

Cornerstone Christian University
Maitland, FL
School of Christian Psychology and Counseling

100 % Online
Curriculum for the...

Doctor of Philosophy in Christian Psychology and Counseling (PHD 64-credit hours)

Field experience may be credited as practicum and Prior Learning may also apply as credits

Purpose

The purpose for this professional **Doctor of Philosophy in Christian Psychology and Counseling (PHD)** program is to provide the candidate with an advanced competencies and biblical insights through the teaching, preparation and observation for those actively involved in vocational Christian ministry of education.

This program provides the biblical, theological, and practical education required to provide leadership in a church-counseling center or in an independent lay counseling ministry. It is not intended to prepare individuals for a State Licensure but will qualify the candidates for organizational professional licensed counseling credential.

Program Objectives:

Graduates of the Doctor of Philosophy in Christian Psychology and Counseling (PHD) program will be prepared to:

- Demonstrate an advanced understanding and integration of ministry in relation to the biblical, theological, academic, and educational disciplines.
- Articulate and apply a comprehensive and critical philosophy of ministry.
- Demonstrate advanced competencies in the areas of critical thinking, Research and Writing, Biblical Theology, Biblical Communication, Administration/Education Leadership, and Great Commission Strategies.
- Plan, implement, and critically evaluate major undertakings in ministry toward the fulfillment of the Great Commission and the Great Commandment.
- Evaluate personal, spiritual, and professional development and design a plan for lifelong learning.

An Online PHD Degree Based on Biblical Principles and Values, Designed Specifically for those who are highly functional with a higher learning and independent conceptual mindset.

The **Doctor of Philosophy in Christian Psychology and Counseling (PHD)** degree provides individuals with the opportunity to develop advanced research skills using the flexibility and convenience of distance learning aptitude. The curriculum consists of 64-84 hours of study and provides a solid foundation in major business functional areas. Ethical psychological and counseling leadership, information literacy, speaking, writing, and interpersonal skills are emphasized throughout the curriculum. This program is available to qualified PHD candidates both in North American and internationally.

Admission Requirements

1. Earned or be within 6 semester hours of a Master's Degree or its equivalent*
2. Proficient in the English Language.

The Admissions Committee considers many factors when reviewing an admissions application. Among those factors are work experience, grade point average (2.75 on a 4-point scale or 6.0 on a 10-point scale) in previous academic work, professional references, and performance in prerequisite courses. For students whose GPA is lower than 2.75 (or 6.0), and who have 5 or more years of professional experience, the Admissions Committee will consider the quality and diversity of work history to determine their eligibility for admission.

Application Procedures

All applicants to the PHD program must submit the following in order to be considered for admission:

1. A completed http://www.ccudl.com/index.php?option=com_pmform&view=form&Itemid=107 with applicant letter of intent describing personal aspirations and work objectives. A portable document file is available for download. Applicants are encouraged to fill out the form using the form fields. After saving the completed application you may email it to admissions@ccudl.com
2. Admission forms can be downloaded from this link http://www.ccudl.com/index.php?option=com_docman&task=cat_view&gid=40&Itemid=76
3. Non-refundable application fee of \$75.00
4. Official transcripts and other documents showing completion of a Master's degree or its equivalent
5. A resume indicating applicant's work history and at least two professional recommendations.

Admission Process

Upon receiving the completed application, transcripts and other documents, the graduate admission committee will

review your application and make a determination on your admission status as –

Regular Status: Students meeting the minimum requirements will be granted acceptance with regular status.

Provisional Status: Students who do not meet the above minimum admission requirements may be granted acceptance with provisional status. Students granted provisional admittance may take no more than three post-graduate courses, provided that the students already have the necessary qualification to take the post-graduate courses. They must also achieve a 3.0 GPA during their first three courses. After completion of 3 courses with the required GPA, the students' status will be changed to regular. Students who do not have a minimum GPA of 3.0 after the completion of the 3 courses will be dismissed from the program.

