



Course Syllabus

LBIB 302—Historical Geography of the Holy Land

3.0 Credit hours

I. COURSE DESCRIPTION

A study of the geography and history of Palestine since antiquity, especially in relation to the nation of Israel and the Early Church.

Prerequisites: BIB 222 and 261

II. ACADEMIC MISSION

Oral Roberts University's academic mission is to transform students by the power of the Holy Spirit into whole, competent servant-leaders through liberal arts and professional education that is fully Christian. Within a Spirit-filled healing community, administration, faculty, and staff love and serve students by helping them grow in knowledge, skills, wisdom, character, and spirit.

Student transformation is measured through the evaluation of student expression of University learning outcomes as demonstrated through accompanying proficiencies and capacities.

Spiritually alive Biblical knowledge; sensitivity to the Holy Spirit; evangelistic capability; ethical behavior

Intellectually alert critical thinking; information literacy; global and historical perspectives; aesthetic appreciation; intellectual creativity

Physically disciplined healthy lifestyle; physically active lifestyle

Socially adept communication skills; interpersonal skills; appreciation of cultural and linguistic differences; responsible citizenship; leadership capacity

Professionally competent ... discipline-specific proficiencies listed under Program Outcomes.

III. PROGRAM OUTCOMES

This course supports the program outcomes of all Undergraduate theology majors that require an Old Testament or an New Testament Elective, marked below with an asterisk (*).

*1. Students will develop and demonstrate a knowledge and understanding of the Bible that is based on a sound hermeneutic, illumined by the Holy Spirit, and leads to relevant applications in contemporary life.

2. Students will develop and demonstrate an understanding of a charismatic Christian worldview that is biblically, philosophically, and theologically sound.

3. Students will develop and demonstrate competencies necessary to communicate the gospel in every person's world and to make them effective participants in the professional/ministerial callings.
4. Students will integrate scriptural, philosophical, and theological knowledge with professional/ministerial communications skills appropriate to their discipline.
5. Student will develop essential competencies which will enable them to engage the contemporary multi-cultural, multi-ethnic world.

IV. COURSE GOALS

The purpose of this course is to enable the student to acquire a basic knowledge of the geology, geography and hydrology of the land of the Bible and its bearing on patterns of human settlement, communication, defense and historical development. Students will know geo-political trade routes in Israel, key mountain passes, valleys, geographical divisions and be able to narrate biblical events of Israel as they were molded by geography of the land. Students will be able to employ the tools of biblical geography, including atlases, archaeological encyclopedias, periodical literature, Internet resources, and archaeological societies. Students will demonstrate how an understanding of the physical setting of the Bible enhances exegetical clarity in one's preaching and teaching.

V. STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES FOR THIS COURSE

As a result of class lectures, readings, research and class discussion, the successful student will be able to do the following:

1. Trace the progression of biblical history and ways that the geo-political setting relates to biblical events (BL4).
2. Identify the major regions of the geography of Israel and describe the topographical characteristics of each (BL3).
3. Trace on a map of the Holy Land the geo-political trade routes in Israel, key mountain passes, valleys, geographical divisions, which impacted the historical events of the Bible (BL4).
4. Demonstrate facility in the use of the tools of biblical geography, including atlases, archaeological encyclopedias, periodical literature, Internet resources, and archaeological societies (BL2).
5. Evaluate the benefits of an understanding of the physical settings of the Bible for exegetical clarity in preaching and teaching (BL5).

VI. TEXTBOOK AND OTHER LEARNING RESOURCES

A. Required Materials

1. Textbooks

Beck, John A. *The Land of Milk and Honey: An Introduction to the Geography of the Bible*. St. Louis, Missouri: Concordia, 2006. ISBN 0-7586-0056-9

Lancaster, Steven P. and James M. Monson. *Regional Study Guide: Introductory Map Studies in the Land of the Bible*. Rockford, Illinois: Biblical Backgrounds, 2014. Download: https://www.juc.edu/pdf/study_guide.pdf

Regional Study Maps. Introductory Package. Biblical Backgrounds. 2014.
http://www.bibback.com/purchase_files/01_ISP_Introduction_May2014.pdf (Use
<http://www.bibback.com/purchase.html> to purchase the package.)

