

Syllabus for
GBIB 697—Jewish and Christian Prayer in the Time of Jesus
3 Credit hours
Fall 2003

I. COURSE DESCRIPTION

A study of the form, content, and structure of prayers in their historical context as prayed by the Jewish people and the Early Church. Examines the prayers of Jesus and the Early Church in light of Jewish prayers and blessings in the rabbinic literature, the Pseudepigrapha, the Apocrypha, and the Dead Sea Scrolls.

Prerequisites: GBIB 506.

II. COURSE GOALS

The purpose of this course is to enable the student to do the following:

- A. Examine and interpret prayer texts properly.
- B. Make practical use of Jewish and Christian prayer in the time of Jesus.

III. COURSE OBJECTIVES

As a result of successfully completing this course, the student will be able to do the following:

- A. Discuss the scientific study of prayer during the time of Jesus.
- B. Outline the form and function of prayer in the community and individual prayer in the cultivation of personal piety.
- C. Compare and contrast the prayers that appear in selected texts from the formative periods of early Christianity and early Judaism.

IV. TEXTBOOKS

Required Textbooks

Bible (with the Apocrypha) The *Oxford Annotated Bible* is recommended.

Donin, Hayim. *To Pray as a Jew*. New York: Basic Books, 1980.

Hertz, Joseph. *Daily Prayer Book*. New York: Bloch Publishing Co., 1959.

Heschel, Abraham. *God in Search of Man*. New York: Farrar Straus & Giroux, 1976.

Longenecker, Richard. *Into God's Presence: Prayers in the New Testament*. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1999.

Richards, Cliff. *Prayers That Prevail*. Tulsa: Victory Books, 1992.

Young, Brad. *The Jewish Background to the Lord's Prayer*. Austin: Center for Judaic Christian Studies, 1984. (This book is available from the professor.)

V. POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

A. University Policies and Procedures

1. Attendance at each class or laboratory is mandatory at Oral Roberts University.
2. Double cuts will be assessed for absences immediately preceding or following holidays.
3. Excessive absences can reduce a student's grade or deny credit for the course.
4. Students taking a late exam because of an unauthorized absence will be charged a late exam fee.
5. Students and faculty at Oral Roberts University adhere to all laws addressing the ethical use of others' materials, whether it is in the form of print, video, multimedia, or computer software.
6. Final exams cannot be given before their scheduled times. Students need to check the final exam schedule before planning return flights or other events at the end of the semester.

B. School of Theology Policies and Procedures

1. **Completion of assignments**
Assignments are due on the dates established in the course calendar, which is published in the syllabus. **Any assignments turned in after the scheduled due date are penalized five percent (5%) of the original value per day including weekends, breaks, and holidays.** All work turned in two weeks after the assignment deadline will be received but will be granted a grade of zero for that assignment. **No work** is accepted after the final date of regular classes.
2. **Incompletes**
 - a. An incomplete is given only after the student establishes with the academic committee by written petition that student's work is incomplete for good cause (i.e., lengthy illness, death in the family). **Incompletes are rarely granted.** Only those absences that are incurred within the time period of the extenuating circumstances prompting an incomplete are excused. The student is still accountable for any other absences and will be penalized for them according to the attendance policy.
 - b. A Petition for Incomplete Grade with all supporting documentation must be submitted for approval one week prior to the end of normal classes. **The submitting of a petition does not automatically ensure the granting of an incomplete.** The petition must be approved by the academic committee of the School of Theology and Missions. Students are expected to continue all course work until an incomplete is granted.
3. **Examinations**
 - a. Early examinations **are not** allowed. Late examinations without grade penalty are administered only when extenuating circumstances are present (such as a death in the family the week before exams or a sudden and major illness the week of exams that is documented by a physician).
 - b. A Petition for Late Examination must be submitted to the academic dean's office. A **\$10 fee**, plus proper documentation, must accompany the petition. The academic committee reviews each petition and grade penalties are assessed. (Late exam fee is not a grade penalty).
 - c. Students taking late exams should expect alternate versions of the original exams.
 - d. **Not being present for the final examination automatically results in failure of the course.**
4. **Attendance**
The Official Attendance Policy for the School of Theology and Missions is as follows:

