



ABC Level 1 Counseling Certification
Course Syllabus

FALL 2025-
WINTER 2026

WEEK	DATE	DESCRIPTION	COMPLETED
		PREPARE	
		Setup your Google Classroom account and get familiar with the portal	<input type="checkbox"/>
		Read over the syllabus and let us know if you have any questions	<input type="checkbox"/>
		Begin filling out your Spiritual Assessment	<input type="checkbox"/>
		Start watching the Paul Tripp video series to get ahead of the game! :)	<input type="checkbox"/>
		Pray and ask God to speak to you, to equip you, to prepare your heart.	<input type="checkbox"/>
10/4/2025	Live Session #1 Introduction Session 7 am - 10 am PDT AGENDA		
	Introduction to ABC Certification Process		
	Discuss writing assignments & counseling journal articles		
	A Vision for Gospel-Centered, Clinically-Informed Counseling		
	Introductions to other participants		
1	10/5/2025	Watch Video Series: Your Walk with God Is A Community Project	<input type="checkbox"/>
		Work through Gospel Turn daily	<input type="checkbox"/>
2	10/12/2025	Watch Video Series: Your Walk with God Is A Community Project	<input type="checkbox"/>
		Work through Gospel Turn daily	<input type="checkbox"/>
3	10/19/2025	ETC Module 1: A Vision for Counseling, Lesson 1: Counseling Ministry in the Church & Lesson 2: The Origin of Counseling Ministry	<input type="checkbox"/>
		Read Article: <i>Counseling Is the Church</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>
		Read Article: <i>Cure of Souls (and the Modern Psychotherapies)</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4	10/26/2025	ETC Module 1: A Vision for Counseling, Lesson 3: The Place of Counseling Ministry & Lesson 4: A Definition for Biblical Counseling	<input type="checkbox"/>
		Read Article: <i>The Great Commission: A Paradigm for Ministry in the Local Church</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>
		Read Article: <i>Affirmations & Denials: A Proposed Definition of Biblical Counseling</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>
		Read Article: <i>What is Biblical Counseling Anyway?</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>
11/1/2025 or 10/25/25		Paper Due: Your Walk with God Is A Community Project — Add to Google Classroom	<input type="checkbox"/>
5	11/2/2025	FLEX Week – Catch up on reading and/or rest	
6	11/9/2025	ETC Module 2: Counseling Foundations, Lesson 5: Counseling Worldview, Part 1 & Lesson 6: Counseling Worldview, Part 2	<input type="checkbox"/>
		Read Article: <i>Speaking Redemptively</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>
		Read Article: <i>Toward a Definition of the Essence of Biblical Counseling</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>
		Read Article: <i>Four Models of Counseling in Pastoral Ministry by Tim Keller</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>
		Read Article: <i>How Do You Help a Psychologized Counselee?</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>
11/15/2025	Live Session #2 7 am - 10 am PDT AGENDA		
	Integrating the Gospel Story & Our Story		

