



34305CT Biblical and Theological Foundations for Counseling

Fall 2017

The Southern Baptist Theological Seminary

In Conjunction with the Annual Conference of the
Association of Certified Biblical Counselors (ACBC), October 2-4, 2017

Professor: Robert D. Jones, D.Theol., D.Min,
Associate Professor of Biblical Counseling

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Course Administrator: Mr. Andrew King.

aking@sbts.edu

Direct all administrative and course-related correspondence to Andrew.

Send all assignments to Dr. Jones. Do not post them on Canvas but email them.

Note: For *any* email to either the professor or the administrator, please always *begin* every email subject line with **34305CT-2017Fall** and then your subject and then your name.

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course provides the valuable combination of academic rigor and practical application. Through attendance at the ACBC Annual Conference you will learn from experienced leaders in the biblical counseling movement. The conference theme will focus on the theological foundations of biblical counseling as ACBC recognizes the 500th anniversary of the Protestant Reformation. The conference's six plenary speakers will address the "Sola's" of the Reformation and the five breakout sessions will explore broader themes related to the theory and practice of biblical counseling. Through interaction with the course readings you will further address the theological foundations for biblical counseling and its application to your life and ministry.

For conference registration and schedule information, see <https://biblicalcounseling.com/conference/faithful/>.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

The student who successfully completes this course will demonstrate the following competencies:

1. Understand how sound biblical theology must drive all forms of Christ-honoring personal ministry, especially biblical counseling
2. Gain competence and confidence in your ability to comprehend and apply various Bible doctrines to your life and your ministry
3. Gain practical, Bible-based hope and help for your life and your counseling ministry from the conference sessions
4. Appreciate God's working in this ACBC expression of the modern biblical counseling movement and draw encouragement from fellowship with the conference session presenters and participants

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

You must satisfactorily *complete all course requirements*, including all or at least a major part of the course reading, to pass the course. Except in unusual cases, I do not assign extra credit work. All the due dates below have been set for after the conference, to accommodate any student who might (unwisely?) register late. However, wise students will register early for the conference and begin working on assignments 2 and 4 before the conference.

1. Mandatory Conference Attendance, October 2–4. Students must attend (1) every plenary session, (2) every breakout session (you may attend any session you want), (3) the Truth and Love Live Tue evening event, and (4) a group breakfast or lunch (TBA) with the professor at the conference.

2. Reading assignments. Please read each assignment reflectively, particularly focusing on how the material relates to your personal life.

- Jay E. Adams. *A Theology of Christian Counseling: More Than Redemption*. Zondervan, 1986. ISBN: 978-0310511014. Read Foreword, Preface, and pages 1–308. **Due date: Sat, Oct. 21.**
- Heath Lambert. *A Theology of Biblical Counseling: The Doctrinal Foundations of Counseling Ministry*. Zondervan, 2016. ISBN: 978-0310518167. Read pages 11–335. **Due date: Sat, Nov. 11.**
- James MacDonald, Bob Kellemen, and Steve Viars, eds. *Christ-centered Biblical Counseling: Changing Lives with God's Changeless Truth*. Harvest House, 2013. ISBN: 978-0736951456. Read pages 7–237, 423–445. **Due date: Sat, Nov. 25.**
- For the completion of assignment 4 below (thus, reading due by **Sat, Dec. 16**), students will also need to select, read, and interact with at least fifty pages from one or two of the following standard, scholarly, evangelical manuals of systematic theology (perhaps the one you used or will use in your Systematic Theology courses): Wayne Grudem's *Systematic Theology*, John Frame's *Systematic Theology*; Millard Erickson's *Christian Theology*, Michael Horton's *The Christian Faith*, and Louis Berkhof's *Systematic Theology*.

Note on Attendance and Reading (1 and 2 above): At the end of the course you will submit by email a Record of Conference Attendance and Assigned Course Reading form (below; a Word version to be posted on Canvas) to report your attendance and reading percentages.

