



LEAVELL COLLEGE

AT NEW ORLEANS BAPTIST THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY

Marriage and Family Issues: LCGE1390-30 (211)

Fall 2020

Eduardo Leiva
Adjunct Instructor
Cell: 305-915-3044

MS
eeleiva@hotmail.com

New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary and Leavell College prepare servants to walk with Christ, proclaim His truth, and fulfill His mission.

COURSE DESCRIPTION

Students will focus on marriage and family as a social institution with application to their life and the local church. Students will also explore various issues related to the marriage relationship and the family.

COURSE STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES

At the conclusion of the semester, the student will:

1. Evaluate the contemporary institution of marriage and family.
2. Explore his/her family of origin and identify both adaptive and maladaptive patterns.
3. Explain and demonstrate various techniques and interventions utilized in marriage and family.

COURSE TEXTS

The following textbook is required:

Balswick, Jack, and Judith Balswick. *The Family: A Christian Perspective on the Contemporary Home*. Grand Rapids, MI: Baker, 2014.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

1. **Attendance and Participation:** As per the Leavell College Catalog, school policies regarding absences and tardies will be strictly enforced. Any student missing more than nine hours will automatically receive a grade of "F" for the course. Every three occasions of arriving late for class or leaving early from class will be counted as one hour of absence. Roll will be taken at the beginning of each class period and after each break. The student is responsible for contacting the teacher if he/she is tardy and the roll has already been taken. The student is expected to participate in class and is responsible for all material, including that which was covered during an absence.
2. **Exams:** All exams will consist of multiple choice, true/false, short answer, and discussion questions. Students should not assume that the study guide, if one is given, is comprehensive to what will be on the exam. If an emergency prevents a student from taking a scheduled exam, it is that student's responsibility to reschedule with the instructor. If a student misses an exam and does not get preapproval from the instructor and/or cannot provide documentation (doctor's note, police report, death of loved one) they will not be allowed to make up the exam. The exam must

be made up within one week of the missed exam. After one week, the student will earn a grade of 0 for the assignment. **Exams 1 & 2 will be given in class on October 1; November 12; Final Exam on Blackboard by December 14.**

3. **Book Review:** In addition to the required textbook for this course, each student will be responsible for selecting an additional book to read and review. Students must choose a book that they have not previously read, which relates to material covered in this course. The book should be at least 100 pages in length. **Submit Additional Book Title on Blackboard by September 3.** A one-page review following the outline provided in class must be submitted and presented to the class. Students will sign up for days to present their book in class and are responsible for submitting a copy of their review on Blackboard by **Oct. 29.** Failure to submit book review in Blackboard will result in a one-letter grade deduction from the student's final grade.
4. **Genogram:** Students will be asked to complete a genogram and reflection exercises on their family of origin. More information will be provided on this in class. **Due on Blackboard by October 8.**
5. **Marriage Enrichment Lessons:** Students will be asked to develop five marriage enrichment lessons. This assignment is designed to be practical in that it can potentially be used for a Sunday school or discipleship class. You are allowed to choose the five topics for each of the lessons. These lessons can be for premarital couples or married couples. Each lesson should follow the format and guidelines provided in class. Marriage enrichment lessons will be **due on Blackboard by November 5.**

The final breakdown for the course will be tabulated according to the following percentage breakdown:

Marriage Enrichment Lessons (November 7)	15%
Book Review (October 18)	10%
Genogram/Family Reflection Exercise	15%
Exam 1 (October 1)	20%
Exam 2 (November 12)	20%
Final Exam (December 14)	<u>20%</u>
	100%

GRADING SCALE

- A: 93 - 100
- B: 85 - 92
- C: 77 - 84
- D: 70 - 76
- F: below 70

COURSE OUTLINE

Week	Class Dates	Topics	Assigned Reading	Assignment Due Dates
1	Aug 27	Syllabus Overview Introduction to the course Sacred Marriage DVD/A Theological Foundation	Chapter 1	
2	Sept 3	The Family as a Developing Biosocial System Mate Selection & Cohabitation	Chapter 2 Chapter 3	Due on Blackboard by Sept. 3: Submit the Title of a book to be reviewed
3	Sept 10	Relationship Attachment Model: Know & Trust Relationship Attachment Model: Rely, Commit, Touch		
4	Sept 17	Establishing Marriage The Seven Principles of Making Marriage Work	Chapters 4 & 5	
5	Sept 24	Communication Genograms Developing a Mature, Reciprocating Self Review	Chapter 13 & 14 Chapter 7	
6	Oct 1	Exam 1		
7	Oct 8	Parenting Bringing Baby Home	Chapter 6	Due on Blackboard by Oct. 8: Genogram Project
8	Oct 15	Brain-Based Parenting Strategies		
9	Oct 19- 24	Fall Break: No Class	Fall Break	
10	Oct 29	Raising an Emotionally Intelligent Child Emotional Safety		Due on Blackboard by Oct. 29: Book Review

