



**THE JERUSALEM CENTER
FOR NEAR EASTERN STUDIES**
Brigham Young University

**2012
Fall Program**

August 28-December 13

Applications Accepted March 12-23, 2012

Program Features and Costs

Introduction

Through the Jerusalem Center for Near Eastern Studies, Brigham Young University offers students a remarkable opportunity for study on location in the Holy Land. A correlated curriculum of survey courses, with a strong emphasis on field study, provides students with an introduction to biblical studies and in Near Eastern history, geography, culture, and current events. The extended nature of this program provides an ideal environment to study the life and teachings of Jesus and the early apostles and prophets in their original settings. In addition, students have the opportunity to gain an understanding of the peoples of the Near East by living among them and comparing cultural and religious traditions and practices.

Program Features

The Jerusalem experience includes the following features:

- An individual interview for final admission
- A **mandatory** orientation meeting in Provo the day prior to departure
- Group travel to Tel Aviv
- A study and field trip experience in the Holy Land

The Jerusalem experience begins before you actually reach the Holy Land. We wish to emphasize that each of the above items is an integral part of each Jerusalem Center program. You will be expected to participate in *all* of these activities. Please make sure you are willing to commit to the entire package as outlined above *before* you submit an application.

Program Cost

Estimated costs for the 2012 Fall Program are \$10,500 (\$8145 for Program Fees and \$2355 for tuition). Program fees include airfare (round-trip SLC/TLV/SLC), field trip expenses, room & board, books & fees, medical insurance, laundry, application fee, and a refundable room deposit of \$100. The \$150 deposit paid at the time of application will be applied towards the total program cost.

Items Not Included in the Fees

Among the items not included are items of a personal nature, such as excess baggage charges, phone calls, bottled drinking water, food or beverages not part of the group menu, gratuities for special services, passports, immunization fees, postage, and souvenirs. For this program, we recommend approximately \$500 for personal expenses.

Medical Insurance

BYU requires all Jerusalem Center students to have medical insurance. Coverage has been arranged with an Israeli insurance company for Jerusalem Center students, and premium costs are included in the program fees. Please note that pre-existing medical conditions are not covered by this insurance. Provisions of the policy are available upon request.

Accident Insurance

Accident insurance is provided through air ticketing that covers travel to and from Tel Aviv. Students are responsible for insuring their own luggage and belongings if they choose to do so. **Brigham Young University and/or the Jerusalem Center is not responsible for any loss, theft, or damage to your belongings.**

Pricing Information

All costs are quoted in U.S. dollars. They are based on air fares, tariffs, accommodation rates, and rates of exchange quoted to the Jerusalem Center at the time of publication. These prices are expected to be in effect at the time of departure; however, prices are subject to change. Every effort will be made to avoid price increases; however, any changes in price prior to departure made by the airlines, vendors, operators, etc., with which the Jerusalem Center office has made arrangements, will be passed on to program participants. **Students will be required to pay any additional charges immediately upon notice.**

Application and Admissions Information

Dates and Deadlines

Between the time of application and the time of departure, materials required for processing (payments, forms, passport information, etc.) will be sent with notification of reply deadlines. **Students must meet these deadlines.** Failure to do so could result in cancellation from the program and forfeiture of the \$150 deposit.

March 12-23 (2012)	Time period for accepting applications for placement
March 30	Deadline for Eccl. Endorsement (Application Part 2b)
April 16	Approximate date students will be notified of placement (by mail to the current address on the application).
April 27	Deadline to apply for JC Financial Aid
May 15	Approximate date students will be notified of JC Financial Aid.
May 18	\$1,000 payment and Forms Packet #1 due. Flight Confirmation and Passport Forms also due. (BYU scholarships, JC and government financial aid cannot be used as a credit towards this \$1,000 payment). \$50 late fee after this date.
May 25	If \$1,000 payment and forms not received, student may be cancelled.
July 20	Final payment, Forms Packet #2, and photos due. \$50 late fee after this date.
July 27	If final payment, forms, and photos not received, student may be cancelled.
August 27	Mandatory orientation meeting at BYU in Provo. Noon-4 pm
August 28	Group departure from Salt Lake City
December 13	Group departure from Tel Aviv.