11/15/2025		Importance of Rightly Interpreting the Person, Situation, and Bible in Counseling	
		Discuss My Story Assignment	
7	11/16/2025	ETC Module 2: Counseling Foundations, Lesson 7: The Aim of Biblical Counseling & Lesson 8: The Fruit of Biblical Counseling	<input type="checkbox"/>
		Read Article: <i>The Search for Truth in Psychology and Counseling</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>
		Read Article: <i>God's Glory Is the Goal of Biblical Counseling</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>
		Read Article: <i>Modern Therapies and the Churches Faith</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>
8	11/23/2025	FLEX Week – HAPPY THANKSGIVING	
9	11/30/2025	ETC Module 3: God and His Word, Lesson 9: Scripture Tells the Story & Lesson 10: Creation, Fall, and Judgement	<input type="checkbox"/>
		Read Article: <i>Augustine and Psychology</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>
		Read Article: <i>Who Is God?</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>
10	12/7/2025	ETC Module 3: God and His Word, Lesson 11: Redemption, Consummation, and Eternity & Lesson 12: Knowing the Word of God	<input type="checkbox"/>
		Read Article: <i>The Present Glories of Redemption</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>
		Read Article: <i>Is the "Adonis Complex" In Your Bible?</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>
		Read Article: <i>How Does Scripture Change You?</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>
12/13/2025		Paper Due: Your Story — Add to Google Classroom	<input type="checkbox"/>
12/13/2025		Live Session #3 7 am - 10 am PDT AGENDA	
		Basic Counseling Skills - Empathetic Listening	
		Emotions + Embodiement + Sin, Suffering & The Gospel	
11	12/14/2025	ETC Module 4: The Gospel, Lesson 13: The Gospel Outlined & Lesson 14: Gospel Implications	<input type="checkbox"/>
		Read Article: <i>Who Are We? Needs, Longings, and the Image of God in Man</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>
		Read Article: <i>The Therapeutic Gospel</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>
		Read Article: <i>How Does Sanctification Work?</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>
12	12/21/2025	FLEX Week – MERRY CHRISTMAS - Catch up on reading, counseling and/or rest	
13	12/28/2025	FLEX Week – MERRY CHRISTMAS - Catch up on reading, counseling and/or rest	
14	1/4/2026	ETC Module 4: The Gospel, Lesson 15: The Gospel Lived, Part 1 & Lesson 16: The Gospel Lived, Part 2	<input type="checkbox"/>
		Read Article: <i>How Does Sanctification Work? Part 2</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>
		Read Article: <i>How Does Sanctification Work? Part 3</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>
15	1/11/2026	ETC Module 5: Understanding People, Lesson 17: Suffering & Lesson 18: Whatever Rules Your Heart Rules Your Life	<input type="checkbox"/>
		Read Article: <i>Understanding the Influences on the Human Heart</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>
		Read Article: <i>Suffering and Psalm 119</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>
		Read Article: <i>Biological Psychiatry</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>
		Read Article: <i>What if Your Father Didn't Love You?</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>
1/17/2026		Live Session #4 7 am - 10 am PDT AGENDA	
		Getting to the Heart of a Counselee	

		Discuss Mini Practicum	
		Discuss Exam & Counseling Practicum	
1/17/2026		Exam #1 – Take open book exam on Modules 1-5 / Due 1/24	<input type="checkbox"/>
16	1/18/2026	ETC Module 5: Understanding People, Lesson 19: The Descent into Depression & Lesson 20: The Ascent into Joyful Abundance	<input type="checkbox"/>
		Read Article: <i>Puritan Resources for Biblical Counseling</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>
		Read Article: <i>Learning Contentment in All Our Circumstances</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>
1/24/2026		Paper Due: Process Paper #1 — Add to Google Classroom	<input type="checkbox"/>
17	1/25/2026	FLEX Week – Catch up on reading and/or rest	
18	2/1/2026	ETC Module 6: Counseling Methods, Lesson 21: General Methods: Love and Discern & Lesson 22: General Methods: Identify and Exhort	<input type="checkbox"/>
		Read Article: <i>X-Ray Questions: Drawing Out the Whys and Wherefores of Human Behavior</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>
		Read Article: <i>Opening Blind Eyes: Another Look at Data Gathering</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>
		Read Article: <i>Data Gathering Part 2: What the Counselor Brings to The Process</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>
19	02/08/2026	Counseling Meeting & Journal 1	<input type="checkbox"/>
2/14/2026		Live Session #5 7 am - 10 am PDT AGENDA	
		The Gospel & Trauma	
		Suicide: Handling with Care	
		Q&A	
20	2/15/2026	ETC Module 6: Counseling Methods, Lesson 23: Specific Counseling Methods & Lesson 24: Specific Counseling Conditions	<input type="checkbox"/>
		Read Article: <i>Strategies for Opening Blind Eyes: Data Gathering Part 3</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>
		Read Article: <i>Illustrative Counseling</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>
		Read Article: <i>Counseling People Who Resist Change</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>
		Counseling Journals Meeting 2	<input type="checkbox"/>
21	2/22/2026	ETC Module 7: Addictions, Lesson 25: Understanding Addiction & Lesson 26: Counsel for Addiction	<input type="checkbox"/>
		Read Article: <i>The Bondage of Sin</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>
		Read Article: Addictions: <i>New Ways of Seeing, New Ways of Walking Free</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>
		Counseling Journals Meeting 3	<input type="checkbox"/>
22	03/01/26	ETC Module 7: Anxiety, Lesson 27: Understanding Worry and Anxiety & Lesson 28: Counsel for Worry and Anxiety	<input type="checkbox"/>
		Read Article: <i>Getting to the Heart of Your Worry</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>
		Read Article: <i>"Peace Be Still": Learning Psalm 131 by Heart</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>
		Counseling Journals Meeting 4	<input type="checkbox"/>
3/7/2026		Paper Due: Case Study Paper — Add to Google Classroom	<input type="checkbox"/>
23	3/8/2026	ETC Module 8: Anger, Lesson 29: Understanding Anger & Lesson 30: Counsel for Anger	<input type="checkbox"/>
		Read Article: <i>Anger Part 1: Understanding Anger</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>
		Read Article: <i>Anger Part 2: Three Lies About Anger and the Transforming Truth</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>
		Read Article: <i>Anger Part 3: Getting to the Heart of Conflict</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>