2. Other
Lamp, Jeffrey S. *Undergraduate Theology Department Style Manual*, Revised 2015. ORU Bookstore.

Note: You will need to purchase felt tip pens (Yellow, Green, Bright blue, Red, Orange) and a black fine ballpoint pen.

B. Optional Materials

1. Subscribe to *Biblical Archaeological Review*
2. Schlegel, Bill. *The Land and the Bible: A Historical Geographical Companion to the Satellite Bible Atlas*, Version 5. Jerusalem: Schlegel, 2013. Download:
<http://www.bibleplaces.com/wp-content/uploads/2015/08/The-Land-and-the-Bible.pdf>

VII. POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

A. University Policy and Procedures

1. Participation in each online class through discussion forums, assignments, and all other course activities is mandatory at Oral Roberts University. This counts as your attendance in the course. Excessive absences can reduce a student's grade or deny credit for the course.
2. Students and faculty at Oral Roberts University must adhere to all laws addressing the ethical use of others' materials, whether it is in the form of print, electronic, video, multimedia, or computer software. Plagiarism and other forms of cheating involve both lying and stealing and are violations of ORU's Honor Code: "I will not cheat or plagiarize; I will do my own academic work and will not inappropriately collaborate with other students on assignments." Plagiarism is usually defined as copying someone else's ideas, words, or sentence structure and submitting them as one's own. Other forms of academic dishonesty include (but are not limited to) the following:
 - a. Submitting another's work as one's own or colluding with someone else and submitting that work as though it were his or hers;
 - b. Failing to meet group assignment or project requirements while claiming to have done so;
 - c. Failing to cite sources used in a paper;
 - d. Creating results for experiments, observations, interviews, or projects that were not done;
 - e. Receiving or giving unauthorized help on assignments.By submitting an assignment in any form, the student gives permission for the assignment to be checked for plagiarism, either by submitting the work for electronic verification or by other means. Penalties for any of the above infractions may result in disciplinary action including failing the assignment or failing the course or expulsion from the University, as determined by department and University guidelines.
2. Final exams cannot be given before their scheduled times.
3. Students need to check the final exam schedule before planning return flights or other events at the end of the semester.

4. Students are to be in compliance with University, school, and departmental policies regarding the Whole Person Assessment requirements. Students should consult the Whole Person Assessment handbooks for requirements regarding general education and the students' majors.
 - a. The penalty for not submitting electronically or for incorrectly submitting an artifact is a zero for that assignment.
 - b. By submitting an assignment, the student gives permission for the assignment to be assessed electronically.

B. School and/or Department Policies and Procedures

1. Completion of a Course
 - a. Late work will not be accepted. Assignments are due on or before the deadline given.
 - b. Under rare circumstances, exceptions may be made in consultation with the faculty member for the course. However, except in extreme emergencies, students must contact faculty members before the assigned due date and request an exception to the policy.
2. Incompletes
 - a. An incomplete is given only after the student establishes with the instructor and the department chair by written petition that his or her work is incomplete for good cause (i.e., lengthy illness, death in the family). Incompletes are rarely granted. Only those absences that are incurred within the time period of the extenuating circumstances prompting an incomplete will be excused. The student is still accountable for any other absences and will be penalized for them according to the attendance policy.
 - b. A Petition for Incomplete Grade with all supporting documentation must be submitted for approval at least one week prior to the end of normal classes. The submitting of a petition does not automatically ensure the granting of an incomplete. The petition must be approved by the appropriate academic committee of the Undergraduate Theology Department.
3. Examinations and Other Assignments
 - a. Early examinations are not allowed.
 - b. Late examinations are administered only when extenuating circumstances are present (such as a death in the family the week before exams, sudden and major illness the week of exams that is documented by a physician). In fairness to all students, some persons should not have more time to prepare for an examination than others. The granting of a late examination request is rare.
 - c. A Petition for Late Examination without penalty must be signed by the professor and the chair. Proper documentation must accompany the petition and must be submitted to the Undergraduate Theology Department. The student must schedule the makeup exam with the professor of the course. The exam must be taken no later than five (5) calendar days after the approval of the petition. Grade penalties may be applied as indicated by the Academic Affairs Committee.
 - d. All exams will be given as scheduled. It is the student's responsibility when purchasing airline tickets, for example, to take this schedule into consideration. Not being present for the final examination automatically results in failure of the course.
 - e. These requirements apply to all quizzes, tests, and examinations administered by the Undergraduate Theology Department.
4. Attendance Policy
 - a. The Official Attendance Policy for the Undergraduate Theology Department is as follows:

