Syllabus

Vancouver Bible Institute Certified Biblical Counselor Program

Module 10

Syllabus

SEXUAL BROKENNESS

SYLLABUS

Course Description

○ This course is part of the foundation of Biblical counseling — whether individual, family, group, or church counseling is being done.

○ The twelve lessons describe in detail the Biblical paradigm for healthy human sexuality and expression, and address the most common deviations from that norm the students are likely to face.

○ Application for addressing sexual brokenness in the lives of those we encounter in most areas of pastoral ministry, from professional, to paraprofessional, to lay person.

○ Underlying emphasis is on developing strategies and applying Scriptural principles to bring transformation change and bring sustained healing to the broken.

Course Objectives

□ To equip the student to identify sexual brokenness in the lives of their counselees and to be able to discover the cause(s) of that brokenness.

□ To equip the student to do the work of counseling those impacted by sexual brokenness from a scriptural standpoint and to do so effectively.

□ To equip the student to train others to do the work of counseling in the arena.

□ To introduce the student to differing theories about human sexuality within the helping community – both within and without the Church –and how to evaluate those theories from a Biblical paradigm.

□ To equip the student to apply properly interpreted Scripture to whichever area(s) of sexual brokenness are encountered in the counseling relationship and to effect Biblical change.

□ To provide the student with the opportunity during the course to identify their own need for Biblical change in this area.

□ To provide the student information on and access to secondary resources that are available to help in the specific arena of sexual brokenness.
- To model a method of evaluating the progress of counselees and the effectiveness of the counseling relationship.

- To demonstrate how a Biblical paradigm and authentically Christ-centered approach to addressing sexual brokenness and how this impacts the individual, the family, the church, the community, and — eventually — the nation.

**Required Reading**


Presents a pseudo-psychoanalytic interpretation that has shifted the focus of the debate from symptoms to root causes. The crux of Elizabeth Moberly’s argument is that ‘the homosexual condition involves legitimate developmental needs, the fulfilment of which has been blocked by an underlying ambivalence to members of the same sex’.


This well-researched and highly readable guide is the perfect go-to manual for families, church workers, counselors, pastors, civic leaders, schools, and those who themselves struggle with same-sex attraction. Authoritative authors Joe Dallas (*Desires in Conflict, When Homosexuality Hits Home*) and Dr. Nancy Heche (*The Truth Comes Out*) tackle the hard questions about same-sex attraction in this helpful volume.


Countless Christian men (and women) struggle with pornography and common spiritual approaches of more prayer and accountability groups are often of limited help. Neuroscientist and researcher William Struthers explains how pornography affects the male brain and what we can do about it. Because we are embodied beings, viewing pornography changes how the brain works, how we form memories and make attachments. By better understanding the biological realities of our sexual development, we can cultivate healthier sexual perspectives and interpersonal.
relationships. Struthers exposes false assumptions and casts a vision for a redeemed masculinity, showing how our sexual longings can actually propel us toward sanctification and holiness in our bodies.

**Recommended Reading** (Books marked with ☭ are Honors reading. Books marked ☃� are non-Christian but helpful resources.)

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Topical and relevant for men who struggle with SSA, this book has long been a standard resource providing encouragement that, “Change is possible.”

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In this straightforward book, Joe Dallas offers practical counsel, step by step, on how to deal with the many conflicts and emotions parents, grandparents, brothers and sisters or any family member will experience when learning of a loved one's homosexuality.

Drawing from his own experience and from his many years of helping families work through this perplexing and unexpected situation, Joe offers scriptural and compassionate advice to both struggling gays and those who love them.

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One of the hot-button issues of our day is fully addressed in this comprehensive new resource on homosexuality. This well-researched and highly readable guide is the perfect go-to manual for families, church workers, counselors, pastors, civic leaders, schools, and those who themselves struggle with same-sex attraction. Authoritative authors Joe Dallas (*Desires in Conflict, When Homosexuality Hits Home*) and Dr. Nancy Heche (*The Truth*
Comes Out) tackle the hard questions about same-sex attraction in this helpful volume.


