Course Syllabus
COUN5503 Solomonic Transformative Counseling Principles (Counseling from Proverbs)

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I. AGATHON UAF PROFESSOR BIO

Dr. Christopher Cone, Th.D, Ph.D, Ph.D, serves as President and CEO and Research Professor of Transformative Learning and Leadership at Agathon UAF. His detailed bio is available here: https://drcone.com/bio/.

II. COURSE DESCRIPTION

COUN5503 Solomonic Transformative Counseling Principles (Counseling from Proverbs) is a graduate level analysis of Solomonic worldview foundations and applications presented in the Book of Proverbs. The course considers counseling needs and Solomonic wisdom in the areas of (1) identity, purpose, and priorities, (2) depression and anxiety, (3) pre-marital and marital, (4) parental and family, (5) financial and stewardship, (6) addiction, (7) abuse and trauma, and (8) conflict counseling. The course is designed to help transformative counsellors to draw counseling structure and content from Solomon's writings, and to provide a basic guide for dealing with common challenges faced by counselees.

III. LEARNING OUTCOMES

Course Learning Outcomes (CLOs)

1. To be able to determine through exegetical analysis a textually justified approach to addressing common counseling needs and with solutions from Solomonic literature.
2. To be able to classify common counseling needs, including: (1) identity, purpose, and priorities, (2) depression and anxiety, (3) pre-marital and marital, (4) parental and family, (5) financial and stewardship, (6) addiction, (7) abuse and trauma, and (8) conflict counseling.
3. Through the skills developed in addressing the Book of Proverbs, to be able to demonstrate skill in exegetical analysis to draw out counseling principles and practice from transformative literature.

Program Learning Outcomes (PLOs) – MTC – Master of Transformative Counseling

1. To develop Learners' professional competency and skills in transformative counseling theory and practice in applied faith contexts.
2. To develop Learners' competency in research and methods in transformative counseling theory and practice for ministry contexts.
3. To further develop Learners' Biblical worldview and perspective on transformative counseling theory and practice for ministry contexts.
4. To prepare Learners for advanced level coursework.

Agathon UAF Learning Outcomes (ALOs)

1. *Critical Thinking, Problem Solving, and Research* – Learners will demonstrate ability to think critically, solve problems, and conduct interdisciplinary research at a level appropriate to their program.
2. *Personal Growth* – Learners will understand how learning is related to personal growth, and will be challenged to grow in their thinking, communication, conduct, and engagement with others.
3. *Skills Development* – Learners will advance in skills related to their area of learning, demonstrating a level of competency appropriate to their program.
4. *Social Responsibility* – Learners will appreciate the diversity in and value of others as designed by our Creator, and will grow in willingness and capability to serve others.
5. *Worldview Applications* – Learners will become capable at thinking from a worldview perspective and will understand the relationship of description and prescription, so that they can ground their actions in sound principles.

V. COURSE READING

Required Texts:

(1) All Agathon UAF courses use the Bible as a primary textbook. Translations used for coursework include any of the following: NASB, ESV, KJV, and NKJV. Other translations/versions may be used for complementary study and research.

(2) Thomas Constable, *Notes on Proverbs* (PBC, 2025) *electronic,* viewable at: https://soniclight.com/tcon/notes/pdf/proverbs.pdf – selected to provide a complementary and introductory analysis of the Genesis text, and for its citations and bibliography providing material for further research.

(3) Christopher Cone and Luther Smith, *Biblical Foundations of Psychology and Counseling* (Exegetica, 2022) ISBN: 978-1602650930, $19 (https://www.amazon.com/dp/1602650934/?tag=drconecom-20) – selected to provide an introduction to transformative counseling principles.

(4) Christopher Cone, *Applied Biblical Worldview: Essays on Christian Ethics* (Exegetica Publishing, 2016) ISBN: 978-0976593096, $19 – (https://www.amazon.com/Applied-Biblical-Worldview-Essays-Christian/dp/0976593092/?tag=drconecom-20) – selected to highlight prescriptions of transformative literature for common challenges in ethics contexts.

VI. COURSE OUTLINE

Module 1 – Introduction, Proverbs 1-3

Pre-Reading:

- Proverbs 1-3
- Constable, 1-20
- Cone/Smith, Chapter 1
- Cone, Chapter 2

Discussion Question

- Explain identity, purpose, and priorities counseling and give some examples of passages that relate.

Module 2 – Proverbs 4-7

Pre-Reading:

- Proverbs 4-7
- Constable, 50-62
- Cone/Smith, Chapter 2

Discussion Question

- Explain depression and anxiety counseling and give some examples of passages that relate.

Module 3 – Proverbs 8-11

Pre-Reading:

- Proverbs 8-11
- Cone/Smith, Chapter 3
- Cone, Chapter 11-13

Discussion Question

- Explain pre-marital and marital counseling and give some examples of passages that relate.

Module 4 – Proverbs 12-15

Pre-Reading:

- Proverbs 12-15
- Cone/Smith, Chapter 4
- Cone, Chapter 3

Discussion Questions

- Explain financial and stewardship counseling and give some examples of passages that relate.

Module 5 – Proverbs 16-18

Pre-Reading:

- Proverbs 16-18
- Cone/Smith, Chapter 5
- Cone, Chapter 19-22

Discussion Questions

- Explain addiction counseling and give some examples of passages that relate.