Admissions Criteria

- Eligibility is limited to matriculated full-time students currently enrolled in a four-year undergraduate program at either BYU, BYU-Idaho, or BYU-Hawaii at the time of application, prior to departure and during the program. (This means attending at least two semesters in each academic year.)
- Applicants must have completed at least two semesters of full-time attendance in on-campus study. (AP and other “earned” credit does not count towards this requirement, but it can include transfer credit/attendance at another university). Students must be progressing towards their first undergraduate degree. The Admissions Committee must be able to review successful completion of at least two semesters of full-time study prior to having an interview for final acceptance.
- Applicants must have a **current and cumulative** GPA of 2.5 or better, and must be in good standing (no academic or honor code warning, probation, etc.)
- Applicants must sign the Center’s non-proselytizing agreement and agree to abide by the BYU Code of Honor and Dress and Grooming Standards, as well as any other special rules governing conduct and appearance while enrolled in a Jerusalem Center program. They must meet the Center’s application, information and payment deadlines, and be able to actively participate in a rigorous field trip program.
- Students who are married or pursuing graduate degrees are not eligible to attend.

Admissions Process

The Jerusalem Center has a two-part admissions process:

Part I. The Jerusalem Center accepts applications during a two-week application window for each program. All qualified applications received or postmarked during those two weeks are considered on an equal basis. If, during the two-week period, more students apply than the Jerusalem Center can accommodate, students will be randomly drawn for Part II of the admissions process (or for the waiting list). In the event that both the randomly drawn list and the waiting list are filled, any remaining applications will be returned. Qualified applications received after the application window will be considered for Part II of the admissions process only on a space-available basis and in the order they are received. The Jerusalem Center has separate lists for men and women; therefore, the need for a random drawing as Part I of the application process will depend on the number of applications received for each gender.

Part II. Each applicant given placement in Part I of the admissions process will be interviewed for final acceptance. Applicants on the waiting list may also be interviewed, as necessary or as space becomes available. Students will be admitted for study at the Jerusalem Center based on their preparation for and ability to benefit from study at the Jerusalem Center, as well as their ability to contribute to the success of the experience for others in the unique Jerusalem Center setting.

Policies and Standards

Cancellation Policy

1. Cancellation from a Jerusalem Center program means forfeiture of the \$150 deposit. Students who do not qualify for the program, do not receive placement, or cannot be accommodated from a waiting list will receive a deposit refund.
2. Failure to meet appropriate deadlines could result in the student's cancellation.
3. If an airline ticket has been written for a student prior to cancellation, a ticket cancellation fee will be assessed (currently \$250).
4. Cancelling later than two weeks prior to departure requires a \$100 cancellation fee. Charges for room may also be assessed, along with any other costs already encumbered.

Transfer Policy

A student cannot transfer an application from one program to another. Consideration for a future program means cancellation of the current application, forfeiture of deposit, and submission of a new application and deposit for the future program

BYU Honor Code & Dress and Grooming Standards

Brigham Young University exists to provide a university education in an atmosphere consistent with the ideals and principles of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. That atmosphere can be preserved through commitment to conduct that reflects those ideals and principles. As a matter of personal commitment, students, staff and faculty of Brigham Young University seek to demonstrate in daily living those moral virtues encompassed in the gospel of Jesus Christ. Students are expected to adhere to the CES Honor Code and Dress and Grooming Standards as outlined in Part 2 of the APPLICATION FOR ADMISSION.

Specific Jerusalem Center Standards

Details about the Center's dress standard will be outlined in the Student Handbook given to all students after placement. Although clothing standards vary from region to region in the Middle East, some contemporary clothing styles, particularly for young women in the US and Europe, are inconsistent with standards of modesty for many residents of the region and, in particular, of Jerusalem who generally belong to orthodox—and hence conservative—Christian, Muslim or Jewish faiths. Even commonly accepted clothing styles worn by students at BYU would be considered by many in Jerusalem and elsewhere in the Middle East to be immodest. Hence, Jerusalem Center students need to adopt a modest look that will both set them apart and show respect. The Center's dress standard is conservative – what might be termed “business casual.” It is very important that clothing be loose fitting and modest in terms of body coverage and style.

