

## *Psychology in Relation to Theology II*

**Instructor:** Dr. Jim Coffield

Course Number: PSY632

1 hour

Spring 2008

Prerequisite: Admission to the MAC program

Thursday 10:00am-12:00pm

The class will meet the last 7 weeks of the semester.

### **Course Description:**

The purpose of this course is to expose students to traditional approaches to integrating psychology and theology. The legitimacy of the integration process will be addressed, and students will examine psychological, scientific, biblical, and theological issues associated with the integration. Students will evaluate several integrative models of Christian counseling, and begin to formulate their own ideas about integration.

### **Emphasis:**

To explore the various way individuals have tried to articulate the relationship between Psychology and Theology and develop a grid for understanding the various complementary and often competing views on integration. Students will explore the role of prayer and the Holy Spirit in counseling. Lecture, class discussion and presentations will be the methods used to advance the course goal.

### **Goals:**

At the completion of the course a successful student will:

- 1) be able to identify and evaluate the basic ideas and theories of various Christian thinkers in the field of Christian Counseling and/or soul care.
- 2) be able to evaluate new material in light of various methods of integration.
- 3) be able to discuss the work of the Holy Spirit in Christian counseling.
- 4) be able to articulate a defensible position on the relationship between psychology and theology.
- 5) be able to articulate a graceful understanding of a variety of views of Christian Counseling.
- 6) be able to explain and evaluate the five point continuum of integration.
- 7) be able to discuss the role of prayer in counseling.

## **Requirements:**

**25% - Reading.** Weekly reading assignments will be taken from texts and weekly reading assignments. Each student will be given an opportunity to pledge the reading assignments.

**25%- Attendance and participation.** Be in class. We may have special guests as well as your peers giving presentations. Give the respect they deserve by reading, attending and interacting with the presentation.

**25%- Presentations.** Each student will choose a current thinker in the field of soul care and give a presentation that summarizes and critiques that person's major ideas.

**10% - Church Experience.** Go to a church service that offers “healing prayer” or participate in a church service that has a very different tradition than your own concerning healing.

**15% -- Four-hour silent retreat** –practice the art of listening to God.

## **Texts:**

### The Shack

by William P. Young

Publisher: Windblown Media; first edition (May 1, 2007)

ISBN-10: 0964729237

ISBN-13: 978-0964729230

### The Papa Prayer: The Prayer You've Never Prayed

by Larry Crabb

Publisher: Thomas Nelson (September 11, 2007)

ISBN-10: 0785289178

ISBN-13: 978-0785289173

### Psychology & Christianity : With Contributions by Gary R. Collins ... Et Al

by Stanton L. Jones (Editor), Eric L. Johnson

Publisher: InterVarsity Press (October 2000)

ISBN-10: 0830822631

ISBN-13: 978-0830822638

## **Reading for first week...**

1. Whose Court Should We Play Ball In? At <http://www.oaim.org/psychology.html>

2. WHAT IS NOUTHETIC COUNSELING?

<http://www.oaim.org/discipleship.html>

## **3. From 4 views**

Chapter 1 (History of Christians in Psychology)

Chapter 5 (Biblical View of Counseling –196-242)