

**ASSEMBLIES OF GOD THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY**  
**PCP 657 Marital and Family Therapy I: Theories and Foundations**

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**COURSE SYLLABUS**

**COURSE DESCRIPTION**

The major theoretical approaches used in the practice of marital and family therapy are the focus of this course. Special emphasis is placed on identifying the similarities, distinctives, and major assumptions of each classical theory. The historical foundations of the development of family therapy will also be investigated. This course provides a foundation of essential theoretical and historical information relevant to the professional practice of marital and family therapy.

**COURSE OBJECTIVES**

By the end of the course the student will:

1. Describe the historical development of Marriage and Family Therapy (MFT) including the streams of thought that contributed to its makeup and early concepts used during MFT's formative years
2. Describe the Family Life Cycle and understand its usefulness
3. Describe how selected theories of Marriage and Family Therapy interact and contradict one another
4. Develop a genogram graphic which depicts the three generations of student's family system
5. Interact with information about biblical perspective on Marriage and Family
6. Understand the basic tenants of Family Systems Theory
7. Be exposed to the impact of gender on Marriage and Family issues
8. Understand how family development and individual development intersect and conflict
9. Define normal family development
10. Identify the components of family dysfunction
11. Examine the role of the therapist, including professional and ethical issues in the practice of marriage and family therapy.
12. Understand when to make referrals to other professionals.
13. Learn how to begin a practice in marriage and family therapy.

### **REQUIRED TEXTS**

Campbell, K. (2003). *Marriage and family in the biblical world*. Downers Grove, Illinois:

InterVarsity Press.

Carter, B. & McGoldrick, M. (1999). *The expanded family life cycle*. 3<sup>rd</sup>. Ed.

Boston: Allyn and Bacon

Nichols, M. & Schwartz, R. (2003). *Family therapy: Concepts and methods*. 6<sup>th</sup>.

Ed. Boston: Allyn and Bacon.

McGoldrick, M. & Gerson, R. (1999). *Genograms in family assessment*. 2<sup>nd</sup>. Ed.

New York: Norton.

### **RECOMMENDED BOOKS**

American Psychological Association. (1994). *Publication manual* 5<sup>th</sup> ed.

Washington, D. C. American Psychological Association.

### **METHODOLOGY**

The operation of this course is based on the assumption that each student should become actively involved in the learning process. Therefore, you will be expected to assume a high level of responsibility for your own learning.

Class time will be devoted to informal lectures, use of selected media to illustrate crucial points and discussion of key topical elements.

### **COURSE REQUIREMENTS**

1. **Create a chart** depicting the development of Marriage and Family Therapy
2. **Create a chart** depicting the stages of the Family Life Cycle
3. **Create a chart** which compares six theories of Marriage and Family Therapy

**NOTE: For charts 1-3 use a standard poster board 28”x 22” (not foam board)**

4. **Create a chart**, ON AN 8.5x11 sheet of white paper, depicting a three generation genogram of your family system

5. **Write a six page critique, response or evaluation** of/to Campbell, K.

(2003). *Marriage and family in the biblical world*. Downers Grove, Illinois:

InterVarsity Press.

6. **Attendance** will be taken at each class period and be entered into the grade book as follows:

0-1 Absence s	A
2	B
3-4	C
5	D
Over 5	F

Three tardies equal one absence

### **7. Participation**

This will be a subjective grade given at the discretion of the professor.

### **8. Final Comprehensive Examination**

#### **GRADING SYSTEM**

Four charts	14.28% each
Campbell critique	14.28%
Attendance	14.28%
Final	14.28%
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Total	100%

#### **Special notes on written work:**

1. NEVER USE YOUR NAME ON PAPERS SUBMITTED FOR THIS CLASS. Put only your AGTS student I.D. number and AGTS P.O. Box number on your paper
2. Title and reference pages will comply with APA 5<sup>th</sup> Style Manual
3. Spelling, grammar and proper English usage will be checked
4. Wrong information or incomplete information will be checked
5. Late papers will be discounted one full grade per weekday.
6. If your paper is late it must be stamped and initialed by the faculty secretary, counseling program secretary, academic dean's secretary or the security guard. Do not put papers under my office door.

### **BIBLIOGRAPHY**

To be distributed in class