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Department of  
Biblical Counseling

# Press Release

## Baptist Bible College now offers Minor in Biblical Counseling in addition to Master degree

Springfield, MO: Baptist Bible College recently announced the addition of a new minor in biblical counseling to the undergraduate course offerings. This 18-hour minor can be added to any major and will complement the Master of Arts Biblical Counseling now offered in the graduate school. Key to the development of this minor was recent certification of BBC with the National Association of Biblical Counselors (NANC). Upon completing the minor, the student will meet all educational requirements to be certified as a biblical counselor with NANC. To satisfy these requirements three additional courses were added to the present curricular offerings: Basics in Biblical Counseling (new), Theological Basis of Biblical Counseling (new), Advanced Counseling Issues (new), Methods of Biblical Counseling, Theology and Secular Counseling, Introduction to Counseling Youth, and a counseling elective. Any student wanting more information regarding the minor, master degree, NANC certification, distance education, or biblical counseling, please contact Kevin Carson (biblical counseling department chair) or Bill Piatt (campus counselor) at the college.

### Course Descriptions

**Basics in Biblical Counseling** – The course is designed to fulfill the basic training requirements for NANC certification. This course provides the foundational training required to counsel biblically and continue on in the NANC certification process. The topic areas include: What Biblical Counseling Really Is, Why Biblical Counseling is Needed, How People Progressively Grow and Change, Using God's Word, Key Elements of Biblical Counseling: Gathering Data, Discerning Problems, Establishing Involvement, Giving Hope, Instruction and Homework; Comparisons with Other Counseling Philosophies; Idols of the Heart; Guilt and Repentance; Marriage: Roles, Communication and Sex; Parenting: Goals, Child Instruction and Discipline; How to Deal with Life Issues: Trials, Guilt, Anger, Worry and Repentance; Medical Issues from a Biblical Perspective: Depression, Physical Illnesses and Psychological Drugs; Case Study Discussions. Students will also experience, observe, and practice within a supervised context the conceptual and procedural methods and techniques of counseling. The part of the course will include student observation and discussion of various prerecorded counseling sessions. These activities will form the basis of seminar discussions where counseling will be analyzed from a biblical perspective. The goal of this section is to help the student learn, evaluate and sharpen his practical counseling skills. (3 hours)

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**Theological Basis of Biblical Counseling** – A consideration of the theological realities that form the basis of a proper approach to counseling. Special emphasis is given to: (1) the nature of God and man (fallen and unfallen); (2) a biblical definition of the image of God; (3) the nature of sin; (4) the realities of regeneration and progressive sanctification; (5) the concept of “the flesh” (old man/new man); (6) understanding the terms “heart” and “mind” as used in Scripture; (7) the place of the local church in counseling. (3 hours)

**Advanced Counseling Issues** – This course is designed to apply biblical principles to typical counseling problems encountered in the church. Each student will be part of a team that will develop and present to the class a detailed biblical counseling outline for a teacher-approved counseling problem. (3 hours)

**Methods of Biblical Counseling** – A study of how to make counseling a vital and natural part of the local church, emphasizing the development of preventive programs. This course is intended to give a survey of counseling principles and needs. It will lay a foundation to help the student to better understand the issues he/she will face and how to use God’s Word to bring help to those who struggle with these issues. This will not be accomplished without a careful self-examination; thus, the student will be encouraged to do self-counsel, learning how to take the Scriptures and bringing change to specific areas of need in one’s life. (3 hours)

**Theology and Secular Counseling** – This course will examine how biblical counseling relates to psychology, psychotherapies, and psychologized people by interacting with representative psychologists, both non-Christian and Christian, and through the lense of our theological and Biblical perspective. (2 hours)

**Counseling Youth** – A study of how to make counseling a vital and natural part of the youth department. This course is intended to give a survey of basic counseling topics related to teenagers. It will help lay a foundation to help the future minister to better understand the issues he/she might face and how to wisely apply God’s Word to bring help to those who struggle with these issues. This will not be accomplished without a careful self-examination; thus, the student will be encouraged to do self-counsel, learning how to take the Scriptures and bringing change to specific areas of need in one’s life. (2 hours)