

Syllabus for
PRM 685—Power Encounter
3.0 Credit Hours
Fall 1999

I. COURSE DESCRIPTION

Power encounter is the clash between the power of Jesus Christ and certain ways in which Satan manifests his power. The term is normally used, however, only when the gospel comes into conflict with a worldview having presuppositions completely different to it. The power of God is manifest so as to clearly demonstrate that this worldview has no foundations, or that the powers being submitted to have been defeated by Christ. The people involved are set free to accept Christ. Power encounter by this definition does not, therefore, take place when either Christians or unbelievers sympathetic to the gospel are being ministered to.

This course examines the Biblical foundations, the theory and practice of Power Encounters as described above. As such it is a course on evangelism. It deals with subjects such as breaking taboos, healing, demonization, deliverance, miraculous intervention, spiritual warfare, the occult, religion, animism and people movements, in so far as they relate to Power Encounters and conversion to Christ.

Those who take part in evangelism often have opportunities to encounter deeply entrenched worldviews with a demonstration of the power of Jesus Christ. A true encounter will sometimes bring only one, but at other times a large number of people to salvation of their collective worldview has been challenged. Power Encounter, therefore, can encompass the individual, the family, the community or a whole people group.

II. COURSE GOALS

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

- A. understand how the forces of unrighteousness war against the Kingdom of God.
- B. understand how to confront territorial powers.
- C. understand how to blend counseling with deliverance ministry.
- D. know practical ways to see demonized persons set free.
- E. understand a broad range of viewpoints with reference to spiritual warfare.

III. COURSE OBJECTIVES

The objective of this course is to prepare students so that they will in the future be able to recognize and take advantage of these opportunities. This will be done as follows:

- A. Students will be instructed and gain knowledge in the theology, theory and practice of power encounters in the classroom and through their reading assignments. Their grasp of this instruction will be tested with an examination.

- B. Students will be given an assignment to participate in a power encounter for themselves at the individual level. Whether this is successful or not, it will help them to think through and apply some of the knowledge they have gained.
- C. Students will be required to analyze both the subject as a whole and their own experience by writing papers.

IV. TEXTBOOKS

- A. Boyd, Gregory A. God at War. Downers Grove: Inter Varsity Press, 1997.
- B. Kraft, Charles H. Defeating Dark Angels. Ann Arbor: Vine Books, 1992.
- C. Wagner, C. Peter. Confronting the Powers. Ventura: Regal Books, 1992.
- D. Wagner, C. Peter. Wrestling with Dark Angels. Ventura: Regal Books, 1990.

V. COURSE PROCEDURES

- A. Course Prerequisites: None
- B. Evaluation Procedures
 - 1. Students are required to read the prescribed section in their textbooks prior to each class. They are also required to fill out a Summary-Reaction sheet to be turned in each time the class meets. This sheet should contain a summary of the most important themes of the reading and a personal subjective reaction to one or more of them.
 - 2. Students are to participate in personal power encounters as field experiences. To do this, they are to select an unbeliever, or a group of unbelievers, establish a relationship with this (those) person(s), and attempt to find out some unique need. This could be a sickness, a financial need, a problem at work, or any such need or challenge, as long as a miraculous solution would affect the world view of the person concerned.

Students are to advise that they will be trusting God to meet this need and are to begin praying earnestly for this to happen. When the need is met, they are to make sure that this person acknowledges that it is God who has helped them, and encourage the person(s) to accept Jesus Christ.

Students are to give oral reports on the progress of this project on October 13 or November 12, and hand in a typed report between two and six pages in which the experience is analyzed in terms of the material studied in this course. Students who have been unsuccessful in this project should hand in a report, in which they describe and analyze their attempts, observations, objectives relating to this experience and lessons learned in view of the course material.

3. Students are to hand in a typed report of between five and ten pages on October 13 or November 12, in which they choose one of the groups below with which they are somewhat familiar and describe the world view and the sort of power encounter which could be used to challenge this world view. They are to explain how this would be likely to happen, and how it may lead to the conversion of the group concerned to Christ. Students may choose which assignment they will turn in on October 13 and which one on November 12.

Students choose one of the following:

- Followers of the occult in the U.S.A.
- Some tribal group
- Animistic Hindus
- Animistic Buddhists
- Animistic Muslims
- Animistic “Christians”
- Secularists

4. An essay exam will be given covering the readings and lectured material. Students are expected to understand the major principles, rather than memorize a large number of details.
5. Grading

The students' performances will be evaluated as follows:

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| a. | Reading Assignments and Summary/Reaction Sheets | 20% |
| b. | Class discussion participation | 20% |
| c. | Power encounter experience paper | 20% |
| d. | Power encounter with a world view research paper | 20% |
| e. | Final Exam | 20% |

C. University Policies

1. “Consistent with Section 504 of The Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and the Americans with Disabilities Act, ORU ensures that no ‘qualified individual’ will be denied reasonable accommodation in the form of modifications of policies, practices, and/or procedures.” Students with disabilities who wish to access services should contact their professor(s) and the Office of Disability Services at Ext. 7355 to initiate the process.
2. 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.
3. Students taking a late exam because of an unauthorized absence will be charged a late exam fee.

D. Other Information

1. Refer to the Graduate School of Theology and Missions Student Handbook for additional policies and procedures.

2. Bibliography

There is no outside reading (beyond the textbook reading) required for this course. However, for your information, the following books deal with these subjects and may be used as resources for further research.

