

“The mission of Tyndale Seminary is to provide Christ-centred graduate theological education for leaders in the church and society whose lives are marked by intellectual maturity, spiritual vigour and moral integrity, and whose witness will faithfully engage culture with the Gospel.”

Course	ISRAEL STUDY TOUR: HISTORICAL GEOGRAPHY OF THE BIBLE BIBL 0603 (SEMINARY) RLGs 3703 (UNDERGRADUATE STUDIES)
Date, Time, and Delivery Format	MARCH 3, MARCH 31 AND APRIL 28, 2023 (6:30PM to 9:30PM) PREPARATORY LECTURES (ON SITE AT TYNDALE WITH LIVESTREAM OPTION) MAY 14 – JUNE 4, 2023 IN-PERSON ONLY ON SITE AT VARIOUS LOCATIONS IN ISRAEL
Instructors	TYNDALE SEMINARY: DR. REBECCA IDESTROM Email: ridestrom@tyndale.ca Phone: (416) 226-6620 ext 6771 DR. DUNCAN REID Email: dreid@tyndale.ca Phone: (416) 226-6620 ext 2273 UNIVERSITY OF HOLY LAND: DR. GINGER CAESSENS
Class Information	Full details regarding costs, registration, payment, and travel are available from Dr. Rebecca Idestrom or Dr. Duncan Reid. Note: there will be three preparatory lectures on site at Tyndale prior to the trip (details above and below). For seminary students this course counts as either a New Testament or Old Testament elective.
Course Material	Access course material at classes.tyndale.ca or other services at Tyndale One . Course emails will be sent to your @MyTyndale.ca e-mail account only.

I. COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course is a study tour which combines travel with lectures and readings to provide students with a rich, on-site learning experience. Students will spend three full weeks in Israel visiting sites throughout the country that formed the stage on which so many biblical events were played out. The tour will move region-by-region, spending time in Jerusalem and Judea, Benjamin, the Coastal Plain, the Negev, the Dead Sea area, the Jordan Valley, the Galilee, and the Golan Heights. In each area, students will learn about its geography and archaeology, exploring how the features of each area shaped the history of its people. Attention will also be given to the imagery and symbolism connected with each region in both the Old and New Testaments. *Within the Seminary this may count as NEWT or OLDT elective.*

Please be aware that this is a physically demanding course, which will involve significant amounts of walking in a hot climate.

Recommended Prerequisite: None

II. LEARNING OUTCOMES

Upon completion of this course students should be able to:

1. describe the geography and topography of various regions within the Holy Land,
2. identify many significant sites and regions in the Holy Land on a map,
3. outline the history and archaeology connected with many significant sites and regions in the Holy Land,
4. describe the roles which many sites and regions play in the biblical texts,
5. explain how knowledge of these sites enriches our interpretation of particular biblical passages.

III. COURSE REQUIREMENTS

A. REQUIRED READING

Rasmussen, Carl G. *Zondervan Atlas of the Bible*. Revised Edition. Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan, 2010. ISBN # 978-0-310-27050-8. (Read pages 1–64 and 180–215)

An extensive course-pack will be provided by Dr. Ginger Caessens on arrival in Israel.

B. SUPPLEMENTARY / RECOMMENDED READING AND TOOLS

Suggested Reading in preparation for the Israel Tour include the following items, which will be placed on the Israel Tour Course page:

Barkay, Gabriel. "The Garden Tomb, Was Jesus Buried Here?" *BAR* (Mar/Apr 1986): 40-57.

Batey, Richard A. "Sephoris." *BAR* (May/June 1992): 50-62.

Kern, Paul. "Under Siege." *Odyssey* (Jan/Feb 2004): 40-47, 61.

Magness, Jodi. "What Did Jesus' Tomb Look Like?" *BAR* (Jan/Feb 2006): 38-49, 70.

If the participant is not very familiar with the overall biblical story, it is helpful to also read the Old Testament historical books, particularly Joshua through to Nehemiah, as well as the New Testament gospels in preparation.

Tyndale recommends www.stepbible.org – a free and reputable online resource developed by Tyndale House (Cambridge, England) – for word searches of original-language texts, as well as for topical searches, interlinear texts, dictionaries, etc. Refer to the library for other [online resources for Biblical Studies](#).

