



CE 541 – Advanced Counseling ***Online Syllabus***

Course Instructor: Dr. John Goetsch

I. Course Description

This course is designed to give the graduate student a further understanding of ministry through Scriptural counseling. All approaches to problems will be based on Biblical principles rather than secular humanistic reasoning and technique. The course is designed for those who have completed an under-graduate degree since the philosophy of counseling is dependent upon the student's grasp of Biblical principles and solutions.

II. Course Objectives

This course is designed to help the student develop:

- A. Effective observation techniques in counseling.
- B. A basic understanding of the presuppositions and principles as based upon God's Word in counseling.
- C. A thorough understanding of the sin nature present in all people and the need for reconciliation with God and man.
- D. Proper listening skills in counseling.
- E. A strong grasp of the dynamic of Scriptural dehabituating and rehabituation.
- F. An understanding of the goal in counseling, that is, the goal of change.
- G. An ability to ask proper questions in counseling.
- H. A knowledge of how to use homework assignments effectively in counseling.
- I. An ability to deal with some of the unique problems confronting the counselor in the 21st century.

III. Course Requirements

All online lectures must be watched in their entirety. It is suggested that the online notes be copied into a hard copy for study purposes. Tests will be given over the lectured material. There are two books that must be read in their entirety. ("Changed Into His Image" by Jim Berg and "Victory Over Darkness" by Neil T. Anderson) Essay questions on these books are found following the syllabus and the answers must be e-mailed to the instructor prior to the taking of the final exam. The final examination will be comprehensive over the lectured material.



There is one project due at the completion of this course and must be turned in before you can take the final.. You will discuss a Biblical philosophy of counseling contrasted with the secular humanistic approaches of Freudianism, Behaviorism, and Rogerianism. This paper will consist of 2,500 words minimum.

IV. Grading

Your grade will consist of the online tests, reading with questions, project, and final exam.

****The lecture notes will follow to some extent the outline as presented in “The Christian Counselor’s Manual” by Jay E. Adams as published in 1973.***

