



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

**2020
Spring/Summer
Program**

(April 28 – August 13)

Applications accepted for priority placement:
Nov 4-15, 2019

Applications received after Nov 15 will be considered
on a space-available basis in the order received.

Program Features and Costs

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:

- Submission of application with \$150 deposit for placement on the program
- A personal interview for final acceptance
- Submission of required materials and payments by appropriate deadlines
- A mandatory orientation meeting in Provo the day prior to departure
- Group travel to/from Tel Aviv
- A rigorous study and field trip experience – Includes extended travel to sites in Jordan and Greece.

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 the program. Students are expected to participate in **all** of these activities, so be willing to commit to the entire package as outlined above **before** submitting an application.

Program Cost

Costs for the 2020 Spring/Summer Program are \$13,220 (\$10,325 for program fees and \$2895 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 \$400. The \$150 deposit paid at the time of application will be applied towards the total program cost.

All fees are quoted in U.S. dollars and are based on airfares, tariffs, accommodation rates, and rates of exchange quoted to the Jerusalem Center at the time of publication. These costs are expected to be in effect at the time of departure, but are subject to change. Any change in cost prior to departure made by the airlines, vendors, operators, etc., will be passed on to program participants.

Items Not Included in the Fees

Items not included are of a personal nature, such as excess baggage charges, 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 an average of \$500 for personal expenses.

Financial Aid

For this program, all students will receive a \$1500 Jerusalem Center grant towards the program fees to help offset the cost (with the exception outlined below). The application for additional Jerusalem Center funding is available on our website, and the deadline to apply is **Friday, January 10**. These additional grants are based on financial need, and all applicants must have FAFSA information for the 2019-20 academic year on file at BYU-Provo.

PLEASE NOTE: The \$1500 grant, and any additional grant, are made possible through generous donations by friends and former students of the Jerusalem Center. By donor stipulation, students who have additional funds for extended travel immediately following a Jerusalem Center program are not eligible to receive either Jerusalem Center award, and their funds should be given to others more in need. If any funds have been awarded and a student subsequently decides to travel on the way home, the grant(s) must be paid back. Students who travel home to a destination other than Salt Lake City are still eligible.

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.

Nov 4-15 (2019)	Applications accepted for priority placement.
December 13	Approximate date students will be notified of placement (by mail to the current address on the application).
January 10 (2020)	Deadline to apply for JC Financial Aid
January 24	\$1,000 payment and Forms Packet #1 due. Flight Confirmation and Passport info also due. (BYU scholarships, JC and government financial aid cannot be used as a credit towards this \$1,000 payment). \$50 late fee if submitted after this date.
January 31	If \$1,000 payment and forms not received, student may be cancelled.
February 7	Approximate date students will be notified of JC Financial Aid.
March 20	Final payment, verification of financial aid coming, Forms Packet #2, and photos due. \$50 late fee after this date.
March 27	If final payment, forms, and photos not received, student may be cancelled.
April 21	Spring tuition amount due (BYU tuition deadline)
April 27	Mandatory orientation meeting at BYU in Provo. Noon-5 pm
April 28	Group departure from Salt Lake City
June 16	Summer tuition amount due (BYU tuition deadline)
August 13	Group return from Tel Aviv

Admissions Criteria

- Eligibility is limited to continuing full-time students currently enrolled in a first undergraduate program at either BYU or BYU-Idaho at the time of application, prior to, and during the program. (This means attending at least two semesters in each academic year.)
- In general, the Admissions Committee must be able to review successful completion of at least two semesters of full-time study prior to an interview for final acceptance. Please note the following:
 - Enrollment in online courses, AP and other “earned” credit does not count towards this requirement.
 - Full-time enrollment in online courses does not meet this requirement.
 - Transfer credit from full-time attendance at another university can be counted; however, transfer students must be in-residence at BYU or BYU-I at the time of application, completing at least one semester of full-time study prior to final acceptance.
- An applicant’s **current AND cumulative** GPA from on-campus courses (not including transfer credit, graded language exam credit or graded independent study credit) must be at least 2.5.
- Applicants must be progressing towards their first undergraduate degree and be in good standing (no academic or Honor Code warning, probation, etc.)
- Applicants must sign the Center’s non-proselytizing agreement; agree to abide by the BYU Code of Honor and Dress & Grooming Standards as well as any other special rules governing conduct and appearance while enrolled in a Jerusalem Center Program; meet the 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 (*November 4-15*). 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, applicants 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, remaining applications will be returned. Applications received

after the application window will be considered on a space-available basis and in the order received. There are separate lists for men and women; therefore, the need for a random draw 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 (*during January/February*). Applicants 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. Applicants placed on the waiting list may also be interviewed as needed, or as space becomes available.

Policies and Standards

Cancellation Policy

- Cancellation after placement on 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.
- Failure to meet appropriate deadlines could result in the student's cancellation.
- If an airline ticket has been finalized prior to cancelling, a ticket cancellation fee will be assessed (currently \$300). At this point, the airfare may also be non-refundable.
- Cancelling within two weeks prior to departure requires a \$100 cancellation fee. Charges for room may also be assessed, along with any other costs already encumbered.
- Applications cannot transfer 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.