		Counseling Journals Meeting 5	<input type="checkbox"/>
24	3/15/2026	ETC Module 8: Depression, Lesson 31: Defining Depression, Lesson 32: Understanding Depression & Lesson 33: Counsel for Depression	<input type="checkbox"/>
		Read Article: <i>The Valley of the Shadow of Death</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>
		Read Article: <i>Counseling Those Who Are Depressed</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>
		Read Article: <i>Words of Hope for Those Who Struggle with Depression</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>
		Counseling Journals Meeting 6	<input type="checkbox"/>
25	3/22/2026	ETC Module 9: Sexual Purity and Sexual Sin, Lesson 34: God's Purpose and Design for Sex, Lesson 35: The Nature of Sexual Temptation and Sin & Lesson 36: Counsel	<input type="checkbox"/>
		Read Article: <i>What's Right About Sex?</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>
		Read Article: <i>Sexual Sin and the Wider, Deeper Battles.</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>
		Counseling Journals Meeting 7	<input type="checkbox"/>
26	3/29/2026	FLEX Week – Catch up on reading, counseling and/or rest	
27	4/5/2026	FLEX Week – Catch up on reading, counseling and/or rest	
28	4/12/2026	ETC Module 9: Sexual Purity and Sexual Sin, Lesson 37: Understanding Homosexuality & Lesson 38: Counsel for Homosexuality	<input type="checkbox"/>
		Read Article: <i>Homosexuality: Current Thinking and Biblical Guidelines</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>
		Read Article: <i>Getting to Know the Experience of Same-Sex Attraction.</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>
		Counseling Journals Meeting 8	<input type="checkbox"/>
4/18/2026		Paper Due: Process Paper #2— Add to Google Classroom	
4/18/2026		Live Session #6 7 am - 9 am PST AGENDA	
		Group: Discuss Counseling Journals (6-9), Real case studies	
		Q&A	
29	4/19/2026	Watch Video Series: <i>What Did You Expect?</i> Paul Tripp	<input type="checkbox"/>
		Write Response Paper — <i>What Did You Expect?</i> Paul Tripp (Due 5/2)	<input type="checkbox"/>
		Counseling Journals Meeting 9 & 10	<input type="checkbox"/>
		* Submit completed Counseling Journals 1-10	<input type="checkbox"/>
30	4/26/2026	Exam #2 –Take open book exam on Modules 6-9 / Due Saturday 5/2	<input type="checkbox"/>
5/2/2026		Paper Due: Response to What Did You Expect? — Add to Google Classroom	<input type="checkbox"/>
5/2/2026	Live Graduation 8 am - 9:30 am PST		
	Celebration/Graduation/Q&A		
All Assignments must be submitted for graduation			
Final grading, Data being submitted by Gospel Care Collective for Approval.			