



Counseling Women's Issues

October 24, 2011—December 16, 2011

BCS611 - 2 Credits

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Course Description

A course for men and women that focuses on understanding and helping women biblically address the unique issues many of them face as they pass through mid-life.

Course Rationale

This course is designed for men and women. Its purpose is to expand the student's understanding of women and to help them gain an appreciation for the unique issues many women face as they pass through middle age. Once the student's understanding has been broadened and their appreciation intensified we will examine the process of biblical sanctification and the elements of the biblical counseling process as they pertain to this specific group of counselees.

The goal of this course is to increase the student's effectiveness in bringing the Bible to bear on this specific group of counselees.

Course Learning Outcomes

At the end of this course the student will be able to:

1. complete and describes each element of the "Theology of Life" diagram
2. explain the ramifications of the "fall" on women today
3. describe who is biblically responsible to minister to this specific group
4. explain the differences between biblical masculinity and femininity
5. describe the biblically complimentary roles of the sexes
6. describe the physiological makeup of the reproductive aspect of the female anatomy
7. explain the physiological changes that occur during climacteric (menopause)
8. discuss the potential impact of the physiological changes that occur during menopause
9. list the potential midlife social changes pertinent to this group
10. discuss potential responses/reactions to the changes listed in objectives 8 & 9

11. explain how the physiological and social changes that women experience interact with the sanctification process
12. describe how the elements of biblical counseling apply to this group specifically

Course Assignments

Reading: Students will read the required texts. Students will read an additional 200 to 400 pages from resources of their choice on a relevant topic assigned by the professor.

Writing

1. The student will write a two-page response paper for each assigned books listed below (1” margins, Font –Times Roman 12, 1.5 spacing, parenthetical reference). A “response paper” is not a book review or a book report. The student is to interact with the material you have read. For example; What do you agree/disagree with and why? What have you seen or experienced? How has the reading impacted (changed/confirmed) your thinking? Etc. First person reference is expected.
2. The student will write a 7-10 page summary of what they learned from their research on their assigned topic (including a Bibliography). In addition they will prepare a 3 to 4 page counseling outline on the relevant topic assigned by the professor.

You may format your outline in any manner you choose (one that will be useful for you).

The following topics should be included:

- The condition we face defined
- The secular world’s thinking/teaching on this issue (keep this succinct)
- *A Biblical understanding of the issue
- Potential consequences of this issue in one’s life
- Possible causes of this issue
- *How will you address this issue from a Biblical perspective

*Your focus should rest here.

- 3.The student will write a 2 page summary on the content of each of their resource files. Focus should be placed upon the most influential articles in each file.

Listening: You are required to listen to the lecture sessions as listed in the weekly schedule.

Forum and Interaction with Class Peers: : You are required to participate in the online forums in a way that exhibits both a grasp of the material as well as an informed opinion on each topic.

To achieve a successful forum grade the student must read student posts, graciously respond to student posts, and participate each week.

Resource File: Each student is required to develop a resource file on the following counseling issues:

- Singleness
- Infertility
- Women's role within church ministry
- Climacteric (Menopause)
- Mid-Life issues/crisis (other than menopause))
- Husband/Wife roles (the challenge of submission)
- Empty Nest
- Delinquent adult children/Children's choices

File material should range from theoretical to the practical – both theological and secular. (*You are expected to read the material you put into your files.*) Quality and helpfulness is the standard, not quantity.

The student should have a sufficient amount of material on each subject (*No fewer than ten items for each topics*). Books and pamphlets are not to be included in your files (although they should be referenced).

Applicable articles from the Journal of Biblical Counseling are expected/required. Other resources include (but are not be limited to):

- <http://www.fbclafayette.org>
- <http://www.christiancounseling.com>
- <http://www.nanc.org>
- <http://www.desiringgod.org>

Files may be retained electronically or in hardcopy format. *The student will provide the instructor with a bibliography of articles for each topic by submitting their bibliography to the LMS on or before the appropriate due date.*

Course Grading

The learning outcomes and related assignments for this course are based upon the formula of two hours out of class for every hour invested in class. In a normal Northland semester a two-credit course meets 28 hours over a 14-week period and requires 72 additional hours of study for a total of 98 hours.

