CN4114: Marriage and the Family (3 Hrs.)

Mid-America Baptist Theological Seminary
Spring 2015: Jan. 20 – May 20; Rm. A206
12:30 – 1:20 P.M.
Instructor: Josh Wollberg
Phone: (901) 484-5080
Email: jwollberg@mabts.edu

CATALOG DESCRIPTION
An exploration of the basic issues of the marriage and family relationships. The emphasis of this course is on marriage and family as social institutions with application to the student’s life and counseling in the local church.

COURSE INTRODUCTION
The course is designed to give the student an overview of marriage and family from Scripture. This study will focus on the foundations of marriage and family, the theology of marriage and family, dynamics of marriage and family relationships, and an introduction to marriage and family counseling. Careful attention will be given to the biblical instructions for marriage and family and the application of biblical principles related to the marriage and family relationships.

COURSE OBJECTIVES
1. To enrich and improve every student’s personal relationship with Christ.

2. To biblically define marriage and family.

3. To prepare unmarried students for a God-honoring marriage and family life.

4. To enhance and strengthen every married student’s marriage and family life.

5. To grasp the meaning and purpose of marriage and family.

6. To help the student better understand the basic concepts of marriage and family counseling.

7. To increase the students’ knowledge, reliance for, and appreciation of God’s Word in “all things that pertain to life and godliness.”

REQUIRED TEXTS
COURSE REQUIREMENTS

• **Memory Quizzes (15%)**: The student should be prepared to reproduce the text word for word including the Scripture reference. To aid in the long-term memory and the application of the selected Scriptures, the instructor will allow the student to choose his or her preferred Bible translation. The student is required to inform the instructor of his or her preferred Bible translation by completing and signing the last sheet of the syllabus. Once a Bible translation is chosen it cannot be changed. If no Bible translation is indicated, the student will be required to reproduce the text from the English Standard Version.

_Quiz #1_
Psalm 1:1-3
Deuteronomy 29:29

Galatians 6:1-3
Colossians 1:28

2 Timothy 3:15-17
Colossians 3:16

_Quiz #2_
All previous verses and:
Genesis 2:21-25
Deuteronomy 6:4-9

Colossians 3:18-21
James 1:2-4

Ephesians 5:22-27
Philippians 2:3, 4

_Quiz #3_
All previous verses and:
James 4:1-3
Matthew 19:3-9

1 Corinthians 13:4-8
1 Corinthians 7:10-16

Ephesians 5:28-33
Hebrews 13:4, 5

Be prepared to reproduce all verses on final exam if needed

• **Reading Reports (15%)**: The reading report is designed to allow the student to respond to the key instruction from the reading that impacted his or her life. The reading report is not a book review; it is designed for the student to communicate what was influential from the reading and how he/she can apply it to his/her life.

The student should respond to the following 5 questions in a 3-4 page double spaced document.

1. **Did you read all of the assignment?**
   Please answer this question with a yes or no. If you did not read all of the assignment, please write “no” and offer a percentage for what you did read.

2. **What are the key principles of the selected reading? (1½ - 2 page response)**
   • Please bullet point four to five principles of instruction you saw as pivotal in the assigned reading. Include new information that you learned from the reading and information that you can apply directly to your life. In essence, discuss what was meaningful about the reading.
   • Each response should have all of the following elements: 1) the principle stated succinctly, 2) the page reference, cited parenthetically, wherein that principle can be found in the textbook, 3) the biblical text which that principle draws upon, and 4) a specific use for marriage and family or personal sanctification.
3. Was there anything you disagreed with or had questions about? If so, what? (0 - ½ page response)
   • Answer with a yes or a no.
   • If you disagree, explain the points of disagreement. You must cite the idea or statement that you disagree with and include the quotations from the author that you disagree on. You must prove your disagreement with Scripture.

4. How will you respond biblically to a challenge presented in your life from the reading assignment? (¼ - 1 page response)
   Explain how you will apply the key principles from the reading (#2 above) to your life. This section is about application. Communicate how your beliefs or actions were challenged by the reading and explain how or what you will do to apply biblical principles to your life. Explain how theses false beliefs and actions have affected your relationship with God and others. State clearly what you were convicted of (false beliefs or actions), how the Scriptures address this false belief or behavior, and how and what you will do to correct these false beliefs and actions.

5. How have you encouraged someone or could you encourage someone with what you have learned? (¼ - ½ page response)
   We are called to teach, correct, rebuke, and train one another (2 Tim. 3:16). Remember God has placed us in the lives of others to use us in their sanctification. Write a brief paragraph of someone you can “build up” or encourage with this teaching. Please do not include specific names in details. Just include the initials of the person(s) with whom you plan on speaking with and why.

