

Holy Land Lenten Pilgrimage

Syllabus

THEO 34107

Spring 2013

Leaders:	Brett Perkins 114 Coleman-Morse brett.perkins@nd.edu	Fr. Brad Metz, CSC 100 Fisher Hall metz.14@nd.edu	Hannah Hemphill Barrett 131 Malloy Hall hhemphil@nd.edu
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Overview of the Course

Over the past two millennia, the Holy Land, and Jerusalem in particular, has been the destination of Christian pilgrims seeking penance, an answer to prayer, or even simply adventure. In this course, we will join this long line of pilgrims as we travel to the Holy Land with the hope of encountering our incarnate God in the places we visit and the people we travel with and meet. The course has three elements: a series of preparatory meetings where we will begin to reflect on the people and places of the land and prepare ourselves as pilgrims, the pilgrimage to the Holy Land over Spring Break, and one final meeting upon our return to reflect together on our journey.

Class Meetings

All classes will meet from 5:00-7:00pm in the Hospitality Room of South Dining Hall.

Please feel free to eat during class time, but please have your food and be seated in the Hospitality Room **by 5:10 pm** each evening.

- February 7 Introduction to the course and cultural introduction to the Holy Land
Practical Concerns and Considerations
Presenter: Brett, Hannah, and Fr. Brad
- February 14 A Model of Christian Pilgrimage
Presenter: Layla Karst
Christian Communities in Israel-Palestine
Presenter: Brett
- February 21 Modern Day Israel-Palestine
Presenter: Asher Kaufman
Safety and Security
Presenter: Hannah
- February 28 The Holy Land: Reflections from Scripture and Tradition
Presenter: John Cavadini
Further Practical Concerns and Considerations
Presenter: Brett, Hannah, and Fr. Brad

Additional Dates for your Calendar

February 22 5:00-8:00 pm Dinner & Movie Watch: "Little Town of Bethlehem"
Fisher Hall lower study lounge. Dinner will be provided.
**This session is optional.

February 24 10:00 am Sunday Divine Liturgy (Mass) at St. Michael's Byzantine Catholic Church
in Mishawaka
**This session is optional.

March 8-16 Pilgrimage to the Holy Land

April 4 Dinner and Presentation of Final Projects
6:00-9:00pm
Coleman-Morse 330

Pilgrimage

Below is the tentative itinerary for our time in the Holy Land, which is subject to change due to unforeseeable events on the ground. Typically, days will be spent pilgrimaging to and praying at holy sites and evenings will include group reflection. We also intend to celebrate Mass daily during our week in the Holy Land.

March 8 Friday

TBD Depart ND
4:30 pm Depart Chicago ORD KLM 612

March 9 Saturday

7:15 am Arrive in Amsterdam Schiphol Airport (AMS)
Day in Amsterdam
8:50 pm Depart Amsterdam KLM 461
2:15 am Arrive in Tel Aviv

March 10 Sunday

Greek-Melkite Byzantine Catholic Divine Liturgy in Bethlehem
Holy sites in and around Bethlehem
Drive to Nazareth; Overnight in Nazareth

March 11 Monday

Basilica of the Annunciation in Nazareth
Meet with Archbishop Elias Chacour at Ibillin
Holy sites at the Sea of Galilee
Mass at the Church of the Primacy of Saint Peter
Overnight in Nazareth

March 12 Tuesday

Caesarea Philippi
Golan Heights
Capernaum
Mass at the Basilica of the Transfiguration, Mount Tabor
Drive through Jordan Valley
Overnight at Tantur

March 13 Wednesday

Mass at Christ's Tomb, the Church of the Holy Sepulchre
The Old City of Jerusalem
The Temple Mount/Haram al-Sharif
Bethlehem University

March 14 Thursday

Mount of Olives
Mass at the Basilica of the Agony, Garden of Gethsemane
Visit Eastern Churches

March 15 Friday

The Via Dolorosa (Stations of the Cross)
Mass in the Chapel of the Blessed Sacrament, Church of the Holy Sepulchre
Tour of the Church of the Holy Sepulchre
The Cenacle
Dormition Abbey
Tour of the Armenian Quarter

March 16 Saturday

1:30 am Depart Tantur for TLV airport
5:30 am Depart Tel Aviv KLM 462
9:50 am Arrive in Amsterdam
12:40 pm Depart Amsterdam KLM 611
3:30 pm Arrive in Chicago ORD
TBD Bus to Notre Dame

Grading

This course will be graded on a pass-fail basis using the following criteria.

- Attendance: Attendance at four preparatory sessions on **February 7th, 14th, 21st, and 28th**, is required. Attendance is also required on **April 4th** to present your final project to the group.
- Participation: Students are expected to participate actively in the preparatory sessions and during the pilgrimage itself. Participation includes preparing the required readings and contributing to group discussions during the preparatory

sessions. While in Israel-Palestine, participation includes travel with the group to various sites and participating in group discussions, prayer, and reflection.

- Assigned book and reflection essay: You are required to read the book *Blood Brothers* by Archbishop Elias Chacour. A two-page reflection on this book will be due **March 4th to Hannah's box in 131 Malloy**. Details to follow.
- Final reflection project: Our hope is that this pilgrimage will have a profound effect on your life of faith, your participation in Christian community and the Church, and your service to self and others. The final project should be a theological reflection of one or all of these themes. Using the medium of your choice (whether prose, poetry, music, art, film, photography, etc.), creatively respond to one or several of the following questions:
 - How did your pilgrimage experience affect your understanding of God?
 - How did your pilgrimage experience affect your understanding of the Church?
 - How did your pilgrimage experience affect your understanding of your neighbor?

Your project idea should be approved **by March 22nd**. Please e-mail your idea to the leaders by this date. These projects will be presented to the group on April 4th.