- (1.) If class meets three times a week, 3 unexcused absences will result in 1 grade letter reduction; 6 unexcused absences will automatically result in an "F" for the course.
- (2.) If class meets two times a week, 2 unexcused absences will result in 1 grade letter reduction; 4 unexcused absences will automatically result in an "F" for the course.
- (3.) If class meets one time a week, 1 unexcused absence will result in 1 grade letter reduction; 2 unexcused absences will automatically result in an "F" for the course.
- b. The absences allowed prior to grade reduction are designed to allow for emergencies and illnesses, only. (Faculty may require documentation.) Administrative excuses are granted only when a student is on official University business and has received approval in advance from the University administration.
- c. The penalty for tardies is at the discretion of the instructor.

C. Online Programs Policies and Procedures

1. Learning Community: Online learning community is established through active participation in the threaded weekly discussions. The mutual exchange of ideas, information, and experiences is an essential part of the learning process, and students are encouraged to use the discussion forum as virtual classroom platform.
2. Netiquette and Online Discussions: Online etiquette (netiquette) expectations include the following: (1) Be polite in your answers. Always address each other by name and sign your own name. Always be kind, even when you disagree. Do NOT type in all caps or use exclamation points!!!! (2) Do not use one-word answers or say "I agree" when responding. Always give meaningful responses. (3) Be professional. Proofread for correct spelling and grammar when posting answers. Write in full sentences. (4) Answer questions and complete assignments on-time. Remember that your classmates are dependent on your timely response(s).
3. ADA and Students with Disabilities:
Click here (<http://www.brightspace.com/about/accessibility/>) to view Desire2Learn's "Accessibility Resources for Students with Disabilities."
Students requiring Disability Services from ORU, please click here (http://www.oru.edu/current_students/my_services/student_resources/disability-services/)
4. Useful Links for Online Students:
[Student Learning Glossary](#)
Library: <http://library.oru.edu>.
D2L Helpdesk: d2lhelp@oru.edu
I.T. Student Helpdesk: studenthelpdesk@oru.edu
Contact the University: please [fill out this online form](#). Please first contact your instructor for assistance with any matter specific to the course.

D. Course Policies and Procedures

1. Evaluation Procedures
 - a. Performance on participation in threaded discussions and performance on papers.
 - b. Assessment Procedures:

Quizzes	20 %
7 Weekly Quizzes (even distribution)	
Forums	20 %
7 Forums (even distribution)	
Map Exercises (even distribution)	40 %
1. ME Map:	

2. LB Map	
3. NCA Map	
5. GAL Map	
4. SCA Map	
6. JUD Map	
7. BEN Map	
Final Exam	20 %
Total	100%

2. Whole Person Assessment Requirements
None

VIII. COURSE CALENDAR

The Course Calendar shows the specific learning activities and assessments for this course, along with their respective grade weights. The far right column lists the Student Learning Outcomes (SLO) that are tied to the corresponding Assessment in column 2. All activities and assessments are fully described online in D2L under their respective Week.

