Course Description:
This course is an introduction to the pastor’s role and responsibility as Biblical counselor in the local church. A system of counseling grounded in Biblical presuppositions will be taught as well as basic counseling process and practice. The student will also receive foundational knowledge and understanding of typical individual, marital, and family problems with an emphasis on applying Scriptural principles to these life issues. Case studies will be reviewed and a system of premarital counseling will be presented as well.

Required Reading:

Recommended Resources for your Counseling Library:
A reading list will be handed out during the course.

Assignments:
Reading
Students will follow the course schedule

Book Reports
Write two-page, typed reviews of the following three (3) books: Instruments in the Redeemer’s Hands, How People Change, and CrossTalk.
Due: September 13, October 4, October 25

Philosophy of Counseling Paper
Write a paper presenting your philosophy of pastoral counseling. Make sure to include:
1. A Scriptural foundation to your counseling
2. Your vision for how much and what types of counseling you will do in your ministry.
3. The place of psychological theories and/or techniques in your counseling.
4. How you believe Reformed theology and various psychologies integrate.
5. The role of the church in counseling.
Requirements: 6-8 pages, double-spaced 12 point typeset with standard margins. Cite at least five sources, listed at the end of the paper.
Due: November 15

Case Studies
Interact with and write up five (5) case studies throughout the semester. Instructions will be given during the course.
Due: November 29
Final Exam
The final exam will be a comprehensive, written exam which will cover content from all of the lectures and all of the required reading (broad, general concepts).

Grading:

10% - Class Attendance/Participation
15% - Book Reports
20% - Case Studies
25% - Philosophy of Counseling Paper
30% - Final Exam

Class Schedule:
Class will meet on Thursdays from 1:00-3:55 p.m.

Week 1 (08/23)
Introduction and History of Pastoral Counseling
Reading: Tripp Chapters 1-5

Week 2 (08/30)
Counseling Presuppositions
Reading: Tripp Chapters 6-10

Week 3 (09/06)
Counseling Process
Reading: Tripp Chapters 11-14

Week 4 (09/13)
Counseling Practice
Reading: Lane & Tripp Chapters 1-5
Book Report #1 (Tripp) Due

Week 5 (09/20)
Basic Counseling Problems I: Self Problems, Anxiety
Reading: Lane & Tripp Chapters 6-10

Week 6 (9/27)
Basic Counseling Problems II: Depression, Anger
Reading: Lane & Tripp Chapters 11-16

Week 7 (10/4)
Basic Counseling Problems III: Addictions, More complex problems
Reading: Emlet Chapters 1-3
Book Report #2 (Lane & Tripp) Due

READING WEEK
Week 8 (10/18)
Church Discipline; Crisis Counseling
**Reading:** Emlet Chapters 4-7

Week 9 (10/25)
Pre-Marital Counseling
**Reading:** Harvey Chapters 1-4
**Book Report # 3 (Emlet) Due**

Week 10 (11/01)
Guest Lecturer: Rev. Carl Kalberkamp
**Reading:** Emlet Chapters 8-11

Week 11 (11/8)
Marital Counseling I
**Reading:** Harvey Chapters 5-7

Week 12 (11/15)
Marital Counseling II
**Reading:** Harvey Chapters 8-10
**Philosophy of Counseling Paper Due**

THANKSGIVING BREAK

Week 13 (11/29)
Youth and childhood issues
**Case Studies Due**

**FINAL EXAM:** TBA. Possibly December 6th
## MDiv Student Learning Outcomes

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>MDiv Student Learning Outcomes</th>
<th>Rubric</th>
<th>Mini-Justification</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Articulation (oral &amp; written)</strong></td>
<td>Broadly understands and articulates knowledge, both oral and written, of essential biblical, theological, historical, and cultural/global information, including details, concepts, and frameworks.</td>
<td>Moderate</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Scripture</strong></td>
<td>Significant knowledge of the original meaning of Scripture. Also, the concepts for and skill to research further into the original meaning of Scripture and to apply Scripture to a variety of modern circumstances. (Includes appropriate use of original languages and hermeneutics; and integrates theological, historical, and cultural/global perspectives.)</td>
<td>Moderate</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Reformed Theology</strong></td>
<td>Significant knowledge of Reformed theology and practice, with emphasis on the Westminster Standards.</td>
<td>Moderate</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Sanctification</strong></td>
<td>Demonstrates a love for the Triune God that aids the student’s sanctification.</td>
<td>Strong</td>
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<td><strong>Desire for Worldview</strong></td>
<td>Burning desire to conform all of life to the Word of God.</td>
<td>Strong</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Winsomely Reformed/Evangelistic</strong></td>
<td>Embraces a winsomely Reformed ethos. (Includes an appropriate ecumenical spirit with other Christians, especially Evangelicals; a concern to present the Gospel in a God-honoring manner to non-Christians; and a truth-in-love attitude in disagreements.)</td>
<td>Strong</td>
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<td><strong>Preach</strong></td>
<td>Ability to preach and teach the meaning of Scripture to both heart and mind with clarity and enthusiasm.</td>
<td>None</td>
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<td><strong>Worship</strong></td>
<td>Knowledgeable of historic and modern Christian-worship forms; and ability to construct and skill to lead a worship service.</td>
<td>None</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Shepherd</strong></td>
<td>Ability to shepherd the local congregation: aiding in spiritual maturity; promoting use of gifts and callings; and encouraging a concern for non-Christians, both in America and worldwide.</td>
<td>Strong</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Church/World</strong></td>
<td>Ability to interact within a denominational context, within the broader worldwide church, and with significant public issues.</td>
<td>Moderate</td>
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