This online course is designed for completion within the scheduled 8-week period. The course is structured around reading assignments, lecture, the processing of a biblical text, writing, and interaction with class peers.

Some weeks of the class are weighted heavier than other weeks. It is always wise to look ahead and work ahead on reading if you can.

I am more than willing to be available to you during the course of this offering of Counseling Women's Issues. The best way to interact with me will be through email (Info is at the top of the syllabus and the course home page in the LMS).

Text Responses	20% (5% each)
Topic Summary	22%
Topic Counseling Outline	8%
Resource File	16% (2% each)
Resource File Content Summary	16% (2% each)
Discussion Forum	18% (3% each)

A = 94-100

B = 86-93

C = 77-85

D = 70-76

F = 69 or below

Course Support

Course materials can be accessed at <https://online.ni.edu>

If you have questions about this course, either in general or specific, as to how assignments should be completed or anything of a course nature, please contact me by e-mail:

jim.juvinall@ni.edu.

If you need support for anything related to using the LMS you should either submit a ticket to Northland Online, onlinesupport.ni.edu.

Course Bibliography

Required Books Visit <http://ni.edu/schools/northland-online/online-bookstore/> to purchase

Fitzpatrick, Elyse. *The Afternoon of Life*. Philipsburg, NJ: P&R Publishing, 2004. | Available on Kindle

Fitzpatrick, Elyse and Carol Cornish. *Women Helping Women*. Eugene, OR: Harvest House Publishers, 1997. | Available on Kindle

Rabey, Lois Mowday. *Postcards from Menopause*. Little Rock, AR: Family Life Publishing, 2003. | Out of print, easily found cheap

Tripp, Paul David. *Lost in the Middle*. Wapwallopen, PA: Shepherd Press, 2004. | Available on Kindle

Recommended Books

Students are encouraged to buy the books noted by an *.

Burke, Dale H. *Different by Design*. Chicago, IL: Moody, 2003.

Cartere, Carrie M.D. *Thrive! A Woman's Guide to a Healthy Lifestyle*. Minneapolis, MN: Bethany House, 2004.

Chapell, Bryan. *Each for the Other*. Grand Rapids, MI: Baker, 2006.

Conway, Jim and Sally. *Maximize Your Mid-Life*. Nashville, TN: Tyndale House, 1987.

Conway, Jim and Sally. *Women in Midlife Crisis*. Nashville, TN: Tyndale House, 1998.

*Conway, Sally. *Menopause*. Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan, 1990.

Conway, Sally. *You and Your Husband's Mid Life Crisis*. Colorado Springs, Colorado: David C. Cook Publishing, 1980.

*Ethridge, Shannon. *Every Woman's Battle*. Sisters, OR: WaterBrook Press, 2003.

Farmer, Andres. *The Rich Single Life*. Gaithersburg, MD: Sovereign Grace Ministries, 1998.

