CO 520 Narrative Counseling

Tapiwa N. Mucherera

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Asbury Theological Seminary

A Syllabus and General Guide for
Narrative Counseling
CO520
Summer One (1) 2003

Tapiwa N. Mucherera
Associate Professor of Pastoral Counseling
Asbury Theological Seminary
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:**

IV. **Time:** The class will Tues, May 27 – Friday, June 6th. 12:30pm – 5:00pm.

V. A. **Course Reading:** A minimum of 1500 pages of reading in textbooks and research projects will be required. A 5 page double spaced annotated bibliography will be submitted after completion of class.

B. **Research Projects:** Students will select a topic related to narrative studies for research and write a 15-18 page academic paper.
C. Practice Sessions: Students will be asked to practice narrative counseling skills in class sessions and this will be used to evaluate integration of academic knowledge and clinical skills.

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

45% Research project

35% Team role-play and class discussion

20% Reading report (Annotated reading report – 5 pages double spaced)

Due date: **All the work for this class is due Wednesday June 18th, 2003, with no exceptions.**

VII. Texts:


2) Morgan Alice. What is Narrative Therapy? An easy to read introduction, Adelaide: Australia Dulwich Centre, 2000


## Narrative Counseling

**CO520**

Class meets 12:30 – 5:00pm

### Class Schedule

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Hour</th>
<th>Class Topic</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tues, May 27</td>
<td>12:30-</td>
<td>Introduction to N.C.</td>
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<td>What is in a story?</td>
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<td>Break</td>
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<td>Telling Our Stories</td>
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<td>Wed  May 28</td>
<td>12:30</td>
<td>Story Listening Skills</td>
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<td>Asking Questions</td>
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<td>Developing An Attitude of Hope</td>
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<td>Discovering Competencies, Building on Strengths</td>
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<td>Thursday May 29</td>
<td>12:30</td>
<td>Narrative Concepts &amp; Assumptions</td>
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<td>Cinephotography Stories</td>
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<td>Past-present, Present-present, Future-present Time</td>
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<td>Friday May 30</td>
<td>12:30</td>
<td>Cross-Cultural Counseling Conversations</td>
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<td>Break</td>
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<td>Cross-cultural counseling -Ingrediences</td>
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<td>Monday June 2</td>
<td>12:30</td>
<td>Bible Stories</td>
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<td>Break</td>
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<td>Uncovering Stories of Faith</td>
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<td>Tuesday June 3</td>
<td>12:30</td>
<td>The Healing Power of Stories</td>
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<td>Limitations of Narrative Practice</td>
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<td>Weds June 4</td>
<td>12:30</td>
<td>Writing Narrative conversations</td>
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<td>Theory to practice</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday June 5</td>
<td>12:30</td>
<td>Theory to practice</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday June 6</td>
<td>12:30</td>
<td>Theory to practice</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
VIII. Bibliography:


