1-1-2002

CO 520 Narrative Pastoral Counseling

Burrell D. Dinkins

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A Syllabus and General Guide for Narrative Pastoral Counseling
CO520
Summer 2002

Burrell D. Dinkins, Th.D.
Johnson Chair of Pastoral Counseling
I. **Course Description:**

This course is designed as an examination of the theory and practice of a postmodern approach to counseling from the perspective of narrative. The process of authoring and reauthoring lives through stories will be examined from the disciplines of literature, psychology, Bible, theology, psychotherapy and spiritual direction.

II. **General Goals:** The goals of CO520 are to help students:

1. Develop a basic understanding of the issues of postmodern theory and techniques of counseling.
2. Integrate narrative theory with the practice of narrative counseling.
3. Bridge the gap between exegesis and diegesis in Bible studies.
4. Examine the importance of asking timely, well-formulated questions.
5. Explore how their own lives have been authored and discover ways to reauthor themselves from the perspective of the biblical metanarratives.
6. Find cross-cultural means of communication,
7. Discover ways to become practitioners of Narrative Counseling,

III. **Prerequisite For the Course:**

Before enrolling in this class students must have successfully completed PC510 (Pastoral Care and Counseling) or PM654 (The Helping Relationship).

IV. **Time:** The class will Monday, May 27 (Memorial Day) – Friday, May 31. 8:00am – 12:00pm and 1:30 – 4:30pm.

V. A. **Course Reading:** A minimum of 1500 pages of reading in textbooks and research projects will be required.

B. **Research Projects:** Students will select a topic related to narrative studies for research and write a 12-15 page academic paper.
C. Practice Sessions: Students will be asked to practice narrative counseling skills in class sessions.

D. Final Exam. An open book take home exam will be used to evaluate academic knowledge and clinical skills.

Evaluation System:
The following percentages will determine the numerical and the letter grade.

- 30% Research project
- 20% Team role-play and class discussion
- 20% Reading report
- 30% Final Exam

VII. Texts:

1) Coles, The Call of Stories


5) White, Michael and David Epston. Narrative Means To Therapeutic Ends.
VIII. Bibliography:


## Narrative Pastoral Counseling

**CO520**

### Class Schedule

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Hour</th>
<th>Class Topic</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Monday, May 27</strong></td>
<td>8:00-9:15</td>
<td>Introduction to N. P. C.</td>
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<tr>
<td>(Memorial Day)</td>
<td>9:15-9:25</td>
<td>Break</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>9:25-10:40</td>
<td>Telling Our Stories</td>
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<td></td>
<td>10:40-10:45</td>
<td>Break</td>
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<td></td>
<td>12:00-1:30</td>
<td>Lunch</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1:30-2:45</td>
<td>Narrative Concepts &amp; Assumptions</td>
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<td></td>
<td>2:45-3:00</td>
<td>Break</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>3:00-4:30</td>
<td>Story Listening Skills</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Tuesday, May 28</strong></td>
<td>8:00-9:15</td>
<td>Cross-Cultural Counseling Conversations</td>
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<td>9:15-9:25</td>
<td>Break</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>9:25-10:40</td>
<td>Asking Questions</td>
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<td></td>
<td>10:40-10:45</td>
<td>Break</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>10:45-12:00</td>
<td>Developing An Attitude of Hope</td>
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<td></td>
<td>12:00-1:30</td>
<td>Lunch</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1:30-2:45</td>
<td>Discovering Competencies, Building on Strengths</td>
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<td>2:45-3:00</td>
<td>Break</td>
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<td></td>
<td>3:00-4:30</td>
<td>Story Development Skills</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Wednesday, May 29</strong></td>
<td>8:00-9:15</td>
<td>Discover and Expand the Plot</td>
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<td>9:15-9:25</td>
<td>Break</td>
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<td></td>
<td>9:25-10:40</td>
<td>Past-present, Present-present, Future-present Time</td>
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<td>10:40-10:45</td>
<td>Break</td>
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<td>10:45-12:00</td>
<td>Cinephotography stories</td>
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<td>12:00-1:30</td>
<td>Lunch</td>
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<td>1:30-2:45</td>
<td>Narrative Conversation Demonstration</td>
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<td>2:45-3:00</td>
<td>Break</td>
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<td>3:00-4:30</td>
<td>Building Vision Stories</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Thursday, May 30</strong></td>
<td>8:00-9:15</td>
<td>Bible Stories</td>
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<td>9:15-9:25</td>
<td>Break</td>
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<td></td>
<td>9:25-10:40</td>
<td>Uncovering Stories of Faith</td>
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<td>10:40-10:45</td>
<td>Break</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday, May 30</td>
<td>10:45-12:00</td>
<td>The Healing Power of Stories</td>
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<td>(cont.)</td>
<td>12:00-1:30</td>
<td>Lunch</td>
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<td>1:30-2:45</td>
<td>Crisis Stories</td>
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<td>2:45-3:00</td>
<td>Break</td>
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<td>3:00-4:30</td>
<td>Creating Stories</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday, May 31</td>
<td>8:00-9:15</td>
<td>Writing Narrative Letters</td>
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<td>9:15-9:25</td>
<td>Break</td>
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<td>9:25-10:40</td>
<td>Narrative Leadership</td>
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<td>10:40-10:45</td>
<td>Break</td>
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<td></td>
<td>10:45-12:00</td>
<td>The limitations of narrative approaches to counseling summary</td>
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