Email subject line: **34305CT-2017Fall – Attendance&OntimeReading - Your Name.**

If you had perfect (100%) attendance *and* you read 100% of the reading on-time, then you need not submit a form—simply state this fact in an email to me with the subject line:

Email subject line: **34305CT-2017Fall – 100%Attendance&OntimeReading - Your Name.**

3. Conference Interaction Paper. Students will write an 8–page paper in which they reflect thoughtfully on the conference sessions. You must interact critically (what you found helpful and why, what you disagreed with or questioned and why) and demonstrate how the conference personally applied to your life and ministry. You should address at least 4 topics and present 2–3 developed points for each topic. For the developed points, include Scripture passages that you would use and practical applications. **Due date: Sat, Oct. 14.**

Email subject line: **34305CT-2017Fall – ConferenceInteraction - Your Name.**

4. Theology and Counseling Integration Paper. Students will write a 12–14–page (plus title page and sources used) paper in which they select three theological doctrines and show the application of that doctrine to counseling. You can select from these doctrines (note restrictions in parentheses):

- Humans as image-bearers of God
- The Holy Spirit's work (not his deity, personhood, or distribution of "charismatic" gifts)
- Sin (not its historic origin or how it is transmitted generationally)
- Christ's ascension and session
- Christ's return (not tribulation or millennial views)
- Satan's work in relationship to believers
- The Church's ministry (not its origin in Old Testament v. Pentecost, polity, or ordinances/sacraments)

For each doctrine you select, number it and place it as a bold heading within your paper. Summarize key biblical and theological truths within the doctrine and enumerate (1, 2, etc.) applications of those truths to our counseling ministry (either counseling in general or specific counseling scenarios). Use the specific section of the one or two systematic theology manuals that addresses this doctrine, as well as the Adams, Lambert, and the specific author(s) in the MacDonald-edited book (to the extent that all these writers address your topic). On the last two

pages, add a fourth bold heading, Reflections on Theologians and Counselors, in which you compare and contrast the systematic theology writer (or writers) with the three biblical counseling writers in how they handled the topics. For example, how well, if at all, did the theologian make or hint at application? How well did the counseling writers capture the subject with theological accuracy? Which counseling writer was most helpful to you both for understanding the doctrine and for applying it to your ministry? **Due date: Sat, Dec. 16**

Email subject line: **34305CT-2017Fall – TheologyCounselingIntegration - Your Name.**

COURSE GRADING: We will use this grading scale:

<u>A</u>	<u>94-100</u>	<u>B</u>	<u>85-91</u>	<u>C</u>	<u>76-82</u>	<u>D</u>	<u>67-73</u>
A-	93	B-	84	C-	75	D-	66
B+	92	C+	83	D+	74	F	0-65

A = excellent/outstanding; B = effective command of the material; C = acceptable level of competency; D = minimal grasp of the material, and F = failure to master the essentials.

The professor will assign the final course letter grade using the following percentage weights:

- Conference attendance (10%)
- Reading (20%)
- Conference Interaction Paper (30%)
- Theology and Counseling Integration Paper (40%)

COURSE PROTOCOL AND PROCEDURES

1. Writing and Submission Guidelines: Unless otherwise indicated, papers must be typed, double-spaced, 12-point Times New Roman font, 1-inch (all) margins, and aligned to the left. Use parenthetical citations, not footnotes, for Bible references. For other guidelines consult the *Southern Seminary Manual of Style*. Pay attention to spelling, grammar, punctuation, and assigned length, and proofread your papers (reading them aloud is helpful), using a spelling/grammar check program. Good composition is an act of love to your reader and it increases your ability to engage, persuade, and make your intended points.

Each assignment is due on the date in the Schedule above. Late penalties are three points for the first day and one point per day thereafter, but I reserve the right at my discretion to increase or decrease that penalty for various reasons. Requests for extensions must be made in writing to me and only for exceptional situations.

All submissions must be digital and formatted in Word (.doc, .docx, not .pdf or .jpg) and sent to the professor by email (not on Canvas). All assignments are due at 11:00p on the day specified in the assignment.

2. Contacting and Meeting with Your Professor: Emailing me is the best way to contact me outside of class. Please start *every* subject line with **34305CT-2017Fall** (I teach many courses with many students so I insist on proper subject lines), followed by your email topic and your name. I am available for course-related or academic appointments by phone or in-person in my office (Norton 130) but you must email me first.

