

<b>Course ID:</b>	<b>Course Title:</b>	<b>Winter 2019</b>
CC 621	Marriage and Family Therapy	<b>Prerequisite:</b> CC 501
		<b>Credits:</b> 3

Class Information		Instructor Information		Important Dates	
<b>Days:</b>	Mondays	<b>Instructor:</b>	Don McNaughton, MA DMin	<b>First day of classes:</b>	Thu, Jan 3
<b>Time:</b>	9:00am-12:00pm	<b>Email:</b>	dr.don@cciwireless.ca	<b>Last day to add/drop, or change to audit:</b>	Sun, Jan 13
<b>Room:</b>	L2100	<b>Phone:</b>	403-585-8607	<b>Last day to request revised exam:</b>	Mon, Mar 11
<b>Lab/ Tutorial:</b>	--	<b>Office:</b>		<b>Last day to withdraw from course:</b>	Fri, Mar 22
	--	<b>Office Hours:</b>		<b>Last day to apply for coursework extension:</b>	Fri, Mar 29
<b>Final Exam:</b>	No			<b>Last day of classes:</b>	Fri, Apr 5

### Course Description

An introduction to systems theory and its application to Christian marriage counselling. The developmental stages of a family are examined in addition to didactic study of four to six major systems theorists. Approximately half of the course is devoted to utilizing the theoretical material in the context of Christian counselling both at a pastoral and professional counselling level. Prerequisite: CC 501

### Expected Learning Outcomes

- To present a Christian approach for marriage and family counselling.
- To evaluate a number of current theories of marriage and family counselling from a biblical perspective.
- To help the student acquire skills for evaluating and facilitating change in marital and family relationships. Attention will be given to:
  - Assessment and evaluation.
  - Formulating a treatment plan. (conceptualizing change)
  - Intervention focused on promoting change through counselling.

### Textbooks (two required)

- Ripley, Jennifer S. and Everett L. Worthington Jr. *Couple Therapy: A New Hope-Focused Approach*. Downer's Grove: InterVarsity Press, 2014.  
**ISBN-10:** 0830828575    **ISBN-13:** 978-0830828579
- Clinton, Tim and John Trent. *The Quick-Reference Guide to Marriage & Family Counseling*. Grand Rapids, Michigan: Baker Books, 2009.  
**ISBN-10:** 0801072247    **ISBN-13:** 978-0801072246

### Textbook (recommended)

- 👉 Nichols, Michael P. *The Essentials of Family Therapy, 6<sup>th</sup> ed.* Boston: Pearson, 2013.  
**ISBN-10:** 9780205249008    **ISBN-13:** 978-0205249008

### Course Schedule

	Date	Topic	Reading Due	% of Reading Completed	Assignments Due
WEEK 1	Jan 7	Course introduction and Syllabus review	-----		
WEEK 2	Jan 14	A Christian Approach - Worthington	Couple Therapy pp.15-68		
WEEK 3	Jan 21	Theory of Marriage Counselling	Couple Therapy pp.69-102		Fill out the MAI, forward copies of completed forms to professor, with signed consent form
WEEK 4	Jan 28	Structure of Marriage Counselling	Couple Therapy pp.103-196		
WEEK 5	Feb 4	Assessment and Intervention	Couple Therapy pp.197-318		
WEEK 6	Feb 11	Conquering Difficulties	Couple Therapy pp.319-354		MAI rough notes should be completed and handed in.
WEEK 7	Feb 18	Family Day -- NO CLASS --	-- --		
WEEK 8	Feb 25	Concluding Treatment; Video - Neil Jacobson or Jennifer Ripley	Couple Therapy pp.355-378		MAI assessment and write-up (parts b and c)
continued...					

	Date	Topic	Reading Due	% of Reading Completed	Assignments Due
WEEK 9	Mar 4	Family Therapy history and concepts	Quick Ref. Guide to Marriage & Family Counseling 13-97		Book Review: Couple Therapy
WEEK 10	Mar 11	Family Therapy structure and specific topics	Quick Ref. Guide to Marriage & Family Counseling 98-156		
WEEK 11	Mar 18	Family Therapy theories and specific topics	Quick Ref. Guide to Marriage & Family Counseling 157-198		
WEEK 12	Mar 25	Family Therapy theories and specific topics	Quick Ref. Guide to Marriage & Family Counseling 199-254		Major Assignment
WEEK 13	Apr 1	Family Therapy theories and specific topics; Minuchin video	Quick Ref. Guide to Marriage & Family Counseling 254-294		Book Review: The Quick Reference Guide to Marriage and Family Counseling
WEEK 14	Apr 8	Final Exam Week - No Exam for This Class			

## Requirements:

### 1. Reading/Review Requirements (20%)

Read *Couple Therapy: A New Hope-Focused Approach*. Write a five page book review. Consult The Writing Center's Book Reviews from the University of North Carolina to take note of the manner in which your book review is to be written. (<http://writingcenter.unc.edu/files/2012/09/Book-Reviews-The-Writing-Center.pdf>)

**Due: class time Week 9**

Read *The Quick-Reference Guide to Marriage & Family Counseling*. Write a five page book review. Consult The Writing Center's Book Reviews from the University of North Carolina to take note of the manner in which your book review is to be written. (<http://writingcenter.unc.edu/files/2012/09/Book-Reviews-The-Writing-Center.pdf>)

**Due: class time Week 13**

### 2. Class Participation (10%)

Grading will be based on active class participation that demonstrates a familiarity with the texts, and an ability to interact theologically and personally with the theories and practices presented in the texts or class.

