

# INFORMATION SHEET

## BIB 341 “Archaeology and Geography of Israel”

**Course Description:** This three-credit course, which meets on Monday evenings during the Fall 2023 term, is team taught by faculty in the Bible Department, will study archaeology in general, specific archaeological sites in Israel, and the historical geography of Israel. This course culminates in a trip to Israel over Christmas Break. Students unable to participate in the travel component of the course may still take the course, but will be required to write a research paper. Pre-requisites are BIB 112 & BIB 113 or by special permission.

### Applying the Credits

This three-credit course may fulfill one of the following requirements: 1) Group C (Society) credit, or 2) an upper level OT requirement for majors, or 3) elective Bible credit. Students, alumni & friends of the college going on the trip but not taking the class for credit may still unofficially audit the course.

### The Trip Dates

The group will depart on December 18, 2023 and return on either December 29, 2023 (Israel only) or January 2, 2024 (includes Jordan extension). A complete itinerary is available upon request. **Students do NOT need to go on the trip to take this course – there is a non-trip option.**

### Cost for the Trip

The cost for the trip to Israel will be **\$3,369.00**, which includes round-trip airfare from Washington, D.C. (Dulles airport) to Tel Aviv, hotel and in-country travel, tips, tickets to all sites visited, and breakfast & supper each day. For those who need transportation to Washington, D.C., a round-trip chartered bus is available from Geneva’s campus to Dulles for an additional **\$200**. Adding the extension to Jordan will be **an additional \$1,159.00**.

### The Faculty

Team-teaching the course and going on the trip are Drs. Byron Curtis, Scott Shidemantle & Jonathan Watt.

### How to Register for the Course

Students register for BIB 341 this spring, following the normal registration process. After registering for the course, students will receive a “Traveler Packet” from Dr. Shidemantle with information explaining how to make the deposit for the trip with the tour company. **Students will be asked to make their \$300 deposit for the trip by September 8, 2023 (at which time students will need to provide the tour company with their passport number)—the remaining balance is due to the tour company by October 18, 2023.** This is a high demand trip—so students are advised to make their deposit very early to reserve their spot.

### How to Sign Up for the Trip

Obtain a “Traveler Packet” from Dr. Shidemantle with all the necessary paperwork.

### Important Travel Requirements

Please note that in order to travel to Israel, students need to meet the following important requirements: a) have a valid passport (that will not expire within six months of our return from Israel), b) purchase International Medical and Repatriation Insurance through Geneva’s Crossroads Office at the cost of approximately \$50, and c) be in relatively good health since there will be much walking on the trip.

### For Complete Trip Itinerary and Other Questions

For a complete trip itinerary, go to: <https://www.pilgrimtours.com/groups/genevacollege2023.htm> Reach out to Dr. Scott Shidemantle if you have other questions at [sshidema@geneva.edu](mailto:sshidema@geneva.edu).