1. Writing and Submission Guidelines: Unless otherwise indicated, papers must be typed, double-spaced, 12-point Times New Roman font, 1-inch (all) margins, and justified with left alignment. Use parenthetical citations, not footnotes, for Bible references. For other citations, use single-spaced, 10-point Times New Roman font footnotes. For other guidelines consult the *Southern Seminary Manual of Style*. Pay attention to spelling, grammar, punctuation, and assigned length, and proofread your papers (reading them aloud is helpful), using a spelling/grammar check program. Good composition is an act of love to your reader and it increases your ability to engage, persuade, and make your intended points.

Each assignment must be digital, formatted in Word (.doc, .docx, not .pdf or .jpg), and **emailed to me** (not posted on Canvas) by 11:00pm on or before the specified due date, using the specified email subject line listed after each assignment. Late penalties are three points for the first day and one point per day thereafter, but

I reserve the right at my discretion to increase or decrease that penalty for various reasons. Requests for extensions must be made in writing to me and only for exceptional situations.

No course papers will be accepted, even late papers, after Sat, December 17 (also the date of the last paper due).

2. Contacting and Meeting with Your Professor: Emailing me is the best way to contact me outside of class or the conference. Please start *every* subject line with **34305CT-2017Fall**, followed by your email topic and your name. I am available to meet in my office (Norton 130) during my office hours (Tue 1:00-2:15p; Wed 2:30-4:00p) for course or academic appointments. Please email me. If those slots don't work, other times might.

3. Academic Integrity: Students who take someone else's ideas or words and represent them as their own (i.e., without crediting the source) are guilty of intellectual property theft or literary theft (plagiarism). Students who conduct any part of their course participation in a fraudulent or deceptive manner are guilty of cheating. Students suspected of such acts of academic misconduct will be reported to the Dean of Students. Consequences may include a failing grade for that assignment, a failing grade for the course, or academic dismissal.

All papers must include the following integrity statement: "*On my honor, I have neither given nor taken improper assistance in completing this assignment.*"

4. Disclaimer: During the course of the semester I reserve the right to modify the syllabus because of events or circumstances that occur during the term.

Record of ACBC Conference Attendance and Assigned Course Reading*
To Be Submitted by Email to the Professor by the Due Date at the End of the Course

Your Name _____ Date _____

Conference Attendance: As noted on the syllabus, complete conference attendance is a course requirement. Please record honestly your complete presence, partial presence, or absence at each session. For breakout sessions, note name of presenter.

Day	Session	Attend? Y or N
Mon	Plenary #1	
Mon	Breakout #1 – Presenter:	
Tue	Plenary #2	
Tue	Breakout #2 – Presenter:	
Tue	Plenary #3	
Tue	Breakout #3 – Presenter:	
Tue	Plenary #4	
Tue	Truth and Love Live	
Wed	Breakout #4 – Presenter:	
Wed	Plenary #5	
Wed	Breakout #5 – Presenter:	
Wed	Plenary #6	
TBA	Group Breakfast or Lunch with Professor	

Required Course Reading: Please record honestly what percentage of assigned reading you *completed* and what percentage you completed on (or before) the Schedule above:

Required Reading in ...	% Completed	% Completed on Schedule
A. Syllabus		
B. Assigned Books (read assigned portions)		
Adams. <i>A Theology of Christian Counseling</i> (Foreword, Preface, 1–308)		
Lambert. <i>A Theology of Biblical Counseling</i> (11–335)		
MacDonald, ed., <i>Christ-Centered Biblical Counseling</i> (7–237)		
1 or 2 systematic theology manuals (totaling 50 pp.)	Author/title/pages:	
	Author/title/pages:	
Your total estimated % of all reading completed and on schedule	_____ % completed	_____ % on schedule

*Remember, if you had perfect (100%) attendance *and* you read 100% of the reading on-time, then you need not submit a form—simply state this fact in an email to me with the subject line:

Email subject line: **34305CT-2017Fall – 100%Attendance&OntimeReading - Your Name.**