Denial of Admission: Applicants may be denied admission when evidence displays that the applicant:

- Is not qualified or is under-prepared to pursue a graduate degree.
- Engages in behavior contrary to the codes of the university.
- Has submitted fraudulent information or documents.
- Displays unstable emotional health.

Degree Learning Format

The CCU PHD degree is a completely 100% online learning experience. Enrolled students will use the CCU online course management system which allows students to interface online with their professor and other students. Each course lasts approximately 8-12 weeks. During the course students will be expected to read and research materials, participate in online discussion formats, participate in team assignments and projects, complete individual assignments and projects, and complete online assessments. This type of learning will allow professors and students interact in truly global environment. A truly unique aspect of the CCU Online PHD program is the integration of Christian Ethical principles and values into each course. Each week there will be an application of Christian based ethical values and their relation to the topics and learning objectives being covered.

Course descriptions:

- 1. Course: Introduction to Biblical Hermeneutics (3 credits) Course Number: HEM703**
Description: This course is a basic study introducing the student to the science of interpreting the Scriptures. Various phases and methods of understanding interpretation are examined and explored.
- 2. Course: Christian Apologetics (Norman) (3 credits) Course Number: THE713**
Description: The standard for Christian apologetics, this systematic approach presents both the methods and reasons for defending Christianity
- 3. Course: Research Methods and Concepts (3 credits) Course Number: RES723**
Textbook: Research Methods in Psychology: Core Concepts and Skills Paul C. Price
Description: The research methods course is among the most frequently required in the psychology major—and with good reason. This course is taught with a Christian Perspective in mind and would certainly reinforces and enhances, both the basic difference between an experiment and a correlational study, the function of independent and dependent variables, the importance of reliability and validity in psychological measurement, and the need for replication in psychological research. Research methods are at the very core of this discipline.
The study of research methods is important primarily because it prepares students to be effective consumers of psychological research and because it promotes critical thinking skills and attitudes that are applicable in many areas of life.
- 4. Course: Research in Clinical and Counseling Psychology (4 credits)**
Course#:RES714
Textbook: Understanding Research in Clinical and Counseling Psychology Research
Description: Understanding Research in Clinical and Counseling Psychology is a unique text because it is designed and written for the graduate students aspiring to careers in practice rather than in psychological science who are the vast majority in clinical and counseling programs.
- 5. Course: Introduction to Psychology**
Course Number: PSY764
Textbook: Introduction to Psychology
Description: This book will provide a useful and productive synthesis between your goals and the goals of your students. I have tried to focus on the forest rather than the trees and to bring psychology to life—in ways that really matter—for the students. At the same time, the book maintains content and conceptual rigor, with a strong focus on the fundamental principles of empiricism and the scientific method.

6. Course: Introduction to Psychology and Counseling

(4 credits)

Course Number: PSY704

Textbook: Introduction to Psychology and Counseling

This course is designed to spotlight many areas featuring examples of people, ideas and applications relevant to Christian counseling. The resources used in the course take on a holistic approach.

7. Course: Psychology and Christianity

(4 credits)

Course Number: PSY714

Textbook: Psychology and Christianity

Description: Psychology has exploded across the academic and popular landscape in the last hundred years. Dozens of schools of thought have arisen and thousands of books have been written on the nature of our personalities, our development, our relationships and our inner well-being.

8. Course: Christian Counseling

(6 credits)

Course Number: CON 716

Textbook: Christian Counseling: A Comprehensive Guide by Gary R. Collins

Description: This proven guide in pastoral counseling has been extensively expanded and revised by the author to include recent developments and research, new resources, and attention to newly urgent needs such as AIDS, eating disorders, homosexuality, and violence. Written with clarity and sensitivity, this volume builds on biblical foundations and the best resources of professional psychology. It reflects the insights the author has gained from many years of Christian counseling.