Module 6 – Proverbs 19-22

Pre-Reading:

- Proverbs 19-22
- Cone/Smith, Chapter 6
- Cone, Chapter 23-25

Discussion Questions

- Explain abuse and trauma counseling and give some examples of passages that relate.

Module 7 – Proverbs 23-26

Pre-Reading:

- Proverbs 23-26
- Constable, 218-247
- Cone/Smith, Chapter 7

Discussion Questions

- Explain conflict counseling and give some examples of passages that relate.

Module 8 – Proverbs 27-30

Pre-Reading:

- Proverbs 27-30
- Constable, 278-284
- Cone/Smith, Chapter 8

Discussion Questions

- Identify and explain a counseling topic not discussed in the lectures s(o far) counseling and give some examples of passages that relate.

Module 9 – Proverbs 31

Pre-Reading:

- Proverbs 31
- Constable, 284-295
- Cone/Smith, Chapter 9

Discussion Questions

- Discuss a real or hypothetical counseling situation and how you addressed it (or might have addressed it from the Book of Proverbs.

Module 10 – Proverbs Wrap-up

Pre-Reading:

- 1 Kings 3
- Cone/Smith, Chapter 10
- Cone, Chapter 43-44

Discussion Questions

- Discuss the value of the process of extracting counseling principles from Proverbs and give examples of how you might copy the process using other transformative literature (Biblical books).

VII. Assignments and Grading Rubric (1000 Points)

1. Module Assessment (20 points each x 10) 200 Points (Video Presentations)
    a. CLO 3 / PLO 3,4 / ALO 1,2
    b. Instructions: Learners will submit a 10-15 minute video presentation summarizing the content of each module (10 total videos)

2. Course Content Assessment 200 Points (Short Essay Exam)
    a. CLO 2 / PLO 3,4 / ALO 3,5
    b. Instructions: Learners will choose a Discussion Question from any module and address the topic/question in roughly 3000 words. (1 essay).

3. Interaction Assessment 200 Points (Discussion Board)
    a. CLO 2 / PLO 3,4 / ALO 2
    b. Instructions: Learners will post in the discussion board a substantive post answering the discussion topic in each module and will respond to at least two other posts by Learners/Faculty in the module.

4. Reading Content Assessment 200 Points (Reviews and Critiques)
    a. CLO 1 / PLO 3,4 / ALO 1,2
    b. Instructions: Learners will write a 1000–1500-word review and critique on each module's assigned readings (one overall review per module). Learners should summarize the material and offer some critique or poignant analysis.

5. Competency Assessment 200 points
    a. CLO 3 / PLO 1,2 / ALO 4,5

b. Instructions: Learners will select and complete any 1 of the 3 competency assignments. Specifics of the assessment *must* be preapproved by the mentoring professor:
    i. Civic Engagement Component – a practical social engagement of 3-6 hours applying principles covered in the course, and a 2000-word report discussing: (1) Introduction of the Engagement, (2) Methodology, (3) Summary of What Happened, and (4) Benefits and Implications
    ii. Journal Article Component – a journal article quality paper of 8000-10000 words on an approved topic related to the course material, to be submitted to a relevant academic journal (Style determined by the journal of submittal).
    iii. Teaching Encounter Component – preparing, delivering, recording, and submitting a 60–90-minute teaching to a live audience on an approved topic related to the course material.

VIII. Grading Scale

Letter grades are given, which represent the following percentages:
A – Excellent (94-100%)
B – Above Average (86-93%)
C – Average (78-85%)
D – Inferior (70-77%)
F – (Below 70%)
WP – Withdrew passing
WF – Withdrew failing
Students receiving "D" or "F" grades in any course will be notified in the middle of the semester.

IX. Carnegie Unit Credit Hour Equivalent

Total Hours of Module Content:	20 hours
Total Hours of Reading Content:	60 hours
Total Hours of Minor Assessments:	20 hours
Total Hours of Major Assessment:	20 hours
Total Hours of Competency Assessment:	40 hours

Equivalent of 3 Credit Hour (160 hours of total course time)

X. Enrollment Agreement, Refund Policy, and Other Policies

Institution
Agathon UAF
PO Box 241, Fort Walton Beach, Florida, 32549
www.agathonu.com 850-943-4205

Program
MST – Master in Transformative Counseling
Course – COUN5503 Solomonic Transformative Counseling Principles (Counseling from Proverbs) – 3 hours

Graduate Elective

Enrollment Agreement
View the Enrollment Agreement here: https://www.agathonu.com/enrollment-agreement/

Withdrawal and Refund Policy
View the Withdrawal and Refund Policy here: https://www.agathonu.com/refund-and-withdrawal-policy/

Calendar and Course Duration
View the Calendar and Course Duration Policy here: https://www.agathonu.com/calendar-and-course-duration-policy/

Intellectual Integrity and Plagiarism Policy
View the Standards of Intellectual Honesty Policy here: https://www.agathonu.com/standards-of-intellectual-honesty-policy/

Writing Style Policy
View the Writing Style Policy here: https://www.agathonu.com/writing-style-policy/

Other Policies
View all other Policies at the Agathon UAF Policy Library here: https://www.agathonu.com/policy-library/