Gagnon offers the most thorough analysis to date of the biblical texts relating to homosexuality. He demonstrates why attempts to classify the Bible’s rejection of same-sex intercourse as irrelevant for our contemporary context fail to do justice to the biblical texts and to current scientific data. Gagnon’s book powerfully challenges attempts to identify love and inclusivity with affirmation of homosexual practice.


This ground-breaking book – though not written from a Biblical perspective – demystifies the field of adult sexual attraction to children, countering the emotionality surrounding the topic of paedophilia in the popular media by careful presentation of research data and interview material.

Sarah D. Goode provides an overview of the topic by defining the term 'paedophile' and discussing how many adults there may be in the general population who find themselves sexually attracted to children. She looks at how the Internet has acted as an enabler, with an explosion of child pornography and 'pro-paedophile' websites. Drawing on data from a sample of fifty-six self-defined paedophiles living in the community, she explores themes including self-identity, the place of fantasy and the forms of support available to paedophiles. Her research highlights the scale of debate within the 'online paedophile community' about issues such as the morality of sexual contact with children and encouragement to maintain a law-abiding lifestyle. Throughout, she draws careful distinctions between sexual attraction to children and sexual contact with children. The book concludes with a valuable discussion on how adult sexual contact harms children and examples of a range of initiatives which work to protect children and prevent offending.

Now in a fully revised and updated second edition, this important work provides authoritative scientific and applied perspectives on the full range of paraphilias and other sexual behavior problems. For each major clinical syndrome, a chapter on psychopathology and theory is followed by a chapter on assessment and treatment. Challenges in working with sex offenders are considered in depth. Thoroughly rewritten to reflect a decade of advances in the field, the second edition features many new chapters and new authors. New topics include an integrated etiological model, sexual deviance across the lifespan, Internet offenders, multiple paraphilias, neurobiological processes, the clinician as expert witness, and public health approaches.


In-depth journey for new and old believers alike, the author firmly yet delicately peels back the layers of “respectability” from the “minor” sins and ungodliness that go unnoticed and undiscussed most of the time. Excellent companion guide for any Biblical Counselor.


Contrary to popular belief, not all sex offenders who target children are pedophiles, and not all pedophiles commit sexual offenses. In this book, author Michael C. Seto addresses key concerns and questions in dealing with these clinical populations: How can pedophilia be detected? What causes pedophilia and sexual offending against children, and what is the relationship between the two? How do we assess risk to sexually offend? Finally, what do we know about intervention and prevention to reduce the occurrence of sexual offenses against children? In addition to a comprehensive synthesis of theory and research, the author demonstrates how this knowledge informs current treatment
practices with the inclusion of illustrative case examples, sample interview questions, assessment tools, and online resources.

My Daddy's Secret is the often-heartbreaking true story of the effects of a father's secret sexual addictions on his family – particularly on his oldest daughter, whom he made his confidante when she was just nine years old. The author hopes this book will provide new insights into the pain such addictions inflict on families and insight into God's amazing grace in healing those pains. Denise Shick, serves as the Director of Help4Families, a Christian ministry that compassionately reaches out to family members and churches, bringing a broader understanding of the emotional pain and spiritual confusion that people face when a loved one has gender-identity issues.

☞ **Wilson, Earl D.** *Steering Clear: Avoiding the Slippery Slope to Moral Failure.*  
As more and more Christians find themselves trapped in patterns of sexual, emotional and financial sin, the church desperately needs resources for prevention, intervention and restoration. Earl D. Wilson provides a penetrating look at the slippery slope to moral failure, uncovering how our self-delusions fuel ethical compromise. He identifies how distorted thinking leads to secretive behavior, and he describes effective strategies for breaking bad habits. Only by bringing such things to light can we open the door to true repentance, change, and freedom. Here is practical help for those who want to get off and stay off the slippery slope, as well as hope and healing for those picking up the pieces after a crash. Though the road may not be easy, forgiveness and wholeness are possible. This book serves as an essential companion for those who want to live with integrity and those who minister to them.