• **Worksheets (25%)**: The student will be required to complete four worksheets. Each worksheet will have its own unique set of instructions. The worksheets are designed to interact with the lectures and reading, allowing the student to increase in the knowledge of Scripture and progress in sanctification.

• **PIP Plan Interview (5%)**: Each Student is required to make an appointment with the instructor between May 4 and May 15 to discuss the progress of his/her plan to change project (Worksheet 3). It is required that female students have another person (friend, husband, etc.) with them during this interview. If an individual is not available to attend this interview then the instructor’s wife will sit in on the interview.

• **Exams (20%)**: The exams are designed to measure the students’ knowledge of the course material. The exams may include true/false, multiple choice, matching, short answer, and essay questions. Exam questions will be taken from both in-class lectures and the required reading.

• **Final Exam (20%)**: The final exam will be a comprehensive exam. The final exam is designed to test the student’s ability to apply the information from the readings and lectures. There will be a memory verse section on the final. **The Final Exam may not be taken early, it must be taken during the scheduled time!**
CLASS POLICY

Class Attendance: Students are expected to attend all scheduled class sessions. To receive academic credit in a course during a regular semester, a student cannot exceed more than nine absences. Three tardies are equal to one absence. Nine absences plus one tardy equals failure of the course.

Late Work: Students are expected to submit all assignments by the scheduled due date. Class assignments must be submitted on or before the due date to receive full credit. Students are responsible to submit their assignments by the due date even when they are absent from class. Assignments turned in late will receive a letter grade deduction for each day late. Assignments over one week late will not receive credit. Only in cases of extreme unforeseen circumstances—occurring before the original due date—such as a medical emergency, a family tragedy, or other circumstance which debilitates the student from attending to his studies—will an extended due date (extension), without penalty, be considered at the discretion of the instructor.

It is the student’s responsibility to notify the instructor before the due date of any circumstance that would hinder the completion of the work by the date due.

All examinations must be taken at the time and date announced by the instructor. Except for a verifiable emergency, a test or quiz may be taken at a later date only if the instructor is notified at least one week before the exam date. A test missed because of an unexcused absence will result in a zero.

Laptops: Laptops are welcomed in the classroom strictly for note taking purposes. If at any time a student is observed abusing the laptop privilege (e.g., checking e-mail or Facebook, playing games, instant messaging, doing other homework) he will be marked absent for that day.

Cell Phone Policy: As a courtesy to the class, please silence your cell phone during class. Text messaging during class will not be tolerated.

Academic Dishonesty: Academic work is evaluated on the assumption and the expectation that the work presented is the student’s own. Anything less is unacceptable and is considered academically dishonest. Collaboration, plagiarism, and cheating are considered forms of academic dishonesty and students guilty of such are subject to disciplinary action. For further explanation see the Mid-America Catalog.

Disclaimer: The instructor reserves the right to make any necessary changes to the syllabus during the semester.
MEETINGS WITH THE INSTRUCTOR
Typically, the instructor is available to meet with students immediately after class. For appointments at other times, please email or call the instructor to request a time.

GRADING SCALE
The grades for this course will be calculated using the following grading scale:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Range</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>97-100</td>
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<tr>
<td>A-</td>
<td>95-96</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B+</td>
<td>93-94</td>
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<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>90-92</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B-</td>
<td>87-89</td>
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<tr>
<td>C+</td>
<td>84-86</td>
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<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>81-83</td>
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<tr>
<td>C-</td>
<td>77-80</td>
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<tr>
<td>D+</td>
<td>75-76</td>
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<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>72-74</td>
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<tr>
<td>D-</td>
<td>70-71</td>
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<tr>
<td>F</td>
<td>69 and below</td>
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# Course Schedule

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week 1</th>
<th>FOUNDATIONS OF MARRIAGE AND FAMILY</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Jan. 20</td>
<td>Introduction to Course</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jan. 21</td>
<td>Why is a biblical view necessary?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jan. 22</td>
<td>Why is a biblical view necessary?</td>
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*Read: Meaning of Marriage, Introduction and Chapter 1*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week 2</th>
<th>FOUNDATIONS OF MARRIAGE AND FAMILY</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Jan. 27</td>
<td>Understanding how Genesis 3 affects marriage and family relationships</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jan. 28</td>
<td>Understanding how Genesis 3 affects marriage and family relationships</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jan. 29</td>
<td>Understanding how Genesis 3 affects marriage and family relationships</td>
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</table>

*Read: Meaning of Marriage, Chapter 2*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week 3</th>
<th>FOUNDATIONS OF MARRIAGE AND FAMILY</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Feb. 3</td>
<td>Marriage counseling</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Feb. 4</td>
<td>Marriage counseling</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Feb. 5</td>
<td>Marriage counseling</td>
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*Due: Worksheet 1*

