



Biblical Archaeology in Israel (Course 48532)

June 28-July 21, 2021

45 academic hours | 3 academic credits

Tentative Syllabus

Teaching Staff

| | | |
|------|----------------------|------------|
| WH | Prof. Wayne Horowitz | 8 Sessions |
| Arch | Archaeologist | 8 Sessions |
| Bib | Biblicist | 6 sessions |

Email: wayne.horowitz@mail.huji.ac.il

Daily Schedule:

Daily Lecture Schedule – up to 4 lectures:

| Mornings: | Afternoons: |
|------------------|--------------------|
| 8:30-10:00 | 13:00-14:30 |
| 10:30-12:00 | 14:45-16:15 |

Course Requirements and Grade Breakdown

- Participation – 20%
- Journal – 30%
- Group Presentation – 20%
- Research Essay – 30%

Course Outline and Schedule

Monday, June 28

- Morning and Afternoon:** Arrival and rest
- Late Afternoon:** Welcome, campus tour, orientation

Part I: The Early and Middle Bronze Age

Tuesday, June 29

- Lecture 1:** Archaeology Introduction (Arch)

Reading: A. Mazar, *Archaeology of the Land of the Bible*, New York: Doubleday 1990, p. 109-142. **Overseas Library E13 M475; G-Drive**

Lecture 2: History and Culture of the Ancient Near East: The Third Millennium (WH)

Reading: C. Walker, *Cuneiform (Reading the Past)*, (London: Published for the Trustees of the British Museum by British Museum Publications, 1987). **Free access:**
<https://archive.org/details/Walker.C.ReadingThePastCuneiform>

Lecture 3: “The Historical Geography of Canaan” (Bib)

Reading: Y. Aharoni, *The Land of the Bible: a Historical Geography*, Philadelphia: Westminster Press, 1979, p. 3-63. **Overseas Library E111 A285; G-Drive**

Wednesday, June 30

Lecture 4: Middle Bronze Age Archaeology (Arch)

Reading: A. Mazar, *Archaeology of the Land of the Bible*, p. 174-223. **Overseas Library E13 M475; G-Drive**

Lecture 5: History and Culture of the Ancient Near East: 2000-1500 BCE (WH)

Reading: J. Sasson, “King Hammurabi of Babylon” in *Civilizations of the Ancient Near East*, New York: Charles Scribner's Sons, 1995, vol. 2, p. 901-915. **Overseas Library 939 S252; G-Drive**

Lecture 6: Cuneiform in Canaan: Hazor (WH)

Reading: W. Horowitz and T. Oshima, *Cuneiform in Canaan*, Jerusalem: Israel Exploration Society, 2006, p. 3-25. **Main Library DS 111 A2 H68 2006; G-Drive**

Thursday July 1

Field trip to the Galilee (Hazor and Megiddo)

Friday-Shabbat, July 2-3,

Free weekend

Sunday, July 4

Lecture 7: The Patriarchal Narratives, An Overview (Bib)

Reading: M. Maidman, “Historiographic Reflections on Israel’s Origins,” *Eretz Israel* 27 (2003), pp. 120*-128. [E-journal](#)

Lecture 8: Studies in the Patriarchal Narratives 1 (WH)

Reading: Genesis 24, R. Westbrook, *Old Babylonian Marriage Law*, Horn: Ferdinand Berger & Soehne, 1988, p. 1-28. **G-Drive**

Part II: The Late Bronze Age

Monday, July 5

Lecture 9: History and Culture of the Ancient Near East 1500-1000 (WH)

Readings:

- W. Sommerfeld, "The Kassites of Ancient Mesopotamia," *Civilizations of the Ancient Near East*, J. Sasson, ed., Peabody: Hendrickson Publishers, 2000, vol. 2, p. 917-930. **Overseas Library 939 S252; G-Drive**
- W. Lambert, *Babylonian Creation Myths*, Winona Lake: Eisenbrauns, 2013. **Overseas Library 221.849.2 L222; E-book**

Lecture 10: The Emergence of Ancient Israel (Bib)

Reading: N. Wazana, "Natives, Immigrants, and the Biblical Perception of Origins in Historical Times" *Tel Aviv* 35 (2005), p. 220-244. [E-journal](#)

