

Equipping for Spiritual Warfare
THS 561 M: 2 credit hours

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Syllabus - Spring 2009
Session B: Mar. 3 – Apr. 25

COURSE SCHEDULE

Mar. 19 – 21, Thurs.: Sat., 8:00 am – 5:00 pm

COURSE DESCRIPTION

Equipping for Spiritual Warfare. Spiritual warfare begins with evangelism and discipleship and goes on to helping people traumatized by involvement with the demonic. Knowing the types and limits of satanic stratagems against Christians and the church is essential in our increasingly pagan society. From a strong biblical and theological foundation, we will develop practical methodologies to help people find freedom from spiritual bondage. 2 hours.

COURSE CONTRIBUTION TO STATED DEGREE OUTCOMES

The objectives of this course are tied directly to the desired outcomes constructed specifically for the four seminary degrees for which this course is a requirement. Below is an excerpt of the degree outcomes to which this course relates:

- 1) Be a person whose Christ-like character is worthy of being emulated, and whose integrity imparts credibility to his/her ministry:
 - a) reflects biblical balance and skill in life management, appropriately fulfilling the roles and responsibilities mandated by God.
- 2) Be able to think biblically and critically so that various truth claims can be effectively evaluated:
 - a) has embraced a biblical world view;
 - b) able to apply the basic elements of critical analysis and sound reasoning;
 - c) sensitive to cultural variations in styles of thinking;
 - d) reflects an appropriately humble and charitable spirit in applying biblical criteria for truth.
- 3) Be able to communicate God's truth clearly, accurately, and convincingly:
 - a) able to preach and teach effectively, working both from Scripture to life and from life to Scripture;
 - b) able to communicate one's thoughts effectively in writing.

- 4) Be a true life-long learner, building upon his/her seminary training:
 - a) committed to pursuing growth and learning in key areas of need;
 - b) able to access and manage information (including that available via computer/on-line resources) so that it is readily available when needed.

COURSE GOALS/OBJECTIVES

Upon completion of this course you will . . .

BE:

1. confident of your membership in the family of God.
2. more mature as a child of God.
3. better prepared to engage effectively in spiritual warfare.

KNOW:

1. terminology, concepts, issues and scope of spiritual warfare.
2. various methodologies in spiritual warfare through lecture and first hand reading.
3. biblical perspectives on spiritual warfare.

BE ABLE TO:

1. answer biblically and practically the question of demonization of a Christian.
2. develop a plan to help individuals or churches find freedom from spiritual bondage.

TEXTBOOKS

We are happy to announce that Western Sacramento is now an Amazon Associate. Any purchases (not just books) you make on Amazon using this link will mean that a minimum of 4% of the purchase price comes to Western. Please support your seminary by using this link for all your Amazon purchases.

Click [here](#) to order texts and other products.

Required

Arnold, C. *Three Crucial Questions about Spiritual Warfare*. ISBN: 0-8010-5784-1

Recommended

MacDermott, G. *God's Rivals*. ISBN: 0-8308-2564-9

Payne, Karl. *Spiritual Warfare*. ISBN: 9780981752808

Kraft, C. *I Give You Authority*. ISBN: 0-8007-9256-4

MacArthur, J. *Standing Strong*. ISBN: 0-7814-4361-X (old title = *How to Meet the Enemy*. ISBN: 1-5647-6016-2)

FEEL FREE TO CONTACT ME

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COURSE REQUIREMENTS

A. Class Structure

The class will be conducted lecture/discussion style. The goal of the discussions will be to refine your personal theology of spiritual warfare. We will look first at the history of the doctrine along with key issues and views before we turn to exegesis of key texts. We will conclude with synthesis and applicational issues.

B. Quality of Work

This is a graduate level seminar. You will be expected to perform at that level in all you do. This means that you will discipline yourself to do quality work and to do it on time. You will be expected to have interacted carefully with all assigned readings for the topics. From this basis you will participate in the class discussions to form a learning community. All written material will reflect quality in logic, good methodology, clarity, succinctness, spelling, punctuation and grammar. **REMEMBER:** Life is short: no fluff! It is assumed that you are able to assess the quality of your work before you hand it in or before you present in class. I encourage you to consult with me to make sure you understand the assignment and/or to go over drafts of your material. Much of the value of the course flows out of the contributions you and I make to each other from our experiences in ministry and from the effort we put into the work of the course itself. Plan to give your best.