C. INTERACTIVE LIVESTREAM AND/OR HYBRID COURSE REQUIREMENTS

- Livestream attendance for the entire duration of the class at announced times
- Headphones (preferred), built-in microphone, and web-camera
- Well-lit and quiet room
- Stable high-speed internet connection, preferably using an Ethernet cable over Wi-Fi
- Full name displayed on Zoom and Microsoft Teams for attendance purposes*
- A commitment to having the camera on to foster community building*

*exceptions with permission from professor

D. GUIDELINES FOR INTERACTIONS

Tyndale University prides itself in being a trans-denominational community. We anticipate our students to have varied viewpoints which will enrich the discussions in our learning community. Therefore, we ask our students to be charitable and respectful in their interactions with each other, and to remain focused on the topic of discussion, out of respect to others who have committed to being a part of this learning community. Please refer to "Guidelines for Interactions" on your course resource page at classes.tyndale.ca.

E. ASSIGNMENTS AND GRADING

1. As we move into each new region, students will complete a **map study** designed to familiarize them with the area and its sites. **Bring the completed map studies along to Israel.**
2. **Three quizzes** will be held during the time in Israel, evaluating the students' grasp of the lectures and on-site instruction. Students will be given study questions to help prepare for the quizzes, and the schedule allows time to prepare.
3. Before leaving Israel, students will write a **final exam** evaluating their overall understanding of the course material. Sample review questions are provided and the students will be given study time to prepare.

F. EQUITY OF ACCESS

Students with permanent or temporary disabilities who need academic accommodations must contact the [Accessibility Services](#) at the [Centre for Academic Excellence](#) to register and discuss their specific needs. *New students* must self-identify and register with the Accessibility Office at the beginning of the semester or as early as possible to access appropriate services. *Current students* must renew their plans as early as possible to have active accommodations in place.

G. SUMMARY OF ASSIGNMENTS AND GRADING

Evaluation is based upon the completion of the following assignments:

Assignment	Due Dates	% of final grade
1. Map Studies (to be completed prior to departure)	May 13, 2023	10%
2. Three quizzes in Israel (3 x 20 %) = 60 %	May 21, 28, and June 3, 2023	60%
3. Final Exam in Israel	June 3, 2023	30%
Total Grade		100%

H. GENERAL GUIDELINES FOR THE SUBMISSION OF WRITTEN WORK

For proper citation style, consult the [tip sheet, "Documenting Chicago Style"](#) (Tyndale e-resource) or the full edition of the [Chicago Manual of Style Online](#), especially ch. 14. For citing scripture texts, refer to sections 10.44 to 10.48 and 14.238 to 14.241 from the *Chicago Manual of Style* or reference the [tip sheet, "How to Cite Sources in Theology"](#).

Students should also consult the current [Academic Calendar](#) for academic policies on Academic Honesty, Gender Inclusive Language in Written Assignments, Late Papers and Extensions, Return of Assignments, and Grading System.

Academic Integrity

Integrity in academic work is required of all our students. Academic dishonesty is any breach of this integrity, and includes such practices as cheating (the use of unauthorized material on tests and examinations), submitting the same work for different classes without permission of the instructors; using false information (including false references to secondary sources) in an assignment; improper or unacknowledged collaboration with other students, and plagiarism. Tyndale University takes seriously its responsibility to uphold academic integrity, and to penalize academic dishonesty. Please refer to the [Academic Integrity website](#) for further details.

Students are encouraged to consult [Writing Services](#) as well as [tip sheets](#).

Students should also consult the current [Academic Calendar](#) for academic policies on Academic Honesty, Gender Inclusive Language in Written Assignments, Late Papers and Extensions, Return of Assignments, and Grading System.

Research Ethics

All course-based assignments involving human participants requires ethical review and may require approval by the [Tyndale Research Ethics Board \(REB\)](#). Check with the Seminary Dean's Office (aa@tyndale.ca) before proceeding.