- a. If the class meets three times a week, the missing of **6** class sessions results in a grade reduction of **one letter** grade. Missing **8** class sessions results in a grade reduction of **two letter** grades. Missing **12** class sessions will automatically result in a **grade of F**. If a class meets twice a week, the missing of **4** class sessions results in a grade reduction of **one letter** grade. Missing **6** class sessions results in a grade reduction of **two letter** grades. Missing **8** class sessions automatically results in a **grade of F**. If the class meets once a week, then the missing of **3** class sessions results in a grade reduction of **one letter** grade. Missing **4** class sessions results in a grade reduction of **two letter** grades. Missing **5** class sessions automatically results in a **grade of F**.
- b. **The absences allowed prior to a grade reduction are designed to allow for emergencies and illnesses and are not designed for indiscriminate use.**
- c. Administrative excuses are granted only when a student is on official University business and has received approval in advance from the University administration.
- d. Students are expected to be prompt for classes.
- e. Students are expected to remain for the entire class session.
- f. Leaving early without permission constitutes an absence.

C. Course Policies and Procedures

1. Evaluation Procedures

- a. Grading

Research Paper	40%
Book Review	15%
Midterm	15%
Final Examination	20%
Class Participation and Pop Quizzes	10%
- b. Grading Scale

A=100-90%
B=89-80%
C=79-70%
D=69-60%
F=59% and below

2. Other Policies and Procedures

- a. Students are responsible for all the material in the readings of class assignments.
- b. Class attendance and participation in seminar discussions are required as in accordance with ORU policy.
- c. Students must submit a book review of Donin's work, *To Pray As a Jew*, or another book subject to the approval of the professor. The review must be two to four typewritten pages according to the approved a ORU format.
- d. A research paper on an approved subject is required, and must deal with the issues raised in the readings, lectures, or discussions of the course. The paper must adequately deal with the theme and should be four to six pages in length excluding the notes and the bibliography. The approved ORU format is required with documentation and bibliography.
- e. Midterm exam.
- f. Final exam.
- g. Periodical unannounced quizzes over the material.

VI. COURSE CALENDAR

Week	Topic
1-2	Prayers in the Old Testament and Their Impact Upon Early Jewish Thought
2-3	Prayers in the Apocrypha and the Pseudepigrapha
4-5	Prayers in Rabbinic Literature
6-7	Prayers of Jesus Midterm
8-9	Prayers of the Early Church Term Paper Due
9-11	Form, Structure, and Purpose of Corporate and Individual Prayers
12-15	Theology, Prayer, and Redemption

VII. ASSESSMENT SUMMARY

ORAL ROBERTS UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF THEOLOGY AND MISSIONS

GBIB 697
Course #

Jewish & Christian Prayer in the Time of Jesus
Title of Course

Dr. B. Young
Instructor

MISSION

The lifestyle at ORU is rooted in the word “Wholeness.” ORU seeks to educate the whole person, with balanced emphasis placed on the development of the mind, spirit, and body.

GENERAL OUTCOMES

- | | |
|--------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 1. Spiritual Development | 6. Valuing in Decision-making |
| 2. Physical Development | 7. Social Interaction |
| 3. Communication | 8. Global Perspectives |
| 4. Analysis | 9. Effective Citizenship |
| 5. Problem | 10. Aesthetic Responsiveness |

MAJOR OUTCOMES

Spiritual formation/leadership:

Demonstrates Spirit-filled, biblically-theologically competent and historically informed church leadership.

Critical thinking/analysis/problem solving:

Understands and applies biblical/theological principles in the practice of ministry.

Communication/social interaction/global perspective:

Demonstrates the ability to communicate the Gospel in diverse social/cultural texts.

Value/ethics/decision-making:

Integrates Judeo-Christian values and ethics in personal life and ministry.

COURSE OUTCOMES

The course fosters a deeper prayer life through analysis of prayer texts in the Bible and Jewish prayers from the Second Temple Period. Exploring Jewish and Christian liturgies enhances personal prayer experience as each person learns to pray through personal involvement.

ASSESSMENT OF COURSE OUTCOMES

Stimuli:

Research Paper
Book Review
Midterm
Final Examination
Class Participation and Pop Quizzes

Criteria:

Research Paper	40%
Book Review	15%
Midterm	15%
Final Examination	20%
Class Participation and Pop Quizzes	10%