Seminar in Biblical Archaeology
OT 6308 Course Syllabus
Spring 2016

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Office Hours: Mon. 11:00–12:00 AM; Tues., Wed., Thurs., 1:00–3:00 PM.
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Course Goals and Objectives:

Goals:
1) The student will demonstrate familiarity with the methods, terminology, and practice of biblical archaeology.
2) The student will be able to articulate literary, historical, and theological perspectives related to biblical archaeology.

Objectives:
1) The student will acquire a working knowledge of the methods and practice of archaeology.
2) The student will be able to take these methods and apply them to excavation in Israel.
3) The student will be able to relate the practice of archaeology to the biblical history and the life of faith.

Texts:

Other recommended readings will be suggested throughout the course of the semester.

Course requirements:
1) Come to all class periods.
2) Do all relevant readings.
3) Write 3 brief papers with PowerPoint presentations on assigned topics, to be presented in class.

Course Schedule:
January 25: Introduction to course, syllabus, definitions, and terminology.
Read Rast pp. xi–32.
Read Bahn pp. 1–7.
February 1: History of archaeology in Israel.
Read Cline, pp. 1–68.
Read Currid pp. 1–36.
Read Bahn pp. 8–16

February 8: Archaeological methods: The tell and stratigraphy.

February 15: Archaeological methods: The survey.
Read Currid pp. 49–56.

Read Currid pp. 57–78.

February 29: Archaeological methods: Pottery.
Read Currid pp. 79–88.
Read Rast pp. 33–36.

March 7: Archaeological methods: Architecture and small finds.
Read Currid pp. 89–110.

March 14: Spring Break; Archaeological tour of Israel.

Read Rast pp. 36–45.
Read Bahn pp. 17–30.

Read Cline pp. 71–79.
Read Rast pp. 102–115.

April 4: Archaeological Sites: Megiddo, Hazor, Dan and the period of the Judges.
April 11: Archaeological Sites: Jerusalem and the monarchy.
Read Cline pp. 80–97.
Read Rast pp. 116–129.

April 18: Archaeological sites: Lachish, Gezer, and the monarchy.
Read Rast pp. 130–144.

April 25: Beer-Sheba, Arad, Tamar and the archaeology of the Negev Desert.
Readings: Handouts.

May 2: Israel's periphery: The archaeology of Philistia, Edom, Moab, Ammon, and Aram.
Readings: Handouts.

May 9: Finals week (no final).

Student Papers:
All students will write three papers on the archaeology of Israel. These papers will be in outline form and 3-5 pages long. This can be a printed copy of a PowerPoint presentation.
§ Paper #1: Select one pioneer in the history of archaeology in Israel and write a paper/PowerPoint on that person.
§ Paper #2: General issues on excavation techniques, pottery, stratigraphy, and other techniques in archaeology.
§ Paper #3: Select one city/archaeological site in Israel and write a paper/PowerPoint on the archaeology, the importance of the site, and problems, questions, or solutions that archaeology has brought to light.