I. COURSE EVALUATION

Tyndale Seminary values quality in the courses it offers its students. End-of-course evaluations provide valuable student feedback and are one of the ways that Tyndale Seminary works towards maintaining and improving the quality of courses and the student's learning experience. Student involvement in this process is critical to enhance the general quality of teaching and learning.

Before the end of the course, students will receive a MyTyndale email with a link to the online course evaluation. The link can also be found in the left column on the course page. The evaluation period is 2 weeks; after the evaluation period has ended, it cannot be reopened.

Course Evaluation results will not be disclosed to the instructor before final grades in the course have been submitted and processed. Student names will be kept confidential and the instructor will only see the aggregated results of the class.

IV. COURSE SCHEDULE, CONTENT AND REQUIRED READINGS

During the Winter Semester 2023, we will have three classes in preparation for the Israel Study Tour. Classes will be held on the following dates:

Friday, March 3, 2023, 6:30-9:30 PM (Read Rasmussen, pp.1–64 prior to class)
Friday, March 31, 2023, 6:30-9:30 PM (Read Rasmussen, pp. 180–215 prior to class)
Friday, April 28, 2023, 6:30-9:30 PM

For a full tour itinerary, please see the downloadable version on the course website.

Sunday, May 14	Depart for Israel
Monday, May 21	Quiz I
Sunday, May 28	Quiz II
Saturday, June 3	Quiz III and Final Exam
Sunday, June 4	Return to Canada

Please Note: Every reasonable effort will be made to include all sites in the itinerary. As in any travel program, however, some flexibility may be required to accommodate unexpected circumstances.

V. SELECTED BIBLIOGRAPHY

([Tyndale Library](#) supports this course with [e-journals](#), [e-books](#), and the [mail delivery of books](#) and circulating materials. See the [Library FAQ page](#).)

** The journal *Biblical Archaeological Review* is generally an excellent resource for all of the topics below.

Atlases

Aharoni, Yohanan, Michael Avi-Yonah, Anson F. Rainey and Ze'ev Safrai, *The Macmillan Bible Atlas*. 3rd ed. New York: Macmillan, 1993. (Republished in 2002 as *The Carta Bible Atlas*).
Cleave, Richard. *The Holy Land Satellite Atlas, Volume 1*. Nicosia, Cyprus: Rohr Productions, 1999.

Rainey, Anson, and R. Steven Notley, *The Sacred Bridge*. Winona Lake, IN: Eisenbrauns, 2005. (This replaces the earlier *Macmillan Bible Atlas* and *Carta Bible Atlas*).

Rogerson, John. *Atlas of the Bible*. Oxford: Phaidon/Equinox, 1989.

General Geography of the Holy Land

- Aharoni, Yohanan. *The Land of the Bible*. Trans. Anson Rainey. Philadelphia, PA: Westminster, 1967.
- Baly, Denis. *The Geography of the Bible*. Revised ed. New York: Harper & Row, 1974.
- Bolen, Todd. *Pictorial Library of Bible Lands, Volume 1-10*. Grand Rapids, MI: Kregel Academic Publishing, 2000.
- DeVries, LaMoine F. *Cities of the Biblical World*. Peabody, MA: Hendrickson, 1997.
- Marchadour, Alain. *The Land, the Bible, and History: Toward the Land That I Will Show You*. Abrahamic dialogues series 5. New York: Fordham University Press, 2007.
- Murphy-O'Connor, Jerome. *The Holy Land*. 4th ed. Oxford Archaeological Guides, New York: Oxford University Press, 1998.
- Notley, R. Steven, and Zev Safrai, trans. *Eusebius' Onomasticon: The Place Names of Divine Scripture*. Boston: Brill, 2005.
- Orni, Efraim and Elisha Efrat, *Geography of Israel*. Philadelphia: Jewish Publication Society, 1973.
- Smith, George Adam. *The Historical Geography of the Holy Land*. New York: Armstrong, 1894.