### 3. Readiness Awareness Tests (15%)

Assigned readings will often be discussed in class. Students' readiness to participate in focused and meaningful discussion may be tested during the first ten minutes of any class. Test material may come from assigned readings and/or class notes. Those arriving late for class will miss the opportunity to take the test.

#### 4. Marital Assessment Inventory and Write-up (25%)

Complete, and have your spouse complete, the Marital Assessment Inventory by H. Norman Wright. If you are not married, ask a married couple whom you know to complete an inventory for you. Informed consent will be required from the persons completing the inventory, in order for the student to use the information provided to conduct assessment and treatment planning of marital issues. Filling out the MAI can be accomplished as soon as the course begins.

**Due: at class time Week 3**

After reading of *Couple Therapy* is complete, use the completed MAI inventory to write an assessment of your marriage (or if you are not married, an assessment of the couple who filled out the marital inventory form for you). The assessment should total about eight pages, using the following outline:

- a. MAI Rough Notes: Go through the MAI and evaluate the relationship as presented in the form, incorporating your observations and comments/judgments for each of the major sections covered by the inventory. List your observations in point form and attach these rough notes to your final write-up. (Rough notes are not part of the page count.)
- b. Assessment: Assess where this marriage is through the lens of Ripley and Worthington's framework. Process the MAI information utilizing that framework.
- c. Treatment Plan: Plan four to six strategic marital counselling sessions for this couple, indicating therapy goals, focus, target areas and strategies (interventions) for each session. Use information from Ripley and Worthington to structure the sessions. Be specific about what you will actually do in the session (or what you will have the couple do), keeping in mind what can reasonably be accomplished in one hour.

**Due: at class time Week 6**

**Due: parts b. and c. together are due at class time Week 8**

#### 5. Major Assignment (30%)

Write a 15-page paper (minimum) in which you:

- a. Describe your personal worldview (*Weltanschauung*) and belief system (i.e., your basic beliefs concerning life, things and people).
- b. Indicate how your worldview and belief system originated in the matrix of your familial, cultural and spiritual background.
- c. Describe the salient aspects of one of the family systems counselling theories presented in the course and comment on why this is an appropriate counselling model to apply to your own life situation.
- d. Apply the theory described to a discussion of:
  - i. Your worldview and beliefs,
  - ii. Your family background, and
  - iii. Your professional practice of pastoral care. If you are not currently active in pastoral care, apply the theory you have described to a discussion of your personal and community relationships.

This paper will reflect the student's learning from the required reading and from class discussion. The paper should demonstrate the student's ability to engage in analysis, critical evaluation and integration of concepts and practices.

**Due: class time Week 12**

**Attendance:**

Students are expected to attend all classes. Unless previously approved by the professor, a student absent for more than two class hours per course credit hour will not receive credit for the course.

Additionally, students are expected to begin and end each class according to the established time schedule for this course. Students are required to arrange work and personal commitments so they do not interfere with the normal class schedule. No allowance will be made for non-emergency late arrivals and early departures, particularly in relation to quizzes/exams.

**Grade Summary:**

- Reading assignments/ book reviews      20%
- Class participation                              10%
- Readiness awareness tests                    15%
- MAI assessments/write-up                    25%
- Major assignment                                30%

The available letters for course grades are as follows:

<u>Letter Grade</u>	<u>Description</u>
A+	Excellent
A	
A-	Good
B+	
B	
B-	Satisfactory
C+	
C	
C-	
D+	Minimal Pass
D	
F	Failure

Percentage scores will be translated into letter grades according to the following scale:

A+	98-100	C+	77-80
A	95-97	C	73-76
A-	92-94	C-	70-72
B+	88-91	D+	66-69
B	85-87	D	63-65
B-	81-84	D-	60-62
		F	00-59

Because of the nature of the Alpha 4.00 system, there can be no uniform University-wide conversion scale. The relationship between raw scores (e.g. percentages) and the resultant letter grade will depend on the nature of the course and the instructor’s assessment of the level of each class, compared to similar classes taught previously.

Please note that final grades will be available on student registration system. Printed grade sheets are not mailed out.

Other:

## INFORMED CONSENT

Name of student: \_\_\_\_\_

Instructor: Dr. Don McNaughton

## PARTICIPANT INFORMATION

I understand that this exercise is part of a Marriage and Family Counselling course and I am willing to complete this Marriage Assessment Inventory for the purpose of assisting in the student's development of marriage and family counselling skills.

I understand that the marital assessment information will be reviewed by the student and the student's instructor, and that no one else will be given access to this information; I understand further that the information will be destroyed upon the student's completion of the course, or failing completion of the course, in six months' time.