☞ **Worthen Anita and Bob Davies.** *Someone I Love Is Gay: How Family & Friends Can Respond.*  
Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity Press, 1996.  
Finding out that a child, spouse, relative or friend is homosexual can be an unwelcome surprise. You're hit with a complex combination of emotions – grief, shame, fear, guilt. You are flooded with questions ranging from why to what's next. You wonder what a
biblical response would be. At the same time, someone you care about deeply may be awaiting your response. What should you say? This book was created out of Bob Davies’s personal and professional experience and out of Anita Worthen’s struggle with her son over these issues. Also drawing on experiences of others, the authors will help you handle your feelings while responding appropriately to your loved one.

This is Frank Worthen’s personal story. Frank is considered by many to be the “Father of the Ex-Gay Movement.” Excellent resource to help the struggler overcome the conflicts they face almost hourly.

Christopher Yuan, the son of Chinese immigrants, discovered at an early age that he was different. He was attracted to other boys. As he grew into adulthood, his mother, Angela, hoped to control the situation. Instead, she found that her son and her life were spiraling out of control—and her own personal demons were determined to defeat her.
Years of heartbreak, confusion, and prayer followed before the Yuans found a place of complete surrender, which is God’s desire for all families. Their amazing story, told from the perspectives of both mother and son, offers hope for anyone affected by homosexuality.
God calls all who are lost to come home to him. Casting a compelling vision for holy sexuality, Out of a Far Country speaks to prodigals, parents of prodigals, and those wanting to minister to the gay community.


**Course Requirements**

**Summary of Requirements**

- Attend lectures.
- Participate in weekly Discussion Activities
- Reading synopses
- Course Evaluation paper

**Course Evaluation Paper (25%)**

A two-page (minimum) evaluation of the course.

**Weekly Discussion Activities (30%)**

Each week, one or more Discussion Questions will be posited to the class. The goal is to elicit group interaction with the material.

**Reading Synopses (45%)**

A one- to two-page synopsis of all books and publications on the Required Reading list, with a final personal assessment of each work as the conclusion.

**Assignments**

All assignments except the weekly discussion activities are due the last day of the course. All assignments are to be submitted in both written and electronic (email) form. Extensions must be pre-approved prior to the relevant due date.

**Honors**

**Honors Reading:** Read any Recommended Reading list item marked α. Submit a three- to five-page summary/analyses of the work.

**Honors Project:** Submit an original research paper on any approved topic. Topic must be taken from the lectures, the required reading, or the recommended reading.

**Final Course-Grade Meanings**

A with Honors = You far exceeded expectations and completed an Honors Project or Reading.

A = There were dimensions to your work that went above the requirements.

B = At VBI, a “B” means that you successfully fulfilled the requirements.

C = You missed some important facets of the material or the assignment.
**Contact Information**

Vancouver Bible Institute  
CBC Program  
OFFICE: (360) 546-2020  
E-MAIL: VancouverBible@live.com  
WEB SITE: VancouverBible.com
# Course Outline