9. Courses: Crisis and Trauma Counseling

(3 credits)

Course Number: CON723

Textbook: Crisis and Trauma Counseling

Description: Introduction: Anatomy of a Crisis 1. What Is a Crisis? 2. Crisis Counseling from a Biblical Perspective 3. Applications of Biblical Principles 4. The Process of Crisis Intervention 5. The Crisis of Depression 6. The Crisis of Suicide - Updated ... Targeted at the survivors of suicide 7. The Crisis of Death 8. The Crisis of Divorce 9. Ministering to Children in Crisis - updated with latest information 10. The Crisis of Adolescence 11. Crisis in the Transitions of Life 12. Stress and the Type-A Personality: A Potential Crisis Conclusion: Using Scripture and Prayer, and Making Referrals.

10. Course: Sexuality and Our Diversity

Textbook: Principles of Social Psychology,

Course Number: **PSY733**

Textbook: Sexuality and Our Diversity: Integrating Culture with the Biopsychosocial,

Course: Principles of Social Psychology,

Course Number: **PSY753**

(3 credits)

(3 credits)

11. Course: Social Psychology

(3 credits)

Course Number: **PSY763**

Textbook: Principles of Social Psychology

Description: Principles of Social Psychology contains a number of pedagogical features designed to help students develop an active, integrative understanding of the many topics of social psychology and to think like social psychologists.

12. The Premarital Counseling

(3 credits)

Textbook: The Premarital Counseling Handbook

Course Number: CON783

Description: Wright encourages pastors to take very seriously the premarital counseling process and shows them step-by-step how to conduct counseling sessions that will reap rewards long after the ceremony is over and the confetti is swept away.

13. Course: Marriage and Family Counseling

(3 credits)

Textbook: Marriage and Family Counseling

Course Number: CON793

Description: In this text for the professional helper, Everett Worthington provides a model for short-term marriage counseling which is biblical, practical, and compassionate. Evaluations of five major approaches to marriage counseling are included as an appendix.

14. Course: Psychology and Religion

(3 credits)

Textbook: Psychology and Religion

Course Number: PSY803

Description: Can psychology explain religious behavior? Andrew Fuller's Psychology and Religion: Eight Points of View, 3rd Edition explores the thinking of eight pioneers of religious psychology including Sigmund Freud, William James, Gordon Allport, Abraham H. Maslow, Allan W. Watts, Erich Fromm.

15. Course: Principles of Sociological

Course Number: PSY764

Description: Principles of Sociological Inquiry: Qualitative and Quantitative Methods.

This textbook has been on my mind since 1994, when I sat in my own undergraduate sociology research methods class, enjoying the material but also wondering about its relevance to my everyday life and future plans (the idea that one day I would be teaching such a class hadn't yet occurred to me). While the importance of understanding research methods is usually clear to students who intend to pursue an advanced degree, I've long thought that we research methods teachers could do a better job of demonstrating to *all* of our students the relevance of what it is that we're teaching.

16. Course: Christian Ethic

(3 credits)

Course Number: CET863

Textbook: Christian Ethics

Description: With the publication of Ethics: Alternatives and Issues in 1971, Norman Geisler established himself as a leading evangelical ethicist. This totally new, updated, culturally-relevant text continues the lofty standard the author has set for himself.

17. Course: Counseling Ethics and Decision

(4 credits)

Course Number: CET874

Textbook: Counseling Ethics and Decision (Cottone, Cottone, Tarvydas)

Description: This book guides helping professionals, using the theme of decision-making as an anchor for the discussion of ethics in professional practice. Providing a thorough presentation of ethical principles and standards, the authors conscientiously examine ethical issues as they manifest themselves within several specialty areas (couple and family, school, mental health, career, group, rehab, additions, etc.) and use compelling case studies to illustrate the connection between ethical decision-making models and ethical practice.

18. Course: Counseling Troubled Teens and Their Families

(3 credits)

Course Number: CON884

Textbook: Counseling Troubled Teens and Their Families

Description: Teenagers and their families live in a society with epidemic levels of social problems that put adolescents at risk for emotional problems. Teens have special mental and emotional issues that need to be addressed by pastors and their colleagues in ministry.