## PERMISSION

I hereby indicate that I have read and understand the above statements, and I give my permission for my Marital Assessment Inventory information to be used as described.

\_\_\_\_\_  
SIGNATURE of spouse

\_\_\_\_\_  
date

\_\_\_\_\_  
SIGNATURE of spouse

\_\_\_\_\_  
date

## Ambrose University Academic Policies:

### Communication

All students have received an Ambrose e-mail account upon registration. It is the student's responsibility to check this account regularly as the Ambrose email system will be the professor's instrument for notifying students of important matters (cancelled class sessions, extensions, requested appointments, etc.) between class sessions. If students do not wish to use their Ambrose accounts, they will need to forward all messages from the Ambrose account to another personal account.

### Registration

During the **Registration Revision Period** students may enter a course without permission, change the designation of any class from credit to audit and /or voluntary withdraw from a course without financial or academic penalty or record. Courses should be added or dropped on the student portal by the deadline date; please consult the List of Important Dates. After that date, the original status remains and the student is responsible for related fees.

Students intending to withdraw from a course after the Registration Revision Period must apply to the Office of the Registrar by submitting a "Request to Withdraw from a Course" form or by sending an email to the Registrar's Office by the **Withdrawal Deadline**; please consult the List of Important Dates on the my.ambrose.edu website. Students will not receive a tuition refund for courses from which they withdraw after the Registration Revision period. A grade of "W" will appear on their transcript.

Students wishing to withdraw from a course, but who fail to do so by the applicable date, will receive the grade earned in accordance with the course syllabus. A student obliged to withdraw from a course after the Withdrawal Deadline because of health or other reasons may apply to the Registrar for special consideration.

### Exam Scheduling

Students, who find a conflict in their exam schedule must submit a Revised Examination Request form to the Registrar's Office by the deadline date; please consult the List of Important Dates. Requests will be considered for the following reasons only: 1) the scheduled final examination slot conflicts with another exam; 2) the student has three final exams within three consecutive exam time blocks; 3) the scheduled final exam slot conflicts with an exam at another institution; 4) extenuating circumstances. Travel is not considered a valid excuse for re-scheduling or missing a final exam.

### Electronic Etiquette

Students are expected to treat their instructor, guest speakers, and fellow students with respect. It is disruptive to the learning goals of a course or seminar and disrespectful to fellow students and the instructor to use electronics for purposes unrelated to the course during a class session. Turn off all cell phones and other electronic devices during class. Laptops should be used for class-related purposes only. Do not use iPods, MP3 players, or headphones. Do not text, read, or send personal emails, go on Facebook or other social networks, search the internet, or play computer games during class. Some professors will not allow the use of any electronic devices in class. The professor has the right to disallow the student to use a

laptop in future lectures and/or to ask a student to withdraw from the session if s/he does not comply with this policy. Repeat offenders will be directed to the Dean. If you are expecting communication due to an emergency, please speak with the professor before the class begins.

### Academic Policies

It is the responsibility of all students to become familiar with and adhere to academic policies as stated in the Academic Calendar. Personal information (information about an individual that may be used to identify that individual) may be required as part of taking this class. Any information collected will only be used and disclosed for the purpose for which the collection was intended. For further information contact the Privacy Compliance Officer at [privacy@ambrose.edu](mailto:privacy@ambrose.edu).

### Extensions

Although extensions to coursework in the semester are at the discretion of the instructor, students may not turn in coursework for evaluation after the last day of the scheduled final examination period unless they have received permission for a course Extension from the Registrar's Office. Requests for course extensions or alternative examination time must be submitted to the Registrar's Office by the deadline date; please consult the List of Important Dates. Course extensions are only granted for serious issues that arise "due to circumstances beyond the student's control."

### Appeal of Grade

An appeal for change of grade on any course work must be made to the course instructor within one week of receiving notification of the grade. An appeal for change of final grade must be submitted to the Registrar's Office in writing and providing the basis for appeal within 30 days of receiving notification of the final grade, providing the basis for appeal. A review fee of \$50.00 must accompany the appeal. If the appeal is sustained, the fee will be refunded.

### Academic Integrity

We are committed to fostering personal integrity and will not overlook breaches of integrity such as plagiarism and cheating. Academic dishonesty is taken seriously at Ambrose University as it undermines our academic standards and affects the integrity of each member of our learning community. Any attempt to obtain credit for academic work through fraudulent, deceptive, or dishonest means is academic dishonesty. Plagiarism involves presenting someone else's ideas, words, or work as one's own. Plagiarism is fraud and theft, but plagiarism can also occur by accident when a student fails or forgets to acknowledge to another person's ideas or words. Plagiarism and cheating can result in a failing grade for an assignment, for the course, or immediate dismissal from the university. Students are expected to be familiar with the policies in the current Academic Calendar that deal with plagiarism, cheating, and the penalties and procedures for dealing with these matters. All cases of academic dishonesty are reported to the Academic Dean and become part of the student's permanent record.

**Note:** Students are strongly advised to retain this syllabus for their records.