We understand that dressing this way won't make you stylish by US standards and that you may need to acquire a few new things that fit within these standards. Please understand that for reasons that will be discussed in the final pre-departure orientation, on this matter there is zero tolerance. If you are dressed inconsistent with specific Jerusalem Center standards at any time, you will be asked to leave the program and return to the US.

Behavior

Activities and behavior must be consistent with high standards of taste and decency. Be aware that any kind of public display of affection (arms around person of the opposite sex, etc.) is considered inappropriate among certain peoples in the Near East. Dating or pairing off between members of the program is strongly discouraged, and dating or pairing off with anyone outside of the program is not allowed. Friendships develop and intensify on this study program because of the amount of time spent living, studying and traveling together; but time, the setting, and the environment make dating unwise.

Proselytizing

The Center has made a firm commitment that no one associated with the Center, University or Church will engage in Christian proselytizing activities while in Israel. **Students may not proselytize, directly or indirectly.** If asked questions about the Church, they must state that they are in the Holy Land as a student and are not permitted to discuss the Church or its doctrines.

Infractions

A single violation of Jerusalem Center policies may result in dismissal from the program. Students must understand that if they are dismissed from the program, they will be responsible for additional costs incurred to return them to their homes and that there will be no refunds for services not rendered. Furthermore, in the event a student is dismissed from the program, academic credit may be withheld, and his/her standing at BYU may likewise be affected.

Academic Information

Curriculum

The curriculum is designed to achieve a balance of spiritual, academic and cultural development consistent with the unique goal of the Jerusalem Center. Every student who is accepted will be registered for the following courses (15 credit hours total). Class and field trip attendance is required.

1. Religion

Old Testament -- Religion 303 (3 hours)

New Testament -- Religion 311 (3 hours)

Study of the Old and New Testaments integrated with extensive field study in the biblical world; leads to understanding, appreciation, and application of scriptural teachings today.

2. Near Eastern Studies

Ancient Near Eastern Studies -- NES 336 (3 hours)

Study of the history, geography, and archaeology of the ancient Near East, designed to provide a historical background of the people, places, customs, cultures, and events of the Bible

Arab and Islamic Civilization -- NES 347 (2 hours)

Social science/humanities course covering Arab and Islamic civilization; historical evolution of Middle East to present. Provides overview of modern Palestinian society.

Israeli and Jewish Civilization -- NES 349 (2 hours)

Social science/humanities course; broad introduction to Jewish self-understanding and history, focusing on relationships among people, faith, and land.

Field Trips -- NES 395 (1 hour)

Field trips correlated with classroom study to maximize the advantage of on-site learning. Course is graded pass/fail.

3. Language

Introduction to Arabic -- Arabic 100 (1 credit hour)

Introduction to Hebrew -- Hebrew 100 (1 credit hour)

All students will be registered for either Arabic or Hebrew. Introductory course with particular emphasis on the spoken word to engage in a short conversation, to distinguish the sounds of the consonants and vowels, and to gradually read and write some words in either Arabic or Hebrew. These courses will be taught by a local native-speaking instructors, and they are graded pass/fail.

Forum Assemblies

Special lectures will focus attention on pertinent historical, cultural, and religious phenomena which are part of everyday life in the Near East. Guest lecturers are invited from Islamic, Jewish, Christian, and LDS communities.

Travel Information

Flight Arrangements

Flight arrangements for the group will be made by the Jerusalem Center Office. Students are not allowed to arrange for their own air travel. **There will be no exceptions to this policy.** It may be possible for students to arrange returning to a U.S. destination other than Salt Lake City. All students must leave the Middle East at the end of the program. (One exception: if parents pick up their student in Jerusalem on the day of departure.)

Luggage

Each person is limited to one check-in and one carry-on luggage. Details about limits on size and weight will be provided after placement. A back-pack/book bag will be provided by the Jerusalem Center which can be used on week-long excursions and as the carry-on piece of luggage, if desired.