Week	Assessments	Hours	Weight	SLO*
1	Introduction: Israel—The Land Between	--	--	--
	View/Listen/Read	4	--	--
	Topic 1 You and the Land Between	3	2.86	1, 4&5
	Quiz 1 (study time included)	2	2.86	2, 3&4
	Map Assignment	6	5.71	2, 3&4
2	Imperial Highways through the Land Between			
	View/Listen/Read	2		
	Topic 2	3	2.86	1,4&5
	Quiz 2 (study time included)	3	2.86	2, 3&4
	Map Assignment	6	5.71	2, 3&4
3	Northern and Central Arenas			
	View/Listen/Read	4		
	Topic 3	3	2.86	1&5
	Quiz 3 (study time included)	3	2.86	2, 3&4
	Map Assignment	6	5.71	2, 3&4
4	Galilee and Jezreel Valley			
	View/Listen/Read	4		
	Topic 4	3	2.86	1&5
	Quiz 4 (study time included)	3	2.86	2, 3&4
	Map Assignment	6	5.71	2, 3&4
5	Southern and Central Arenas			
	View/Listen/Read	3		
	Topic 5	3	2.86	1&5
	Quiz 5 (study time included)	3	2.86	2, 3&4
	Map Assignment	6	5.71	2, 3&4
6	Shephelah and the Heartland of Judah			
	View/Listen/Read	4		
	Topic 6	3	2.86	1&5

	Quiz 6 (study time included)	3	2.86	2, 3&4
	Map Assignment	6	5.71	2, 3&4
7	The Central Benjamin Plateau			
	View/Listen/Read	3		
	Topic 7	4	2.86	3&5
	Quiz 7 (study time included)	3	2.86	1,2&4
	Map Assignment	6	5.71	1,2&4
	Final	5	20.0	1 - 4
Course Total	Total estimated hours based upon 16 hours per week for 7 weeks	113	100%	

* SLO: The last column indicates which Student Learning Outcome is met by the Assessment in Column 2.

† Indicates this is a Whole Person Assessment item that is also submitted to the E-Portfolio system.

IX. COURSE INVENTORY

For ORU's Student Learning Outcomes
LBIB 302—Historical Geography of the Holy Land
3.0 Credit hours

This course contributes to the ORU student learning outcomes as indicated below:

Significant Contribution – Addresses the outcome directly and includes targeted assessment.

Moderate Contribution – Addresses the outcome directly or indirectly and includes some assessment.

Minimal Contribution – Addresses the outcome indirectly and includes little or no assessment.

No Contribution – Does not address the outcome.

The Student Learning Glossary at <http://ir.oru.edu/doc/glossary.pdf> defines each outcome and each of the proficiencies/capacities.

The Course Writer should place an X in the appropriate column for each proficiency.

OUTCOMES & Proficiencies/Capacities		Significant Contribution	Moderate Contribution	Minimal Contribution	No Contribution
1	Outcome #1 – Spiritually Alive Proficiencies/Capacities				
1A	Biblical knowledge	X			
1B	Sensitivity to the Holy Spirit	X			
1C	Evangelistic capability	X			
1D	Ethical behavior		X		
2	Outcome #2 – Intellectually Alert Proficiencies/Capacities				
2A	Critical thinking	X			

2B	Information literacy	X			
2C	Global & historical perspectives	X			
2D	Aesthetic appreciation		X		
2E	Intellectual creativity	X			

3	Outcome #3 – Physically Disciplined Proficiencies/Capacities				
3A	Healthy lifestyle				X
3B	Physically disciplined lifestyle			X	

4	Outcome #4 – Socially Adept Proficiencies/Capacities				
4A	Communication skills	X			
4B	Interpersonal skills	X			
4C	Appreciation of cultural & linguistic	X			
4D	Responsible citizenship			X	
4E	Leadership capacity		X		

(Revised 5/2018)

This syllabus is subject to change without notice up until the first day of the semester.

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