



BIRMINGHAM THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY

**READINGS IN BIBLICAL COUNSELING
(BC7624)**

2 Semester Credit Hours—Spring 2010

Professor: Dr. Luis A. Orteza

COURSE PURPOSE:

To provide the student with the opportunity to expand his/her understanding of the field of biblical counseling.

COURSE OBJECTIVES—LEARNING OUTCOMES:

1. To build on the foundation of the Biblical Counseling program so that the student can expand his/her understanding of the essential dynamics of Biblical Counseling.
2. To enable the student to recognize important differences with other theories and describe their relationship to the Biblical Counseling model.
3. To provide opportunity for the student to examine model components and relate them to the Biblical Counseling and theological framework upon which they are dependent.
4. To provide students with the opportunity to analyze contributions to the field of Biblical Counseling utilizing their cumulative knowledge and to generalize principles to assist them in developing a counseling ministry.
5. To provide an occasion for students to construct their own modifications to their Biblical counseling theory in relationship to the readings.
6. To encourage the student to develop her/his ability to critique and appraise the theories of others.

COURSE ASSIGNMENTS:

The following texts are to be read. Your reading must at least approximate 1200 pages required reading. Please read the directions for these assignments. We will have three discussion classes the dates of which we will decide the first night of class. We will cover the first four books on the first class and the next four at the subsequent meeting. The final class will provide opportunity to discuss the remaining books and any other matters appropriate to the course. **The first two papers should be submitted to class Tuesday, March 9. The remaining papers are due by April 27 if you are graduating. If you are not graduating, papers are due by May 4.** Your papers will be more than welcome any time you complete them. Just drop them off at the office or mail them to the office. You may also email them to me at uorteza@bellsouth.net. Be sure to fill in the subject line on your email message with the fact that this is a paper for Readings in Biblical Counseling. Remember to follow **Turabian style**—**including a proper title page.**

REQUIRED PRINTED MATERIALS

Depression, Ed Welch. Presbyterian and Reformed Publishing.
ISBN: 0875526829 (275 pp.)

Dynamics of Spiritual Life: An Evangelical Theology of Renewal
Richard F. Lovelace. Inter-Varsity Press, Downers Grove, IL.
ISBN 0-87784-626-X (435 pp.)

Reclaiming the Soul
Jeffrey H. Boyd, M.D. The Pilgrim Press, Cleveland, Ohio.
ISBN 0-8298-1080-3 (115 pp.)

Deceptive Diagnosis: When Sin is Called Sickness, David Tyler and Kurt Grady.
Focus Publishing. ISBN: 1-885904-58-4 (128 pp.)

Psychology as Religion: The Cult of Self Worship
Paul Vitz, W.B. Eerdmans Publishing Co., MI.
ISBN 0-8028-0725-9 (168 pp.)

REQUIRED RESPONSES TO THE READING:

Directions: Write a response paper on all the books as if you were doing a review of book (5 to 7 pages). Your papers will be graded according to content and grammar.

Students may also confer with the teacher to request other readings in replacement of the assigned texts. Students requesting this must confer with the teacher on the first day of the class.

Recommended: *How to Read a Book: A Classic Guide to Intelligent Reading* by Mortimer Adler. This is available at the Briarwood Christian Book Store.