

**Syllabus Spring Quarter 2014**  
**ANAR 143 Anthropology, Archaeology and the Bible**  
Thomas E. Levy, Distinguished Professor  
Atkinson Hall 1601F; Office Hours by Appointment [tlevy@ucsd.edu](mailto:tlevy@ucsd.edu)  
Tuesday Thursday 3:30 pm – 4:50 pm  
Class Location: CSB 005

**TA**

Mikael Fauvelle, Social Science Building 280  
Office Hours: 2:30 – 3:30 pm, Tuesday - Thursday

**Required Reading:**

Levy, T.E., ed. 2010. *Historical Biblical Archaeology and the Future – The New Pragmatism*. London: Equinox. (HBAF)

Mazar, A. 1993 *Archaeology of the Land of the Bible (10,000 – 586 BCE)*. New York: Doubleday (paperback). (ALB)

**Course Goals:**

The Old Testament or Hebrew Bible, written over a 1,500 years period and codified around 500 BCE, still affects you on a daily basis. As *'The Bible for Dummies'* points out, the Bible still plays a central role in debates about ethical questions ranging from human cloning, abortion rights, the constitutionality of saying the pledge of allegiance in public schools, or posting the Ten Commandments in public places. Where did the Bible come from and what aspects of history can be gleaned from it? For that matter, are there any historical 'facts' in the Bible? Once codified, not one word of the Bible has been changed. Thus, the only source of new information concerning this document that is sacred to billions of people around the world (Jews, Christians and Moslems) is the archaeological record. This course will introduce students to the formation of the Bible and then examine the full range of archaeology in the Holy Land (Israel, the Palestinian territories, Jordan, Lebanon, southern Syria and the Sinai Peninsula) that relates to this sacred text. By the end of the course, you should have an appreciation of the socio-economic development of Biblical society, what parts of the Bible have left an 'archaeological footprint' in the Holy Land, and new methodologies that archaeologists can use to examine the relationship between ancient sacred texts and the archaeological record. Thus, the reasoning and methodological tools you will learn about in this course are applicable to all ancient historical societies around the world.

**Course Requirements:**

Students will be responsible for all readings, lectures, any films and discussions. The *Powerpoint* lecture slides will be posted on TED. There will be one Midterm exam (50%) and a Final exam (50%) – both will be made up of multiple-choice questions. You will also have a weekly opportunity to earn up to 10% extra

class credit points by carefully reading the weekly textbook assignments and taking the in-class extra-credit quizzes. Every Thursday at the beginning of class, 10 multiple-choice questions selected from the weekly readings will be given to you as a handout. You will need a green Scantron card and a No. 2 pencil to take the exam.

## **Week One**

Lecture 1 - Tuesday April 1

**Is the Bible True? What can Archaeology say about the Bible? And what's Anthropology got to do with it?**

- HBAF – Preface, Chapter 1

Lecture 2 - Thursday April 3

**Environment and Ecology of the Holy Land; Integrating Archaeology and the Bible**

- ALB – Chapter 1
- HBAF – Chapter 2

## **Week Two**

Lecture 3 - Tuesday April 8

**Melding Anthropological Models, Archaeology and the Bible for New Insights on the Past; Considering Ethnicity and Archaeology**

- HBAF – Chapter 3, 4

Lecture 4 - Thursday April 10

**Shifting Paradigms of Archaeological Research in the Holy Land - From Napoleon to Science-based Levantine Archaeology**

- HBAF – Chapter 5, 14, 20

## **Week Three**

Lecture 5 - Tuesday April 15

**Foundations of the Biblical Village Economy: Neolithic and Chalcolithic Periods**

- ALB – Chapter 2, 3

Lecture 6 - Thursday April 17

**The Rise of the First Cities: The Early Bronze Age and the Cities of the Plain (Genesis 14)**

- ALB – Chapter 4
- HBAF – Chapter 6

## **Week Four**

Lecture 7 – Tuesday April 22

**The Collapse of Urbanism and the Amorite Problem – Early Bronze IV**

- ALB – Chapter 5

Lecture 8 (SAA) – Thursday April 24

**Guest Lecture - Brady Liss, “A Case Study in Historical Biblical Archaeology Today”**

- ALB – Chapter 11 (Metallurgy, pp. 509-510)
- HBAF – Chapter 1

**Week Five**

Lecture 9 – Tuesday April 29

**The Second Urban Revolution and the Age of the Patriarchs and Matriarchs – Middle Bronze Age**

- Chapter 6

**Lecture 10 – Thursday May 1 MID-TERM**

**Week Six**

Lecture 11 – Tuesday May 6

**Egyptian Imperialism in Canaan, Mining Activities, the Exodus and the Collapse of Mediterranean Civilizations – Late Bronze Age**

- ALB – Chapter 7
- HBAF – Chapter 7

Lecture 12 (NY) – Thursday May 8

**Guest Lecture – Matt Vincent: Between the Old and New Testaments - The Diaspora, Hellenism and the Formation of Jewish Nationalism**

- HBAF – Chapter 16, 19

**Week Seven**

Lecture 13 – Tuesday May 13

**The Emergence of Early Israel – Did Joshua Fight the Battle of Jericho? Iron Age I and Conflicting Models**

- ALB – Chapter 8
- HBAF – Chapter 8

Lecture 14 – Thursday May 15

**Early Israel’s Neighbors: The Philistines, Canaanites and Transjordanian Polities**

- ALB – Chapter 8
- HBAF – Chapter 9

## **Week Eight**

Lecture 15 (LA) – Tuesday May 20

**Guest Lecture – Aaron Gidding: New Perspectives on the Intermediate Bronze Age (EB IV)**

- ALB – Chapter 5
- HBAF – Chapter 6

Lecture 16 (LA) – Thursday May 22

**Guest Lecture – Ian Jones: Islamic Traditions and the Hebrew Bible and the Use of Bedouin Ethnographic Research for Understanding Biblical History**

- HBAF – Chapter 10

## **Week Nine**

Lecture 17 – Tuesday May 27

**The United Monarchy of David and Solomon – The 10<sup>th</sup> C. BCE Debate Rages On – Iron Age IIA (ca. 1000 – 925 BCE)**

- ALB – Chapter 9 + 11 (Aspects of Israelite Town Planning and Architecture, pp. 463 – 491; Trade and Foreign Connections, pp. 510 -514)
- HBAF – Chapter 11, 13,

Lecture 18 – Thursday May 29

**In the Shadow of Solomon – The Divided Monarchy and the Northern Kingdom of Israel (ca. 925 – 720 BCE; Iron II B – II C)**

- ALB – Chapter 10 + 11 (Israelite Cult, pp. 492-501; Art in Israel & Judah, pp. 502-506; Pottery, 507-508)
- HBAF – Chapter 15

## **Week Ten**

Lecture 19 – Tuesday June 3

**The Kingdom of Judah and the Destruction, 920 – 586 BCE**

- ALB – Chapter 12; Chapter 11 (Literacy and Inscriptions, pp. 514 -520; Burial Customs, pp. 520-526)
- HBAF – Chapter 18

Lecture 20 – Thursday June 5

**New Perspectives on the Iron Age Archaeology of Edom, Transjordan – Pragmatism in Action**

- ALB Chapter 12 (pp. 541 – 544)
- HBAF – Chapter 1, 21, 22