Individual Activities and Travel

Students are encouraged to see as much of Jerusalem as possible during their stay; however, “free time” will be structured. The following guidelines must, however, govern visits to the city and nearby historical and biblical sites: No one is allowed to leave the Center alone (you must be in a group of three or more). Women who will be out in the evening must be in a group that includes men. Any travel outside of Jerusalem must be cleared with the director or associate director prior to the travel.

Travel Documents

Applicants will be provided with information on passports and immunizations, but the procurement of these is the responsibility of the student. Information on how to apply for a passport can be found at: <http://travel.state.gov> It is recommended that students obtain a new passport if they have stamps in it from prior travel to Syria or Lebanon. All group visas needed for travel during the program will be processed by the Jerusalem Center.

Miscellaneous

Financial Aid

All students are invited to apply for Jerusalem Center Financial Aid, which is separate from what they may receive from the government or from the university. These application materials are available on our website or in the Jerusalem Center Office. BYU students should contact the BYU Financial Aid Office for information on applying for university scholarships or for government grants and loans. BYU scholarships and faculty dependent tuition benefits may be used for a Jerusalem Center program, and if awarded, can be deducted from the final payment. It is the student's responsibility to communicate the amount of these awards to the Jerusalem Center Office prior to the final payment deadline.

BYU-I and BYU-H students who received university scholarships and/or government funding cannot typically use these funds on a BYU-Provo program. These students should contact financial aid advisors at BYU-I and BYU-H for more information.

Health

The Jerusalem Center cannot be responsible for illnesses that may occur while students are participating in the program. Persons who suffer from heart disease, high blood pressure, or any physical impairment which could hinder them from normal participation in vigorous group activities should contact the Jerusalem Center Office prior to submitting an application. (See Part 3 of the APPLICATION FOR ADMISSION.)

Housing

Each student room accommodates four persons with a private bathroom. There is no maid service, and participants are responsible for the cleaning and daily upkeep of their rooms. A \$100 room deposit is required and will be refunded (in full or in part) if the room is kept clean on a daily basis – with the furnishings in proper order – and if the student has not incurred other outstanding debt.

Responsibility and Liability

This program is managed by Brigham Young University and its Jerusalem Center for Near Eastern Studies. They have made all arrangements for accommodations and services furnished in connection with this program. The Jerusalem Center, as the principal, shall be responsible to the participant for supplying the services and accommodations offered to the participant as set forth in this publication, except to the extent such services or accommodations cannot be supplied due to delays or other such causes beyond the control of the Jerusalem Center. In such event, the Jerusalem Center will use its best efforts to supply comparable services and accommodations, but provide no refund.

The Jerusalem Center, in the absence of negligence on its part, shall not be responsible for any delay, substitution of equipment, change in services or accommodations, or any act or omission whatsoever by the air carrier or by any hotel, guest house, car supplier, or any of their employees or agents. The Jerusalem Center shall not be liable for any death, nor for any damages or claims arising from negligence of any person not its employee, nor under its exclusive control. (See Part 6 of the APPLICATION FOR ADMISSION.)

Notice

The BYU Jerusalem Center reserves the right to make changes or substitutions in the interest of the program or in order to meet unexpected changes such as increases in fares, accommodations, changes in currency rates, etc. No refunds will be made for accommodations or services included in the price which are not utilized during the program by the participant.

BYU reserves the right to cancel the program, if deemed necessary, for reasons including insufficient program participation and circumstances beyond the control of the Jerusalem Center, such as strikes, lockouts, riots, wars, or acts of God. In such an event, BYU shall have no responsibility beyond the refund of all deposits and monies paid to the Jerusalem Center by the participants. A refund will then be made to participants within 30 days.

How to Contact the Jerusalem Center Provo Office:

Bring in or send applications to: BYU Jerusalem Center, c/o BYU Conferences & Workshops
120 Harman Building (HCEB), Provo, UT 84602

Office Address: 301 HCEB, Provo, UT 84602

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