Tuesday, July 6

Lecture 11: The Late Bronze Age: Archaeology I (Arch)

Reading: A. Mazar, *Archaeology of the Land of the Bible*, p. 232-56. **Overseas Library E13 M475**

Lecture 12: The Late Bronze Age: Archaeology II (Arch)

Reading: A. Mazar, *Archaeology of the Land of the Bible*, p. 257-90. **Overseas Library E13 M475**

Wednesday, July 7

Group Meetings, Library Day I

Thursday, July 8

Research Day

Friday, Shabbat, July 9-10

Free weekend

Part III: The Iron Age

Sunday, July 11th

Lecture 13: History and Culture of the Ancient Near East 1000-539: An Overview (WH)

Reading: M. Van de Mierop, *A History of the Ancient Near East*, Chichester: Wiley Blackwell, 2016, p. 207-246. **Overseas Library 939 V217; G-Drive**

Lecture 14: David and Solomon: Archaeology (Arch)

Readings:

- Finklestein, "The Archaeology of the United Monarchy: An Alternative View," *Levant* 28(1996), p. 177-187. **G-Drive**
- Mazar, "The Iron Age Chronology Debate: Is the Gap Narrowing? Another Viewpoint," *Near Eastern Archaeology* 74(2011), p. 105-111. [E-journal](#)

Afternoon: Meetings with Student Presentations Groups

Monday, July 12

Lecture 15: The Iron Age: An Overview (Arch)

Reading: A. Mazar, *Archaeology of the Land of the Bible*, p. 300-354. **Overseas Library E13 M475; G-Drive** (p. 300-328)

Lecture 16: The United Monarchy and Biblical Literature (Bib)

Readings:

- M. B. Moore and B. E. Kelle, *Biblical History and Israel's Past*, Grand Rapids: William B. Eerdmans Pub. Company, 2011, Ch. 5. **Overseas Library 221.93 M821; G-Drive**
- Z. Thomas, "Debating the United Monarchy: Let's See How Far We've Come," *Biblical Theology Bulletin* 46(2016), pp. 59-69. [E-journal](#)

Tuesday, July 13

Field trip to City of David and the Davidson Center

Wednesday, July 14

Lecture 17: The Almost Fall of Jerusalem: 701 BCE (WH)

Readings:

- Genesis 11, II Kings 18-20;
- M. Cogan and H. Tadmor, *II Kings*, Garden City: Doubleday, 1988, p. 215-252. **Overseas Library 221.7=2 A538; G-Drive**
- R. George, "'Bond of the lands': Babylon, the cosmic capital," Wilhelm, G, (ed.), *Die orientalische Stadt: Kontinuität*, Saarbrück: Saarbrücker Druckerei, 1997, pp. 125-145. **G-Drive**

Lecture 18: The Archaeological Evidence for Sennacherib's Campaign (Arc)

Reading: A. Mazar, *Archaeology of the Land of the Bible*, p. 300-54. **Overseas Library E13 M475; G-Drive** (p. 300-328)

Preparation for student presentations

Thursday, July 15

Field trip to the Shepheila: Lachish, Khirbet Qeiyafa, Ashqelon

Friday-Shabbat, July 16-17

Free

Sunday, July 18

Tisha B'Av Fast – University Closed

Monday, July 19

Lecture 19: Babylon and Judah: The Historical Background (WH)

Reading: D. J. Wiseman, *Nebuchadrezzar and Babylon*, Oxford: Published for the British Academy by the Oxford University Press, 1985, pp. 42-78. **G-Drive**

Lecture 20: The Conquest of Jerusalem: The Archaeological Evidence (Arch)

Reading: A. Mazar, *Archaeology of the Land of the Bible*, p. 548-49. **Overseas Library E13 M475; G-Drive**

Lecture 21: By the Rivers of Babylon: The First Diaspora (WH)

Reading: L. E. Pearce, "Identifying Judeans and Judean Identity in the Babylonian Evidence," *Exile and Return: The Babylonian Context*, J. Stökl and C. Waerzeggers, (eds.), Berlin: De Gruyter, 2015, pp. 7-32. **Overseas Library 933.12 S871; [E-book](#) (G-Drive)**

Tuesday, July 20

Morning: Student presentations

Evening: Banquet

Wednesday, July 21

Shalom