C. Pre-Class Preparation (25 hours)

1. Please complete the inductive scriptural study in spiritual warfare attached to the syllabus. This should be your own observations rather than a report of the positions of others. You will turn in your notes from the study on the first day of class. They will be handed back at the beginning of the second day. They will be graded on the basis of completion and quality of interaction with the passages. (15 hours)

2. Please read Clint Arnold, *Three Crucial Questions about Spiritual Warfare*, pp. 17-139. The point of the reading is to be familiar with the key issues and techniques of spiritual warfare. Following Western's policy, they are to be read at the mastery level, averaging about 20 pages per hour. It assumes careful interaction with the ideas, note taking and will lead to accountability in class discussion at a mastery level. Also review Arnold's final chapter for familiarity pp. 143-199. (10 hours)

D. Post Class Project (30 hours)

1. You will read one book that represents an approach to spiritual warfare different than the one you are inclined toward. You will write a four interaction paper on it. The first two pages will be an excellent summary of the methodology and the reasons for it. The other two will be a careful and fair critique of the book where you assess it biblically and also for internal consistency. Email, mail, or FAX it directly to me by April 20, 2008.
2. You may choose to prepare an integrative paper summarizing your understanding of the nature of spiritual warfare and the ministerial implications of it or investigate carefully one aspect of the doctrine of spiritual warfare. Your paper will be written in interaction with the biblical materials and the assigned readings. It will show critical interaction with the various interpretive and theological issues as well as an awareness of the ministerial and personal implications of the position. This paper will be about 15 pages long. Email, mail, or FAX it directly to me by April 20, 2008.
3. As an alternative to #1 you may prepare a set of lessons or sermon(s) on the topic of spiritual warfare. As a part of the lesson, please prepare at least three handouts. One will summarize your approach to spiritual warfare. The second will summarize the three approaches to spiritual warfare with an annotated bibliography of at least five books or articles representing at least two different positions. The third will be a scriptural worksheet. Email, mail or FAX your notes, all your handouts and mail a recording of at least one session to me by April 20, 2008. If your sessions occur after this date, talk to me and we'll decide what to do.

STANDARDS FOR WRITTEN WORK (MLA)

Papers must be written to a near-thesis standard. That is, minimum format standards must be met, as defined below. English grammar, idiom, and spelling must be up to graduate level. Always include a strong introduction paragraph (declare what you intend to show the reader) and conclusion paragraph. Qualities valued include clarity, succinctness, and precision.

This course employs the MLA (Modern Language Association) style guide. The basic elements are:

- Double-spacing, except for block quotes
- Single space block quotes
- Page numbers appear at the upper right on every text page
- Use footnotes rather than paragraph citations
- Footnotes follow a standard format.

Helpful web sites on MLA style include:

<http://webster.comnet.edu/mla.htm>

<http://owl.english.purdue.edu/handouts/research/index.html>

<http://www.english.uiuc.edu/cws/wworkshop/bibliography/mla/mlamenu.htm>

[These websites are expanded and pasted into Western Seminary's "How to Write a Research Paper"]

A good website with footnote/bibliography entries is <http://www.wisc.edu/writing/Handbook/DocChicabgo.html>

For assignments that require the use of non-course texts and include a bibliography, of the resources mentioned in the bibliography for your project/paper, two must be from a physical library. Note the physical location of each book as an addendum to each bibliographical entry.

All work must reflect master's level use of the English language. Plagiarism will result in failure of assignment.

GRADING

A+	A	A-	B+	B	B-	C+	C	C-	D+	D	D-
99-100%	95-98%	93-94%	91-92%	88-90%	86-87%	84-85%	81-83%	79-80%	77-78%	74-76%	70-73%

Activity	Percent of Final Grade	Estimated Time to Complete
Pre-Class Reading	20	10 Hours
Inductive Study	20	15 Hours
Class Participation	20	--
Post Class Assignment	40	30 Hours
Total	100%	55 hrs.

CLASS POLICIES

Cover page: To safeguard confidentiality, provide a title page as a cover for all assignments. Include your student mailbox number in the upper right corner of the cover page.

Attendance and Late Assignments: Students are expected to attend all class meetings. Students who miss class are responsible for missed work. Unexcused absences and tardiness will impact a student's grade. Students who anticipate an absence should discuss it in advance with the instructor. Students who miss two or more classes will not pass the course. Assignments submitted after the due date and time constitutes a drop in the student's letter grade for that assignment.

