

SPRING 2012 SYLLABUS  
Counseling 414  
Home & Family Living  
TR 11-12:15 Hen 206

**Instructor:** Myron D. Jones, MS, LPC, LCDC

**Office Location:** N/A

**Office Hours:** By Appointment

**Office Phone:**

**Email:** myronj99@yahoo.com (use Coun 414 as your subject)

<b>COURSE INFORMATION</b>
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**Course Text**

Required:

Strong, B., DeVault, C. & Cohen, T. F. (2011). The marriage and family experience (11<sup>th</sup> ed). Belmont, CA.: Wadsworth.

**Course Description**

This course will cover the facets of marriage, family life, gender roles, sex and sexuality, family violence, divorce and the impact on day to day living.

**Objectives**

The student will examine and acquire a general understanding of:

- The meaning of marriage and the family...
- Variations in the American family life...
- Gender and family...
- Intimacy, friendship and love...
- Sex and sexualities...
- Communication, power and conflict...
- Marriages in societal and individual perspective...
- Singlehood and cohabitation...
- Marriage, work and economics...
- Parenting...
- Intimate violence and sexual abuse...
- Separation and divorce...

- Single-parent families, remarriage and blended families.

## FLEXIBLE COURSE REQUIREMENTS

### Method of Instruction

This course will utilize lecture, class discussions, video demonstrations, role plays and experiential activities to achieve the learning objectives.

### Assignments

**Reaction Papers:** In addition to the weekly reading assignments, each student will be responsible for three reaction papers, 2 pages each (APA) which will be related to a topic discussed in class. These are opinion based papers which are intended to gauge your feelings regarding topics and/or presentations that are discussed in class.

**Family Reflection Presentation:** Handout on assignment will be handed out and discussed in class.

I see this class as a chance for each of you to explore within yourself the reason you have chosen Counseling, the area in which you would like to develop your expertise (Community, Student Affairs or School Counseling), and the specific characteristics you have developed over the years through a marriage or family experience which will be beneficial to you as a counselor, and what characteristics you need to develop in your journey to become a counselor.

**It is my opinion that your inner-strengths will be greater served by the information gained through the writing assignments and class participation. Through these assignments, it is intended that you will start developing a greater sense of who you are, how you will fit into your role as a counselor than merely by taking tests and quizzes. That being said, if I see that your writing assignments and classroom discussions are not up to the standards expected for this level of education, I will adjust the Course Requirements to include more tests. If, during the discussion of class assignments, I find that the class is unprepared I will stop teaching and hand out a pop quiz. The grade for the pop quizzes can drastically affect your participation grade.**

**YOU HAVE BEEN WARNED!!!!**

<b>FLEXIBLE COURSE REQUIREMENTS</b>
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**Reaction Paper (10 points per paper/40 points total)**

These four writing assignment will focus on topics in the current chapter we are discussing and how this topic relates to you as a helper. You should reference the book (current or past chapters) to show a connection between your thoughts and textbook/class content. **Your 5 page paper (60 pts) must be in APA style format (12 point font, Times New Roman, double spaced throughout, 1" margin on top and bottom; 1" margins on left and right. One minute papers (5 pts each) will be assigned at the beginning of one class during the week and will come from topics related to your reading assignments. A presentation may be substituted for the 5 page paper, but we will kick that idea around in class.**

<b>FLEXIBLE COURSE REQUIREMENTS</b>
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I am available for consultation regarding your reaction papers or your family background paper, but do not wait until the last minute to ask for guidance.

**Attendance/participation (100 points)** – Refer to Course and University Procedures and Policies.

**Grading**

Total possible points for the semester = 360

Attendance/Participation	100
Mid-Term/Final	100
Writing Assignments/Paper	60
Family Reflection Presentation	100

A	330 - 360 points
B	299 - 329 points
C	268 – 298 points
D	237 – 267 points
F	236 points or below

### **Late Assignment Policies**

All assignments are due, on the given assignment date, at the beginning of class. Any assignment not turned in at that time will be considered late. **All late assignments receive a 5 point per day deduction.** No assignment will be accepted more than one week late. **Computer, printer or flash drive problems are not an excuse for missed/late assignments.** In certain circumstances, some assignments may be emailed to me (doc files only, not docx). Do not email assignments to me unless you have discussed the situation with me and I have given you permission via email to send the document. **Remember the subject line should read “Counseling 414”.**

## COMMUNICATION AND SUPPORT

The best way to communicate with me between classes is email. Please use “Counseling 414” in the subject of your email. In the content part of your email be sure to include your first and last name and the best phone number in which I can contact you, if necessary. I respond to my emails daily. Also, I will be more than happy to meet with you on campus to discuss any concerns you may be experiencing.

## COURSE AND UNIVERSITY PROCEDURES/POLICIES

### **Academic Integrity**

Academic integrity is the pursuit of scholarly work free from fraud and deception and is an educational objective of this institution.

Texas A&M University-Commerce has explicit rules and regulations governing academic dishonesty and academic misconduct. As the University states, **“All students enrolled at the University shall follow the tenets of common decency and acceptable behavior conducive to a positive learning environment.”** These policies are stated in detail in the Student’s Guide Handbook. Each student is expected to read this document and abide by the contained policies. These university policies will be followed in this class. The minimum penalty for an act of academic dishonesty will be the assignment grade of “0” on the homework assignment. The maximum penalty is expulsion from the University.