- * Fitzpatrick, Elyse. *Helper by Design*. Chicago, IL: Moody Publishers, 2003.
- Fugate, Virginia. *On the Other Side of The Garden*. Australia: Aletheia, 1992.
- George, Elizabeth. *A Wife After God's Own Heart*. Eugene, OR: Harvest House, 2004.
- Grudem, Wayne. *Evangelical Feminism and Biblical Truth*. Sisters, OR: Multnomah, 2004.
- Hansen, Jane. *The Journey of a Woman*. Ventura, CA: Regal, 1998.
- Hampton, Judy. *Under the Circumstances*. Colorado Springs, CO: Navpress, 2004.
- Hewitt, Fran and Hewitt, Les. *The Power of Focus for Women*. Deerfield Beach, FL: Health Communications Inc, 2003.
- Knight, George W. *The Role relationship of Men and Women*. Philipsburg, NJ: P&R Publishing, 1989.
- Loveless, Caron Chandler. *Honey, They Shrunk My Hormones*. West Monroe, LA: Howard, 2003.
- Mahaney, Carolyn. *Feminine Appeal*. Wheaton, IL: Crossway, 2004.
- McCulley, Carolyn. *Did I Kiss Marriage Goodbye?* Wheaton, IL: Crossway, 2004.
- Miller, Kathy Collard. *Princess to Princess*. Colorado Springs, CO: Cook Communication, 2003.
- Partow, Donna. *This Isn't The Life I Signed Up For*. Minneapolis, MN: Bethany House, 2003.
- *Peace, Martha. *The Excellent Wife*. Bemidji, MN: Focus Publishing, 1995.
- Piper, John and Wayne Grudem. *Recovering Biblical Manhood & Womanhood*. Wheaton, IL: Crossway, 2006.
- Piper, John. *What's the Difference?* Wheaton, IL: Crossway, 1990.
- *Rabey, Lois Mowday. *Postcards from Menopause*. Little Rock, AR: Family Life, 2003.
- Rinehart, Paula. *Strong Women Soft Hearts*. Waco, TX: Word Publishing, 2001.

Silvious, Jan. *Moving Beyond the Myths*. Chicago, IL: Moody, 2001.

Sjogren, Steve and Janie. *101 Ways to Reinvest Your Life*. Colorado Springs, CO: Navpress, 2003.

Vick, Kathy. *Lessons in Buoyancy*. Grand Rapids, MI: Revell, 2004.

Walker, Laura Jensen. *Through the Rocky Road and into the Rainbow Sherbet*. Grand Rapids, MI: Revell, 2002.

Walker, Laura Jensen. *Mental-pause and Other Midlife Laughs*. Grand Rapids, MI: Revell, 2001.

Course Outline and Weekly Assignments

All assignments are due by 11:55 PM CST on the day specified. Videos may be watched any time during the week they are assigned. However, videos must be watched before you answer the forum question for the week.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	Oct. 24 th Class begins Read: <i>Women Helping Women</i> Watch video #1 Introduction and Syllabus Review Watch video #2 – Who’s Responsible?	25 th	26 th	27 th Research Topic Assigned	28 th Discussion Forum #1	29 th Research File and summary due: Singleness
30 th	31 st Watch video #3 Theology of Life	Nov. 1 st	2 nd	3 rd	4 th Discussion Forum #2	5 th Research File and summary due: Infertility Response Paper due: <i>Women Helping Women</i>
6 th	7 th Read: <i>The Afternoon of Life</i> Watch video #4 Masculinity and Femininity	8 th	9 th	10 th	11 th Discussion Forum #3	12 th Research File and summary due: Women’s role within church ministry

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
13 th	14 th Watch video #5 Ramifications of the Fall	15 th	16 th	17 th	18 th Discussion Forum #4	19 th Research File and summary due: Climacteric (Menopause) Response Paper due: <i>The Afternoon of Life</i>
20 th	21 st Read: <i>Lost in the Middle</i> Watch video #6 Social Changes and Challenges	22 nd	23 rd	24 th	25 th Discussion Forum #5	26 th Research File and summary due: Mid-life issues
27 th	28 th Watch video #7 Impact on Methodology and Sanctification	29 th	30 th	Dec. 1st	2 nd Discussion Forum #6	3 rd Research File and summary due: Husband/ Wife roles Response Paper due: <i>Lost in the Middle</i>
4 th	5 th Read: <i>Postcards from Menopause</i>	6 th	7 th	8 th	9 th	10 th Research File and summary due: Empty Nest

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
11 th	12 th Research Topic summary paper and outline due	13 th	14 th	15 th Response Paper due: <i>Postcards from Menopause</i>	16 th Last day of instructional activity. Student project deadline. Research File and summary due: Delinquent children/ children's choices	