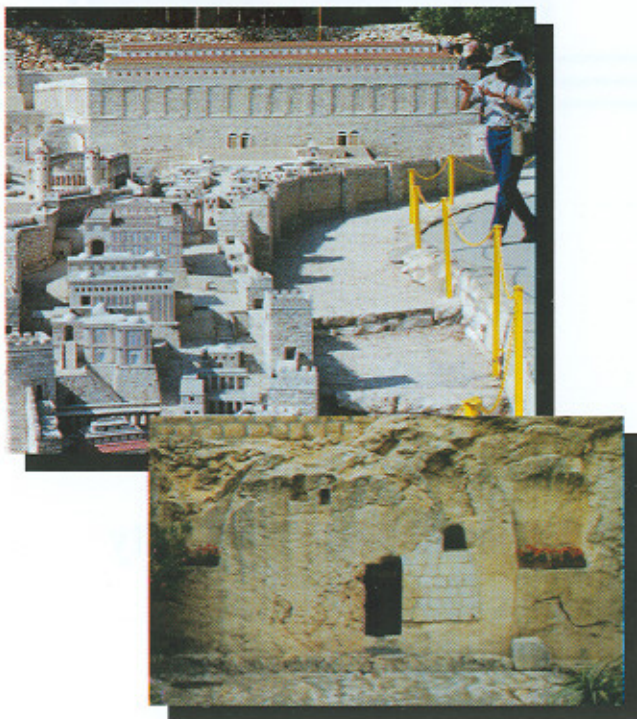


COURSE DESCRIPTION

This two week course investigates the geographical, historical, archaeological, and cultural setting of Israel in New Testament times while following the chronology of the life of Christ. During the course, lectures covering the historical and cultural background of the period under study will be given by resident, local, and visiting scholars. This program is worth 2 semester hours of either graduate or undergraduate credit.

Students will participate in walking tours of Jerusalem and its environs and a visit to the Second Temple Model of Jerusalem. There will be extensive investigation of the Galilee region with particular emphasis on the first century A.D. The program will include field touring, site visitation, and hiking with overnight accommodations on the east side of the Sea of Galilee at Kibbutz Ein Gev, and accommodations in Jerusalem at our Mount Zion campus.



OUTLINE AND ITINERARY

- Day 1** ARRIVAL: Arrive in Tel Aviv and travel to Jerusalem.
- Day 2** ORIENTATION: Morning – Course introduction, Herodian/Roman Rule (Lecture). Afternoon – Herodian Jerusalem (Model, Herodian Villas, Ophel Gardens).
- Day 3** JEWS, GENTILES AND CHRISTIANS: Caesarea, Sepphoris, Nazareth, Mount Arbel.
- Day 4** AROUND THE SEA OF GALILEE: Morning – Gamla, Katzrin (Talmudic Village/Museum). Afternoon – Fishing Museum, Exploration of First Century Harbors with Museum Staff (e.g. Bethsaida).
- Day 5** JESUS IN THE GALILEE: Chorazin, Mount of Beatitudes, Tabgha, Capernaum, First Century Boat, Tiberias.
- Day 6** SETTING OUR FACES FOR JERUSALEM: Beth Shean (Scythopolis), Mount Tabor, [Samaria (Sebaste), Shechem] [or NT Jericho].
- Day 7** FREE DAY: For personal shopping and sightseeing.
- Day 8** TEST/MUSEUMS: Morning – Test. Afternoon – Israel Museum and Shrine of the Book.
- Day 9** RELIGIOUS CONTEXT: Second Temple Judaism I – Pharisees and Sadducees (Lecture), Second Temple Judaism II – Essene and Zealots (Lecture).
- Day 10** DEAD SEA: Wadi Qilt, Qumran, Masada.
- Day 11** ARREST AND CRUCIFIXION: Morning – Free. Afternoon – Arrest and Crucifixion of Jesus (Lecture).
- Day 12** BURIAL AND RESURRECTION: Mount of Olives, Dominus Flavit, Garden of Gethsemane, St. Anne's, Church of the Resurrection, Garden Tomb.
- Day 13** TEST/MEETING: Morning – Free. Afternoon – Test, Departure Meeting, Free Time.
- Day 14** DEPARTURE: Departure from Tel Aviv.