

RE 528 CRISIS COUNSELING
BMA Theological Seminary Syllabus, Spring 2010

Instructor:

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Office hours will be posted on office door.

Required Textbooks:

Wright, H. Norman. **The New Guide to Crisis & Trauma Counseling.**
Gospel Light 2003. **ISBN:** 9780830732418

(Note: Norman Wright's *Crisis Counseling* textbook might be found in many earlier editions, the latest edition is what will be used in class.)

Recommended Resources: (On Reserve in the Library)

Berkley, James D. *Called into Crisis.* Carol Stream, Illinois: Word Publishing, 1989.
ISBN-13: 978-0917463235

Lampman, Lisa Barnes, ed. *God and the Victim.* Grand Rapids: Wm. B. Eerdmans, 1999.
ISBN: 9780802845467

Course Description:

The student is instructed in a specialized approach to counseling in crisis situations. Such crises as attempted suicide, death in the family, unwed motherhood, alcoholism, drug abuse, and other related subjects are considered.

Course Objectives:

Upon completion of this course you should be able:

1. to demonstrate basic knowledge of crisis counseling procedures.
2. to understand your own reactions and functioning in a crisis situation.
3. to develop a better understanding of various specific crisis situations and special concerns in the different situations.
4. to apply Biblical principles to the hard questions of life which people ask pastors and Christian workers every day.

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Course Assignments: % of grade

Attendance and Participation	10%
Hard Questions of Life - "Why do the righteous suffer?" Prepare a (3-5 page) paper on your theological understanding of suffering. Be sure to include biblical references.	10%
Hard Questions - "What about divorce?" Prepare a (3-5 page) paper on your theological understanding of divorce. Include biblical references.	10%
Exam (crisis intervention process)	15%
Referral Resources Make a list of referral resources available to you. Include any type of resource you may need. List resources which could help you personally in your counseling ministry and those which could help the person in need. Consider physical, emotional, social, and spiritual needs. Specific counselors, psychologists, doctors, clinics, hospitals, private agencies, and government organizations would be appropriate resources. Record the name, address, phone number, and type of crisis that could bring about the need of referral.	15%
Research Report Choose one specific crisis situation and prepare an in-depth research paper. Include what to do, what not to do, and any special concerns when ministering to a person who is experiencing that particular crisis situation. (10-12 pages)	20%
Final Exam (specific situations) All assignments will be discussed in detail. The content of this syllabus is subject to revision as announced in regular class sessions. A schedule of activities will be distributed with due dates indicated.	20%