Texas A&M University-Commerce does not tolerate ***plagiarism*** and other forms of academic dishonesty. Conduct that violates generally accepted

standards of academic honesty is defined as academic dishonesty. “Academic dishonesty” includes, but is not limited to, plagiarism (the appropriation or stealing of the ideas or words of another and passing them off as one’s own), cheating on exams or other course assignments, collusion (the unauthorized collaboration with others in preparing course assignments), and abuse, (destruction, defacing or removal of resource material).

## COURSE AND UNIVERSITY PROCEDURES/POLICIES

If you are unsure what constitutes plagiarism and how to avoid it, visit the following websites:

<http://www.plagiarism.org/>

<http://www.unc.edu/depts/weweb/handouts/plagiarism.html>

<http://www.indiana.edu/~wts/pamphlets/plagiarism.html>

**Attendance and Participation** Students are expected to attend all scheduled classes. More than 3 absences (excused or unexcused) will negatively affect your grade. Participation in class activities, including discussion groups and in-class assignments, is a component of attendance. Failure to prepare and participate effectively will negatively impact the learning processes devised for the class. “All students enrolled at the University shall follow the tenets of common decency and acceptable behavior conducive to a positive learning environment” (Student Guide Book, pp. 67-73).

Arrive to class on time and **do not pack up early**. If you know ahead of time you will be late or will need to leave early please notify me by email at least a day in advance. There will be a 10 minute grace period after class begins. After 10 minutes the door will be closed and **No One** will be allowed to enter class after this time.

Contributions, on a regular basis, to class discussions are **expected**.

Reading assigned work, and course material is expected.

**Turn all cell phones on silent.** Students who fail to do so may be asked to leave the class. I expect each student to be focused in, and prepared for

class. Cell phones and other technological devices will be allowed in class, but if you miss pertinent information because of texting or being on facebook etc., you will still be responsible for that information as it relates to application of that information to your written assignments, and your tests as well.

<b>COURSE AND UNIVERSITY PROCEDURES/POLICIES</b>
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**Withdrawal Policy**

Every student has the right to drop the course without penalty until the drop-date. Students dropping the course during this period will be given a DP (drop while passing). A grade of DP is GPA neutral, but a grade of DF counts as an F on your transcript. If you choose to stop attending class, you may be dropped from the course due to excessive absences. If you are not satisfied with your grade in the course and wish to drop, it is YOUR responsibility to drop the course. Once the grade of DP or DF has been registered, I will not be able to change it. A student may drop a course by logging into their myLEO account and clicking on the hyperlink labeled “Drop a class” from among the choices found under the myLEO section of the web page.

**ADA Statement**

The Americans with Disabilities ACT (ADA) is a federal anti-discrimination statute that provides comprehensive civil rights protection for persons with disabilities. Among other things, this legislation requires that all students with disabilities be guaranteed a learning environment that provides for reasonable accommodation of their disabilities. *If you have a disability requiring an accommodation, please contact:*

**Office of Student Disability Resources and Services**

**Texas A&M University-Commerce**

**Gee Library 132**

**Phone (903) 886-51512 or (903) 886-5835**

**Fax (903) 468-8148**

**[StudentDisabilityServices@tamu-commerce.edu](mailto:StudentDisabilityServices@tamu-commerce.edu)**

**Student Disability Resources & Services**

<b>COURSE AND UNIVERSITY PROCEDURES/POLICIES</b>
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**Student Conduct**

Polite and civil interactions with all members of the class is expected.

(“All students enrolled at the University shall follow the tenets of common decency and acceptable behavior conducive to a positive learning environment.” (See Student’s Guide Handbook, Policies and Procedures, Conduct). All students are expected to conduct themselves in a professional manner at all times.

- **I expect every student to have the utmost respect for their peers in class, especially when discussing experiences of a sensitive or personal nature. Students are reminded that disclosures in the classroom setting are to be kept confidential.**
- **Discriminatory, rude, and inappropriate language will not be tolerated in this class and the student(s) choosing to act in a discriminatory or rude manner or use inappropriate language will be asked to leave the class. Disruption of class or inconsiderate behavior will not be tolerated. If the student continues to act in the same manner during future classes, the instructor reserves the right to drop the student from the course.**

#### **University closing due to weather**

Check <http://www.tamu-commerce.edu> regarding class cancellations. Also KETR radio on 88.9 FM and Channel 4, 5 and 8 (Channel 7 for Tyler and Longview area).

<b>COURSE OUTLINE/CALENDAR</b>
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#### **Flexible Schedule**

#### **Week**

<b>1</b>	<b>Introductions, Syllabus, Paper Chapter 1</b>
<b>2</b>	<b>Chapter 2,3/Sign up for presentations Guest Speaker</b>
<b>3</b>	<b>Chap 4/Class Activity/ Paper #1</b>
<b>4</b>	<b>Chapter 5, 6</b>

5	No Class
6	Chapter 7/ Class Activity/Paper #2
7	Chap 8/Test Review
8	Test #1, Chap 9

<b>COURSE OUTLINE/CLAENDAR</b>
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**SPRING BREAK- SEE YOU ON MARCH 19<sup>th</sup>**

10	Chap 10,11/Class Activity ACA Conference, No Class 3/21
11	Chap 12, 13/ Class Activity
12	Chap 14/Class Activity
13	Presentations
14	Presentations
15	Presentations/Personal Reflection Due
16	Exam #2

**--\*\*FINALS WEEK\*\*--**

**May 6-10**

**Caveat: This syllabus is a guide and outline for the progression of the class. Changes may be made for due dates, assignments, and other items. All changes are the prerogative of the instructor.**