19. Course: Developing Mind

(3 credits)

Course Number: PSY884

Textbook: The Developing Mind

Description: This book goes beyond the nature and nurture divisions that traditionally have constrained much of our thinking about development, exploring the role of interpersonal relationships in forging key connections in the brain. Daniel J. Siegel presents a groundbreaking new way of thinking about the emergence of the human mind and the process by which each of us becomes a feeling, thinking, remembering individual.

20. Course: Psychology of Religious Behaviour

(4 credits)

Course Number: PSY894

Textbook: The Psychology of Religious Behaviour, Belief and Experience

Description: What are the social consequences of religion? In an increasingly secular society, it may seem irrelevant to consider the psychology of religion. But the diversity of our multi-ethnic and multi-cultural society in fact makes religion more important to the social sciences than it has ever been before.

21. Course: understanding Counseling

(4 credits)

Course Number: CON894

Textbook: Understanding and Counseling Persons with Alcohol, Drug, and Behavioral Addictions

Description: For more than a decade, Howard Clinebell's *Understanding and Counseling the Alcoholic* has been considered the standard work in the field. This updated edition of Clinebell's earlier book expands his work on counseling to encompass the care of persons with drug addiction, behavioral addictions, multiple addictions, and co-dependency. The volume includes a new annotated bibliography.

22. Course: Public Speaking

Course Number: **PUS764**

Textbook: Stand Up, Speak Out: The Practice and Ethics of Public Speaking,

Description: Public speaking in the twenty-first century is an art and a science that has developed over millennia. In a world that is bombarded by information, the skill set of public speaking is more important today than ever. According to an address given by Tony Karrer at the TechKnowledge 2009 Conference, the *New York Times* contains more information in one week than individuals in the 1800s would encounter in a lifetime. Currently, the amount of information available to people doubles every eighteen months and is expected to double weekly by 2015. In a world filled with so much information, knowing how to effectively organize and present one's ideas through oral communication is paramount.

23. Course: Human Relations

Course Number: **PSY764**

Textbook: **Human Relations**

Description: Knowing how to get along with others, resolve workplace conflict, manage relationships, communicate well, and make good decisions are all critical emotional intelligence skills students need to succeed in career and in life. Our *Human Relations* book will address all of the critical topics to obtain career success. This book isn't an organizational behavior (OB) text, which is too theoretical for many of our students' needs. While this book will focus on some of the theories you might find in an OB book, the focus is a direct benefit to students in their current and future jobs

24. Course: Sociology

Course Number: SOC883

Textbook: Sociology: Understanding and Changing the Social World, Comprehensive Edition,

Description: Welcome to this new introduction to sociology text! According to recent news stories, thousands of college students are applying for jobs in AmeriCorps, Teach for America, the Peace Corps, and other national, local, and international service programs. Reports on college students find growing interest in voluntarism. Like generations before them, today's students want to make a difference in their society.

25. Course: PHD 900 Dissertation Research

(15 Credits)

Description: This dissertation project must be a significant original work in nature, which will seek to making a contribution to the world of psychology and counseling. This final course culminates the entire course of studies and research required by this program. This is a very involved endeavor and will require an undivided attention. The research project comprises two part—a quantitative and a qualitative research. Both parts must demonstrate doctorate level quality of work in respect to magnitude of effort and the end product for such program.

Student allowed choosing their own research topic and getting it approved by the Dissertation Review Board. Upon the approval of the research topic, a proposal containing the first three chapters, table of content and partial bibliography must be submitted to The Dissertation Review Board.

The Review Board will review the research proposal. The board will either approve it, approve it with recommendations, or denied it. If the dissertation is denied, a separate fee will be required for revisions. Students are solely responsible to present the research project as required the first time to avoid any denial proposal and extra fee.

Upon the final review and grading of the final research project, the student will submit two bound copies to the school. One will be graded, endorse, and return to the student and one copy will remain the property of the school.