Incompletes: Faculty members determine their own procedures and due dates for the completion of course assignments. The instructor's expectations will be stated in the course syllabus. The latest possible deadline available to the professor for all course work is the last day of the school term (regardless of the date of the last class session) as noted in the Academic Calendar (see current class catalog). In the case of serious illness, family emergency, or other extenuating circumstances, the instructor may grant an extension **at the initiation of the student**. A temporary notation of "I" (incomplete) is assigned until a final grade can be determined. The maximum extension permissible is six weeks, **with all work due to the prof for grading on Fri, 5/29/09 at the latest**. All course assignments not completed by the extended deadline will

be given a failing grade. Under no circumstances may this six-week period be extended except by petition and approval of the Administrative Committee.

The Availability of Disability Services at Western Seminary: Western Seminary is committed to responding to the needs of students with disabilities as outlined in both the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990. Western students are assisted individually as their needs dictate. It is the responsibility of students with disabilities to identify themselves and the nature of the disability. Any student who has a disability should contact the seminary's Disability (Section 504) Coordinator, Ken Epp, at 503-517-1815/1-877-517-1800, ext. 1815. His office is at the Portland campus. Students at the northern California campuses may contact Carrie Priest (Student Services Coordinator – San José) or PJ Oswald (Director of Student Development – Sacramento), or they may contact Dr. Epp directly. Appropriate forms will be provided and must be submitted to the Disability Coordinator's office.

Enrichment Students: Enrichment students are encouraged, but not obligated, to participate in assignments and class discussions. Professors are not obligated to grade participation for these students, but may opt to do so depending on class size.

LIBRARY AND INTERNET RESEARCH

All class assignments with a research element require library research annotated as such in the bibliography. A minimum of two resources must be from a physical library. Note the physical location of each resource as an addendum to each bibliographical entry.

For complete library information including: hours of operation, interlibrary loan, local library resources, etc., please:

- Visit www.westernseminary.edu .
- Click the link “Sacramento Campus” in the left navigation pane.
- Click the link “Library Resources” in the left navigation pane.

Reserve Collection

The library carries all required readings for this course.

Print Resources

Use the Western-Arcade Library catalog to find books and other materials. To search the library collection:

- Visit <http://www.westernseminary.edu/Library/SAC> .
- Click the link “Search the Library Collection Online”.

Periodical & Research Databases

As you complete your assignments for this course, don't forget about the resources in the Western research databases. Remember to evaluate and cite your information too. To access the Western research databases:

- Visit <http://www.westernseminary.edu/Library/SAC> .
- Click the link “Research Databases” from the bottom menu.

- Click the link “Ebsco Host Research Databases”.
- Log in. [**User ID:** westsem / **Password:** seminary]
- Click the link “EBSCOhost Web”.
- Click the database(s) you wish to use. Start with *ATLA Religion Database with ATLASerials*.

To cite your information, consider the following MLA composers:

<http://www.noodletools.com> and <http://www.citationmachine.net>

Western-Arcade Library offers a variety of ministry related software for student use including BibleWorks, Logos Bible Software, and SeminaryLibrary.

Course Packs (if applicable)

To access the course pack(s) for this course:

1. Go to the library homepage: <http://www.westernseminary.edu/Library/SAC>
2. Click the link ‘Course Packs’.

Reference and Research Contact Information

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INDUCTIVE STUDY ON SPIRITUAL WARFARE

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The purpose of this assignment is first to see what the Bible has to say about the strategies and tactics of the forces of darkness and second, to see what the principles and tactics of Christian confrontation are. As you review each of the following passages, look for what Satan is doing and how Christians are to respond. Write down your observations and conclusions. Be sure to differentiate “Bible says” from “I think. The goal is to understand the key passages and to be prepared to discuss the passages in class. Note that this is not an exhaustive list. Even so we will not get to all of them in the class discussions.

Gen. 6:1-6

1 Sam. 16:14-16; Jdg. 9:23

Job 1-2

Dan. 10:13-21

Matt. 4:1-11

Matt. 16:16-28

Mark 5:1-9 (Matt. 8:28-34; Luke 8:26-37)

Mark 9:17-29

Luke 10:17-19

Luke 22:3; 31

Acts 5:3

Acts 16:16-19

Acts 19:8-41

Rom. 8:38-39

2 Cor. 6:14-18

2 Cor. 10:3-5; 11:2-4

Eph. 1:17-23

Eph. 4:26-27

Eph. 6:10-20

Col. 1:12-17; 2:8-15

1 Pet. 5:6-9

1 John 4:1-4; 5:18-19