

Victorious Living Bible Institute / National Association of Christian Counselors

Board Certified Christian Counselor Accelerated Program – Spring 2026 Syllabus

Facilitator: Renae Sellers, Certified Trainer

Course Description

A Lay Counselor course that enables students to help hurting people God's way by facilitating spiritual and personal growth, moving individuals toward dependence on Christ and healthy interdependence within the Body of Christ.

Required Textbooks / Materials

- Christian Counseling by Gary R. Collins (available at Amazon and Christianbook)
- Lay Counseling Guidebook by J.D. Kitelinger, LCSW (included)

Disclaimer

Victorious Living Bible Institute is a certified training center of the National Association of Christian Counselors (NACC). NACC is a Christian service organization committed to the Lord Jesus Christ, believing that counseling must be founded upon and directed by the Word of God.

This course and all accompanying materials are for educational purposes. VLBI equips men and women of God with tools to be productive members of the local Body of Christ. As a state-authorized (not regionally accredited) theological institution, VLBI accepts no government grants or financial aid. Students are not permitted to copy course materials.

Contact Information

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Grading System

- A = 90–100 (Excellent)
- B = 80–89 (Good)
- C = 70–79 (Average)

Note: Below "C" is unacceptable for college-level work and will receive an Incomplete.

Course Schedule – Spring 2026

Class Begins: Monday, February 16, 2026

Format: Weekly Zoom sessions

Spring Break: April 6, 2026 (No Class)

Week One – February 16, 2026

- Part 1: Introduction, Overview of Syllabus, Confidentiality Agreement
- Part 2: Define C O U N S E L O R (knowing who and what you are called to)

Week Two – February 23, 2026

- Lesson One: Developing Lay Counseling Skills

Week Three – March 2, 2026

- Lesson Two: Addictions

Week Four – March 9, 2026

- Lesson Three: Anger
- Role Plays and Scenarios

Week Five – March 16, 2026

- Lesson Four: Depression

Week Six – March 23, 2026

- Chapter Five: Crisis Situations
- *Suicides in the Bible / Cracked Not Broken*

Week Seven – March 30, 2026

- Chapter Six: Marital Discord

Spring Break – April 6, 2026 (No Class)

Week Eight – April 13, 2026

- Chapter Seven: Major Legal and Ethical Guidelines

Week Nine – April 20, 2026

- Chapter Nine: Presenting the Gospel
- Role Plays and Scenarios
- Submit Outstanding Enrollment Items and Assignments

- Prepare for Final Exam Review

Week Ten – April 27, 2026

- FINAL EXAM (Submitted Online)

Course Objectives

By the end of this course, students will be able to:

- Demonstrate biblical foundations for Christian counseling
- Apply basic lay counseling skills with confidence
- Identify addictions and crises
- Respond appropriately to anger, depression, and marital conflict
- Understand major legal and ethical guidelines
- Know when and how to make referrals
- Present the Gospel with clarity and compassion

Course Expectations

- Weekly class attendance (Zoom)
- Active participation in discussions, role plays, and scenarios
- Completion of assigned readings and activities
- Timely submission of assignments
- Professional conduct consistent with Christian ethics

Final Note

This class is open to anyone ready to serve, support, and restore hurting people God's way. Whether you are in ministry, leadership, or have a heart to help, this training will equip you to make a lasting impact.

Be great—on purpose!