- a. Hagin, Kenneth. The Key to Scriptural Healing. Self Published, no date.
- b. Kraft, Charles H. Behind Enemy Lines. Vine Books, 1994.
- c. Kraft, Charles H. Christianity with Power. Vine Books, 1989.
- d. McNutt, Francis. Healing. Ave Maria Press, 1974.
- e. Osborn, T. L. Healing the Sick and Casting Out Devils. Self Published, 1953.
- f. Roberts, Oral. If You Need Healing, Do These Things. Healing Waters, 1950.
- g. Simpson, A. B. The Gospel of Healing. Christian Publications: 1915.
- h. Springer, Kevin. Power Encounters Among Christians in the Western World. Harper & Row, 1988.
- i. Tippet, Alan. People Movements in Southern Polynesia. Moody, 1971.
- j. Wagner, Peter
 - (1) Breaking Strongholds in Your City. Regal 1993.
 - (2) Engaging the Enemy. Regal, 1991.
 - (3) Spiritual Power and Church Growth. Creation House, 1987.
 - (4) Territorial Spirits. Sovereign World, 1991.
- k. Winber, John and Springer, Kevin. Power Evangelism. Harper and Row, 1986.
- l. Winber, John and Springer, Kevin. Power Healing. Harper and Row, 1987.

VI. ATTENDANCE POLICY

- A. Attendance at each class or laboratory is mandatory at Oral Roberts University.
- B. Double cuts are given for absences immediately preceding or following holidays and/or breaks.
- C. Excessive absences can reduce a student's grade or deny credit for the course.
- D. The Official Attendance Policy for the School of Theology and Missions is stated in each syllabus and is as follows for the three-semester-hour class:
 1. If the class meets three times a week, the missing of 6 class sessions will result in a grade reduction of one letter grade. Missing 8 class sessions will result in a grade reduction of two letter grades. Missing 12 class sessions will automatically result in a grade of F.
 2. If a class meets twice a week, the missing of 4 class sessions will result in a grade reduction of one letter grade. Missing 6 class sessions will result in a grade reduction of two letter grades. Missing 8 class sessions will automatically result in a grade of F.
 3. If the class meets once a week, the missing of 3 class sessions will result in a grade reduction of one letter grade. Missing 4 class sessions will result in a grade

reduction of two letter grades. Missing 6 class sessions will automatically result in a grade of F.

- E. The absences allowed prior to a grade reduction are designed to allow for emergencies, illnesses, etc., and are not designed for indiscriminate use. Many students incorrectly assume that they may use these allowable absences as unexcused "cuts" from class. Any illnesses, emergencies, and trips are included in these allowable absences in each course. Only those absences documented with an administrative excuse will be exempt. Administrative excuses are granted only when a student is on official University business and has received approval in advance from the University's administration.
- F. Students are expected to be prompt for classes. Two tardies will equal one absence.

VII. COURSE CALENDAR

<u>DATE</u>	<u>READING AND DISCUSSION ASSIGNMENTS</u>
Aug 20	Introduction to the course, lecture on the definition and dynamics of Power Encounter
25	Wrestling with Dark Angels 5-48
27	Wrestling with Dark Angels 50-98
Sept 1	Wrestling with Dark Angels 102-168
3	Wrestling with Dark Angels 170-212
8	Wrestling with Dark Angels 216-279
9	Wrestling with Dark Angels 282-312
15	Wrestling with Dark Angels 314-357
17	Defeating Dark Angels 7-59
22	Defeating Dark Angels 61-98
24	Defeating Dark Angels 99-156
29	Defeating Dark Angels 157-198
Oct 1	Defeating Dark Angels 199-243
6	Confronting the Powers 11-71
8	Confronting the Powers 73-117
13	Oral Presentations and Discussion

<u>DATE</u>	<u>READING AND DISCUSSION ASSIGNMENTS</u>	
15	Confronting the Powers	121-182
27	Confronting the Powers	185-223
29	Confronting the Powers God at War	225-248 11-27
Nov 3	God at War	31-92
5	God at War	93-142
10	God at War	143-191
12	Oral Presentations and Discussion	
17	God at War	192-214
19	God at War	215-237
Dec 1	God at War	238-268
3	God at War	269-293
8	Power Encounters in Your Ministry	
10	Discussion and Prayer	
	Final Exam During Final Exam Week	

VIII. ASSESSMENT SUMMARY

ORAL ROBERTS UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF THEOLOGY AND MISSIONS

PRM 685
Course #

Power Encounter
Title of Course

Dr. Ron Meyers
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
2. Physical Development
3. Communication
4. Analysis
5. Problem Solving
6. Valuing in Decision-making
7. Social Interaction
8. Global Perspectives
9. Effective Citizenship
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

Ability to understand the forces of unrighteousness; ability to confront territorial powers; ability to blend counseling with deliverance ministry; ability to see demonized persons set free; ability to comprehend a broad range of views re. spiritual warfare.

ASSESSMENT OF COURSE OUTCOMES

Stimuli:

Textbook Reading
Discussion Participation
Discussion Leading
Research & Writing
Power Encounter Experience
Lecture
Reading Reaction Papers

Criteria:

Reading Reaction	20%
Discussion Leading/Participation	20%
Experience Paper	20%
Research Paper	20%
Exam	20%