



**BBHG6355 History and Geography of
Ancient Israel
3 Semester Hours
Summer 2023**

**Excavation Program Dates: June 25 – July 21, 2023
Course Dates: May 30 to July 28, 2023**

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Mission Statement

New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary and Leavell College prepare servants to walk with Christ, proclaim His truth, and fulfill His mission.

Catalog Description:

This course will acquaint students with the history and geography of ancient Israel and early Judaism as it is known from biblical texts, ancient historical sources, early Jewish writings and archaeological finds and will expose students to the way history was written in the ancient world. This will be accomplished through reading and comparison of historical sources and several study tours throughout the land of ancient Israel.

Student Learning Outcomes:

- The student will recognize the physical elements of the land of Israel and the ancient Near East -- the geography, topography, geology, climate, etc. -- via PowerPoint, book and map study.
- The student will read excerpts from the Old and New Testaments with an archaeological, historical, and geographical perspective.
- The student will examine materials related to cultural and religious practices among the Ancient Israelites and other ethnic cultures of the Ancient Near East.
- The student will probe the interrelationship between geography, politics, economics, cultural mores, and religion in the development of the nation of Israel.
- The student will become conversant in the historical, geographical, and cultural materials of the Old and New Testaments.

Procedures

- Students will have all reading assignments read before the lecture (the student will have to complete most of the readings before the start of the course).
- Students will participate in four weekend study tours. Some tours to nearby sites and regions will also take place during some week-day afternoons.
- The student should read all assigned materials prior to the lectures and be prepared to verbally interact during discussion. Slide and artifact illustrated lectures will supplement the field instruction.
- The student is encouraged to read outside the required readings list.
- Students will attend all lectures.

Textbooks

1. English Bible
2. *A Biblical History of Israel*, 2nd ed. I. Provan, V.P.Long, T. Longman III. (Westminster John Knox Press, 2015)
3. *Ancient Israel: From Abraham to the Romans Destruction of Jerusalem*, Hershel Shanks (ed.). (Prentice-Hall Publishers, 1999).
4. *Holman Bible Atlas* by Thomas Brisco (Broadman & Holman Publishers, 1998)

Course Evaluation

Field participation & Lecture attendance	50%
Research Paper	50%

Research Paper

Each student is required to produce a formal research paper (acc. to Turabian). Papers will be due by July 28, 2023. The research paper should be approximately 18-22 pages in length, inclusive of bibliography. Topics may be chosen after consultation with the professor.

Israel Tour Component Tentative Schedule (may vary):

June 24 Jerusalem Intro Tour - Mt. Olives, Old City Jerusalem

June 30 Qumran, En Gedi, Masada, Dead Sea

July 1 Galilee: Nazareth/Sepphoris, Magdala, Arbela, Capernaum, Tabgha, Kursi

July 7 Jerusalem part 2: Jewish Quarter, Israel Museum

July 8 Caesarea Martima, Megiddo, Mt. Carmel, Beth Shean, Ma`yan Harod

July 14 & 15 Optional tours

Technical Assistance

For assistance regarding technology, consult ITC (504-816-8180) or the following websites:

1. Selfserve@nobts.edu - Email for technical questions/support requests with the Selfserve.nobts.edu site (Access to online registration, financial account, online transcript, etc.)
2. Canvas.NOBTS.com Click on the “Help” button for technical questions/support requests regarding the NOBTS Canvas System. You can also email questions to Canvas@nobts.edu.
3. ITCSupport@nobts.edu - Email for general technical questions/support requests.
4. www.NOBTS.edu/itc/ - General NOBTS technical help information is provided on this website.

Course Policy

1. Attendance: Students are expected to attend and participate in the class sessions. Because of the nature of the intensive, students who miss any portion of the class may receive a grade of “F” for the course.
2. Make-up Work:
 - The student is responsible for lecture, work assignment changes, and or quiz/test changes that may occurred during the class period. These are poste via announcements which are mainly posted on BB, so check several times a week.
 - Make-up for a missed quiz/exam is not allowed unless the student has made prevision prior to or immediately after the completion date (such as, in the case of hospitalization, death of a family member, etc.) with the professor.
 - Late assignments – there is 2pts. per day reduction in grade for each day late, after 5 Days the assignment is not counted.

Plagiarism on Written Assignments

NOBTS has a no tolerance policy for plagiarism. Plagiarism in certain cases may result in expulsion from the seminary. See the NOBTS Student Handbook for definition, penalties, and policies associated with plagiarism.

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