Archaeology of the Holy Land

- Aharoni, Yohanan, and Miriam Aharoni. *The Archaeology of the Land of Israel: From the Prehistoric Beginnings to the End of the First Temple Period*. Philadelphia: Westminster Press, 1982.
- Currid, John D. *Doing Archaeology in the Land of the Bible: A Basic Guide*. Grand Rapids, MI: Baker Books, 1999.
- Dever, William G. *Recent Archaeological Discoveries and Biblical Research*, Samuel and Althea Stroum lectures in Jewish studies (Seattle: University of Washington Press, 1989).
- Geva, Hillel. *Archeological Sites in Israel*. Jerusalem: Israel Information Center, 1999.
- Mazar, Amihai. *Archaeology of the Land of the Bible: 10,000 – 586 BCE* *Anchor Bible Reference Library*. New York: Doubleday, 1990.
- Kenyon, Kathleen Mary. *Archaeology in the Holy Land* (London: E. Benn, 1960).
- Levy, Thomas Evan. *The Archaeology of Society in the Holy Land*. New approaches in anthropological archaeology. London: Continuum, 2003.
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- Murphy-O'Connor, J. *The Holy Land: An Archaeological Guide from Earliest Times to 1700*. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 1980.
- Stern, Ephraim. *The New Encyclopedia of Archaeological Excavations in the Holy Land, 4 volumes*. Jerusalem: IES and Carta, 1993.
- Stern, Ephraim. *Archaeology of the Land of the Bible: Volume II, The Assyrian, Babylonian, and Persian Periods* (New York: Doubleday, 2001).
- Tappy, Ron E. *The Archaeology of Israelite Samaria*. Atlanta, Ga: Scholars Press, 1992.

Jerusalem

- Avigad, Nahman. *Discovering Jerusalem*. Nashville, TN: T. Nelson, 1983.

- Mare, W. Harold. *The Archaeology of the Jerusalem Area*. Grand Rapids, MI: Baker Book House, 1987.
- Killebrew, Ann E., and Andrew G Vaughn, eds., *Jerusalem in Bible and Archaeology: The First Temple Period*. Atlanta: Society of Biblical Literature, 2003.
- Yadin, Yigael, and R. Grafman. *Jerusalem Revealed: Archaeology in the Holy City, 1968-1974*. Jerusalem: Israel Exploration Society in Cooperation with "Shikmona" Pub, 1975.
- Shanks, Hershel. *Jerusalem's Temple Mount: From Solomon to the Golden Dome*. New York, NY: Continuum, 2007.

Galilee

- Rami Arav and Richard A Freund, *The Bethsaida Excavations Project Reports & Contextual Studies*, 3 vols. (Kirksville, Mo.: Thomas Jefferson University Press, 1995).
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- Freyne, Seán. *Galilee, from Alexander the Great to Hadrian, 323 B.C.E. to 135 C.E.: A Study of Second Temple Judaism*. Wilmington, DE: M. Glazier; Notre Dame, IN: University of Notre Dame Press, 1980.
- Meyers, Eric M., ed. *Galilee Through the Centuries: Confluence of Cultures*. Winona Lake, IN: Eisenbrauns, 1999.
- Reed, Jonathan L. *Archaeology and the Galilean Jesus: A Re-Examination of the Evidence*. Harrisburg, PA: Trinity Press International, 2000.
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- Habel, Norman C. *The Land Is Mine: Six Biblical Land Ideologies, Overtures to biblical theology* (Minneapolis: Fortress Press, 1995).
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- Hess, Richard S., and Gordon J Wenham, eds., *Zion, City of Our God*. Grand Rapids, MI: W.B. Eerdmans, 1999.

The History of Ancient Israel

- Dever, William G. *Who Were the Early Israelites, and Where Did They Come From?* Grand Rapids, MI: William B. Eerdmans, 2003.
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- Hoffmeier, James K. *Israel in Egypt, Israel at Sinai*
- Kitchen, Kenneth. *On the Reliability of the Old Testament.* Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 2003.
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The Ancient Near East and Israel's Neighbours

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- Bierling, Neal. *Giving Goliath His Due: New Archaeological Light on the Philistines.* Grand Rapids, MI: Baker Book House, 1992.
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The History of Second Temple Judaism

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Qumran and the Dead Sea Scrolls

Magness, Jodi. *The Archaeology of Qumran and the Dead Sea Scrolls*. Studies in the Dead Sea Scrolls and Related Literature. Grand Rapids, MI: William B. Eerdmans Pub, 2002.

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