*Read: Meaning of Marriage, Chapter 3*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week 4</th>
<th>FOUNDATIONS OF MARRIAGE AND FAMILY</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Feb. 10</td>
<td>Marriage counseling</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Feb. 11</td>
<td>Marriage counseling</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Feb. 12</td>
<td>Pre-marriage counseling</td>
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</table>

*Memory Quiz 1*

*Read: Meaning of Marriage, Chapter 4*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week 5</th>
<th>FOUNDATIONS OF MARRIAGE AND FAMILY</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Feb. 17</td>
<td>Pre-marriage counseling / Exam Review</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Feb. 18</td>
<td>Exam 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Feb. 19</td>
<td>Biblical view of marriage and family</td>
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*Read: Meaning of Marriage, Chapter 5*

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week 6</th>
<th>BIBLICAL VIEW OF MARRIAGE AND FAMILY</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Feb. 24</td>
<td>Biblical view of marriage and family</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Feb. 25</td>
<td>Biblical view of marriage and family</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Feb. 26</td>
<td>Biblical view of marriage and family</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Due: Worksheet 2*

*Read: Meaning of Marriage, Chapter 6*
### Week 7
**BIBLICAL VIEW OF MARRIAGE AND FAMILY**
- Mar. 3: Biblical view of marriage and family
- Mar. 4: Biblical view of marriage and family
- Mar. 5: Biblical view of marriage and family

*Read: Meaning of Marriage, Chapter 7*

### March 6 - 23
**Spring Break**  **No Classes**

### Week 8
**BIBLICAL VIEW OF MARRIAGE AND FAMILY**
- Mar. 24: Biblical view of love
- Mar. 25: Biblical view of love
- Mar. 26: Adultery

*Memory Quiz 2*

*Read: Meaning of Marriage, Chapter 8*

### Week 9
**MARRIAGE AND FAMILY PROBLEMS**
- Mar. 31: Divorce
- Apr. 1: Divorce
- Apr. 2: Communication Problems

*Due: Worksheet 3*

*Read: Peacemaking for Families, Intro-Chapter 2*

### Week 10
**MARRIAGE AND FAMILY PROBLEMS**
- Apr. 7: Communication Problems
- Apr. 8: Communication Problems/ Exam Review
- Apr. 9: Exam 2

*Read: Peacemaking for Families Chapters 3, 4*

### Week 11
**OVERCOMING MARRIAGE AND FAMILY PROBLEMS**
- Apr. 14: Reconciliation

*Due: Meaning of Marriage Reading Report*

- Apr. 15: Forgiveness
- Apr. 16: Forgiveness

*Read: Peacemaking for Families Chapters 5, 6, 7*

### Week 12
**OVERCOMING MARRIAGE AND FAMILY PROBLEMS**
- Apr. 21: Living with a sinful spouse

*Due: Worksheet 4*

- Apr. 22: Living with a sinful spouse
- Apr. 23: Living with a sinful spouse

*Read: Peacemaking for Families Chapters 8, 9*
### Week 13
**OVERCOMING MARRIAGE AND FAMILY PROBLEMS**
- Apr. 27: ARC
- Apr. 28: ARC
- Apr. 29: ARC
- Apr. 30: Tragedy/Illness
  - **Memory Quiz 3**

*Read: Peacemaking for Families Chapters 10, 11*

### Week 14
**SINGLENESS/CHOOSING A SPOUSE**
- May 5: Singleness
- May 6: Qualifications of a biblical spouse
- May 7: Qualifications of a biblical spouse

*Read: Peacemaking for Families Chapter 12, Appendix A*

### Week 15
**FAMILY MATTERS**
- May 12: Sex/Birth Control
- May 13: Parenting
- May 14: Parenting / Exam Review
  - **Due: Peacemaking for Families Reading Report**

**FINAL EXAM – May 20, 2015 – 10:30 a.m.**
SELECTED BIBLIOGRAPHY


CN4114: Marriage and the Family

SYLLABUS SIGNATURE PAGE: Students must sign and return to the instructor no later than January 29, 2015.

By signing this page, I affirm that:

1. I have read the syllabus carefully and understand the requirements and expectations of this course.

2. I understand that I am allowed nine (9) absences per semester; to exceed nine absences results in a failing grade. I understand it is my responsibility to keep track of my absences/tardies.

3. I understand what academic dishonesty is and understand the consequences for committing academic dishonesty.

4. I understand that any personal information spoken of between the instructor and students in class is to be kept confidential.

I ____________________________ have read the syllabus in its entirety. I understand the requirements and expectations of this course.

I desire to use the ________________________ Bible translation on all memory quizzes.

Signature: ___________________________ Date: ___________________________