Week	Class Dates	Topics	Assigned Reading	Assignment Due Dates
11	Nov 5	Family Spirituality Adolescence & Midlife The Joys and Challenges of Family in Later Life Review	Chapter 8 & 9 Chapter 10	Due on Blackboard by Nov. 5: 5 Marriage Enrichment Lessons
12	Nov 12	Exam 2		
13	Nov 19	Changing Gender Roles & Relations The Stress & Strain of Family Life	Chapters 11 & 12 Chapters 15 & 16	
14	Nov 23–28	Thanksgiving Break: No Class	Thanksgiving Break	
15	Dec 3	Complex Families	Chapters 17 & 18	
16	Dec 10	The Postmodern Family Review	Chapters 19 & 20	
Final Exam	Dec 14	Final Exam		Due on Blackboard by Nov. 14: Final Exam

ADDITIONAL COURSE INFORMATION

1. Attendance Policy: Leavell College follows the attendance policy as stated in the Leavell College catalog.
2. Policy for Late Submissions: All late assignments will be penalized five points for the first day and one point per day thereafter, with no assignments being accepted more than two weeks past the due date.
3. Plagiarism Policy: A high standard of personal integrity is expected of all Leavell College students. Copying another person's work, submitting downloaded material without proper references, submitting material without properly citing the source, submitting the same material for credit in more than one course, and committing other such forms of dishonesty are strictly forbidden. *Although anything cited in three sources is considered public domain, we require that all sources be cited.* Any infraction may result in failing the assignment and the course. Any infraction will be reported to the Dean of Leavell College for further action.
4. Classroom and Online Decorum: Each student is expected to demonstrate appropriate Christian behavior. The student is expected to interact with other students in a fashion that will promote learning and respect for the opinions of the others in the course. A spirit of Christian charity is expected at all times. Electronic devices should be used only for classroom purposes as indicated by the professor.

5. Special Needs: If you need accommodations for a disability, please set up a meeting with the professor for consideration of any modifications you may need.
6. Emergency Plan: In the event the NOBTS schedule is impacted due to a natural event, go to the seminary's website for pertinent information. Class will continue as scheduled through the Blackboard site. Please note announcements and assignments on the course's Blackboard site.
7. Technical Assistance: For general NOBTS technical help, go to www.NOBTS.edu/itc/

SELECTED BIBLIOGRAPHY

- Carder, Dave, and Duncan Jaenicke. *Torn Asunder: Recovering from an Extramarital Affair*. Chicago: Moody Publishers, 2008.
- Epp, John Van. *How to Avoid Falling in Love with a Jerk*. New York: McGraw-Hill Education, 2007.
- Gottman, John, and Nan Silver. *The Seven Principles of Making Marriage Work*. New York: Harmony Books, 2015.
- Gottman, John. *The Marriage Clinic*. New York: W.W. Norton, 1999.
- Gottman, John, and Julie Schwartz Gottman. *Ten Lessons for Transforming Your Marriage*. New York: Three Rivers Press, 2007.
- Gottman, John, and Julie Schwartz Gottman. *And Baby Makes Three: The Six-Step Plan for Preserving Marital Intimacy and Rekindling Romance after Baby Arrives*. New York: Three Rivers Press, 2007.
- Keller, Timothy, and Kathy Keller. *The Meaning of Marriage: Facing the Complexities of Commitment with the Wisdom of God*. New York: Penguin Group, 2011.
- Kostenberger, Andreas J., and David W. Jacobs. *God, Marriage, and Family: Rebuilding the Biblical Foundation*. Wheaton: Crossway, 2010.
- McGoldrick, Monica, and Randy Gerson. *Genograms: Assessment and Intervention*. New York: W.W. Norton, 2008.
- Richardson, Ronald W. *Family Ties That Bind: A Self-help Guide to Change through Family of Origin Therapy*. Vancouver: Self-Counsel Press, 1987.
- Schaumburg, Harry. *Undefined: Redemption from Sexual Sin, Restoration for Broken Relationships*. Chicago: Moody Publishers, 2009.
- Sells, James N., and Mark A. Yarhouse. *Counseling Couples in Conflict: A Relational Restoration Model*. Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity Press, 2011.
- Smalley, Gary. *Making Love Last Forever*. Nashville, TN: Thomas Nelson, 1996.
- Stanley, Scott, Daniel Trathen, Savanna McCain, and Milton Bryan. *A Lasting Promise: The Christian Guide to Fighting for Your Marriage*. San Francisco, CA: Jossey-Bass, 2014.
- Thomas, Gary. *Sacred Marriage: What if God Designed Marriage to Make Us Holy More Than to Make Us Happy*. Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan, 2015.