The Archaeology of Jerusalem:

From the Origins to the Ottomans

JUDS 1610

Prof. Katharina Galor

Meetings: Thursdays 4–6:30 pm

Office hours: Tuesdays 1:30–3:30 pm @ 163 George Street, Room 203

Course description:

Jerusalem has earned a special eminence among the famed ancient cities of the world. Its sanctity to Jews, Christians, and Moslems has made the city a focus of discussions and controversies regarding the evolving and changing identities throughout its long urban history. More than 1700 archaeological excavations and surveys in and around the Old City have been conducted over the last 150 years. In this seminar we will examine the material remains of the city from the beginnings in the Chalcolithic period through the end of the Ottoman period in 1917 CE. The contemporary literary sources as well as the more recent scholarly debates and discoveries help us understand the material remains of the relevant periods.

Grades and evaluation:

1) Reading assignments: The selected weekly reading assignments are an essential component of this class. Students will be expected to read regularly and be able to comment critically on the contents.
2) Course assignments: 25% class participation (attendance is mandatory); 20% midterm paper; 30% class presentations; 25% final paper

3) Course commitments: Over the course of the semester students will spend 3 hours weekly in class (39 hours); approximately 5 hours weekly on reading assignments and 2 hours weekly on class presentations (91 hours); about 20 hours on research and writing for the midterm and 30 hours on research and writing for the final paper (50 hours).

Objectives:

1) Understand the methodology of archaeological exploration, including field work (excavation and survey methods), field registrations and notes, scientific analyses, and publication processes
2) Learn about Jerusalem’s different periods of occupation, based on historical sources in dialogue with the visual and material culture
3) Familiarity with the recent literature on the subject (including excavation reports as well as analytical and interpretative works) and ability to navigate the library and other research tools to access the most critical and up-to-date research on related topics
4) Develop the analytical skills to evaluate the readings and develop the communication skills to share the information critically in presentations, papers, and discussions
5) Ability to read maps, diagrams, plans, sections, 3D models and reconstructions, as well as other visual tools necessary to examine archaeological sites and artefacts

Inclusion:

Understand Brown University is committed to full inclusion of all students. Please inform me early in the term if you have a disability or other conditions that might require accommodations or modification of any of these course procedures. You may speak with me after class or during office hours. For more information, please contact Student and Employee Accessibility Services at 401-863-9588 or SEAS@brown.edu. Students in need of short-term academic advice or support can contact one of the deans in the Dean of the College office.

1. January 24: Introduction
2. January 31: Pre-history

Readings and Presentations:


3. February 7: Bronze and Iron Ages
Readings and Presentations:


4. **February 14: Babylonian and Persian Periods**

Readings and Presentations:


5. February 21: Hellenistic Period

Readings and Presentations:


6. February 28: Roman Period I

Readings and Presentations:


7. **March 7: Roman Period II**

Readings and Presentations:


8. **March 14: Byzantine Period**

Readings and Presentations:


9. **March 21: Early Islamic Period**

Readings and Presentations:


10. March 28: Spring recess

11. April 4: Crusader and Ayyubid Periods

Readings and Presentations:


Dlin, N., Suq el-Lahamin – An Arab Market Place in the Old City of Jerusalem, in GeoJournal 15/1 (1987) 9–27.

12. April 11: Mamluk Period

Readings and Presentations:


13. **April 18: Ottoman Period**

Readings and Presentations


14. **April 25: Term Paper Presentations**

15. **May 2: Reading period**

16. **May 9: Deadline for submitting final term papers**