**Session One**
- ✓ Introduction and Syllabus
- ✓ Biblical Model of Human Sexuality

**Session Two**
- ✓ The Biblical Counseling Paradigm
- ✓ Issues in Counseling Sexual Matters

**Session Three**
- ✓ Sexuality and Abuse

**Session Four**
- ✓ Promiscuity and Infidelity

**Session Five**
- ✓ Sexual Addiction & Unusual Practices

**Session Six**
- ✓ Pornography "Addiction"

**Session Seven**
- ✓ Roots of Homosexuality

**Session Eight**
- ✓ Video Presentation: "Such Were Some of You"

**Session Nine**
- ✓ Transgenderism & Gender Disorientation

**Session Ten**
- ✓ Paraphilia: Aberrant Sexual Interests & Practices

**Session Eleven**
- ✓ The Church’s Response & Responsibility: A Biblical Paradigm for Ministry

**Session Twelve**
- ✓ Personal Self-Care & After Care
# Reading and Assignment Schedule

**NOTE:** Reading assignments do not always follow the Table of Contents for the books assigned. Be sure to complete the schedule as outlined.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>LESSON</th>
<th>READING</th>
<th>ASSIGNMENTS DUE</th>
<th>DUE</th>
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</table>
| LESSON 1 | Pearcy: Introduction; Chapters 1 & 3  
            Struthers: Introduction; Chapters 5 & 7 | | WEEK 2 |
| LESSON 2 | Pearcy: Chapters 4 & 5  
            **Handout I: “Porn Addiction is a Myth”** | | WEEK 3 |
| LESSON 3 | Pearcy: Chapter 6  
            Struthers: Chapter 7 | | WEEK 4 |
| LESSON 4 | Pearcy: Chapters 2 & 7  
            Struthers: Chapters 2 & 6 | | WEEK 5 |
| LESSON 5 | Moberly (All)  
            Struthers: Chapters 1, 3 & 4 | | WEEK 6 |
| LESSON 6 | Foster: Chapter 7  
            Struthers: Chapter 8 | | WEEK 7 |
| LESSON 7 | **Handouts II (Transsexualism); III (Treating GID)**  
            **Handout: Powlison** | | WEEK 8 |
| LESSON 8 | **Handout: Black**  
            **Handout: Whitehead** | | WEEK 9 |
| LESSON 9 | **Handout: Partain** | | WEEK 10 |
| LESSON 10 | | | |
| LESSON 11 | | | |
| LESSON 12 | **Reading Synopses**  
            (In print and electronic) | | ALL READING COMPLETED |

**Moberly** = Homosexuality: A New Christian Ethic  
**Pearcy** = Love Thy Body  
**Struthers** = Wired for Intimacy

Assigned reading plan **does not follow the specific chapter order of the books.** The reading can be done at your own pace but be prepared to apply reading assignment information in the class discussion during the Lesson of the week “Due.”
SUGGESTED RESOURCES BY CATEGORY

CURRICULUM


Pursuing Sexual Wholeness & Workbook, Andrew Comiskey, Available through Desert Stream Ministries at http://desertstream.org/Shop/


PARENTS, FAMILY


Like Mother, Like Daughter? The Effects of Growing Up in a Homosexual Home, Jakii Edwards.

My Daddy’s Secret, Denise Shick, Xulon Press 2008.

Someone I Love is Gay: How Family and Friends Can Respond, Anita Worthen and Bob Davies, IV Press.


When Hope Seems Lost, Denise Shick, Xulon Press, 2011.

MEN


Desires in Conflict: Hope for Men Who Struggle With Sexual Identity, Joe Dallas, Harvest House Publishers 2003..


**WOMEN**


**DEALING WITH ABUSE**


On The Threshold of Hope: Opening The Door to Healing For Survivors of Sexual Abuse, Diane Mandt Langberg, Tyndale House, 1999.


The Wounded Heart: Hope for Adult Victims of Childhood Sexual Abuse, Dan B. Allender, NavPress, 1990.

**MISCELLANEOUS**

Love into Light: The Gospel, the Homosexual, and the Church, Peter Hubbard, Ambassador-Emerald, Intl., 2013.

Naked Surrender, Andrew Comiskey, available through the bookstore at www.DesertStream.org/shop


Strength in Weakness, Andrew Comiskey, available through the bookstore at www.DesertStream.org/shop

A Wife's Perspective: A resource for wives who are dealing with their husband’s marital unfaithfulness and sexual compulsions, Denise Shick, Help4Families, 2014