the following: the nature of Christian life, anger, fear, depression, homosexuality, anxiety, eating disorders, incest, child abuse, counseling youth, crisis counseling, the role of women in counseling and issues unique to women, and legal issues in counseling. It will also explore the common counseling problems and situations faced by the pastor and detail some possible pitfalls especially faced in today's social environment.

Biblical Counseling and Theology (3 credits)

This course offers a consideration of the theological issues that form the basis of a biblical approach to personal ministry. It will consider the theological, anthropological, and soteriological presuppositions of treatment theory and seek to bring a thoroughly biblical critique to their foundational assumptions and methodology.

Counseling Case Studies and Observation; Counseling Practicum (6 credits)

This course will include student participation in counseling as an observer, a counselor, and a counselee. The student's counseling activity will be both peer-reviewed and instructor-supervised.

Total Credit Hours: 39 credits