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. Please note that all applicants must complete a NEW (Level 2) ecclesiastical endorsement by both bishop and a member of the stake presidency.

Specific Jerusalem Center Standards

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. Jerusalem Center students need to adopt a modest look that will both set them apart and show respect.

Students must dress consistent with at least minimal standards of modesty in Jerusalem as outlined below:

IN GENERAL:

- The Center's dress standard is conservative and what might be termed "dressy casual." It is very important that clothing be loose-fitting and modest in terms of body coverage and style.
- In addition to the specifics detailed below, no tight, torn, grubby, stained or patched clothing is to be worn.

CLOTHING:

- Clothing with slogans, political statements, US flags or other US insignia are not allowed. Most brand names and school logos are okay.
- All blouses, shirts, and tops must be loose-fitting and modest. They must have sleeves that cover the upper arm with the length closer to the elbow than the shoulder. All tops must cover in front to at least the collar bone. Cotton or cotton-blend fabrics are strongly recommended.

- Pants, for both men and women, must fit at the waist and come down to the ankle. Pants cuffed at the ankle, capris, low-rise, “skinny” or excessively baggy pants are not permitted. Leggings and tights are considered to be stockings, and if worn, must be covered to mid-calf by a skirt. Jeans are acceptable as long as they are not ripped, worn out, or shabby looking. Cotton or cotton-blends are preferred and strongly recommended. Shorts can be worn only on a limited basis for gym use or as a cover-up for bathing suits in Galilee, at the Dead Sea, etc.
- Skirts and dresses should be loose-fitting and reach to below the knee in length. Dress tops must be loose fitting with appropriate sleeve length.

FOOTWEAR AND SWIMWEAR:

- No bare feet at any time in the Center, except in student rooms. Sandals and “flip flops” can be worn, but must be kept on the foot at all times. Good walking shoes with closed toes are required on all field trips.
- For women, no two-piece swimming suits; for men, no speedo-type suits. Swimwear must be modest in fabric, fit, and style and may be worn in swimming areas only. Sunbathing is not allowed at the Center.

HEADWEAR:

- No extreme haircuts or colorings.
- Head covers (e.g., caps and hats) are not permitted in classrooms, the dining area (the Oasis), or in the Upper Auditorium. Hooded sweatshirts or jackets (“hoodies”) are permitted, but hoods must not be worn in the Center.

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 Jerusalem Center standards.

Behavior & Dating

Activities and behavior must be consistent with high standards of taste and decency. Be aware that any public displays 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.**

Proselytizing is defined as any activity that could be construed as aimed at including, encouraging or leading people in Israel to investigate any religion for possible conversion are strictly contrary to the desires of the government and people of Israel and to the commitments made by BYU, The Jerusalem Center, and The Church. Students must agree to not distribute, either directly, by mail or by Internet, any materials pertaining to the Church or its doctrines within Israel or Palestine. It is not permitted to discuss the Church or its doctrines or answer any questions regarding the Church or its doctrines with individuals who reside in the Holy Land or who may be visiting there. Guests who are not LDS are not permitted to attend Church services held in the Holy Land. If asked questions about the Church, students must state that they are in the Holy Land on a study program and are not permitted to discuss the Church or its doctrines.

Infractions

Violations of Jerusalem Center policies can result in consequences related to missed privileges, forfeiture of the housing refund, and possible 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 their university 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. For registration purposes, the semester-long courses (15 credit hours) will be split evenly between the Spring and Summer terms (7.5 hours each). Class and field trip attendance is required.

1. Religion

Old Testament -- Religion 303 (3 credits)

New Testament -- Religion 311 (3 credits)

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 credits)

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 credits)

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 credits)

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 credit)

Field trips correlated with classroom study to maximize the advantage of on-site learning.

3. Language

Introduction to Arabic -- Arabic 100 (1 credit)

Introduction to Hebrew -- Hebrew 100 (1 credit)

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 are taught by local native-speaking instructors, and are graded pass/fail.

Forum Assemblies

Every Wednesday evening, the Center hosts a distinguished guest who will speak to students about a topic of current interest. Attendance at these outstanding lectures is mandatory and is an important part of the Jerusalem Center experience.

Enrollment Agreement

Students from BYU-I will need to sign and process an ENROLLMENT AGREEMENT FORM (provided at placement). These students will be registered as Continuing Education (CE) students only, with no expectation of admission to BYU-Provo in the future unless officially accepted through the BYU admissions process.

General Education Credit

- The New Testament course taught at the Center fulfills the BYU-Provo New Testament requirement.
- The Old Testament course taught at the Center fulfills three of the six required, non-specific BYU-Provo religion credits.

- BYU-Provo students who successfully complete the two Modern Near Eastern courses (NES 347R and NES 349R) will automatically meet the requirement for “Global and Cultural Awareness”.
- BYU-Provo students who successfully complete the Ancient Near Eastern Studies course (NES 336R) will automatically receive three hours of “Letters” credit.
- BYU-Idaho students who successfully complete NES 336R, NES 347R, and NES 349R will receive five credit hours to satisfy the Foundations of Humanities requirements (2018 Catalog and prior) or the Arts and Humanities requirement for General Education (2019 Catalog and future) at BYU-I.

Travel Information

Flight Arrangements

Group travel arrangements will be made by the Jerusalem Center Office, and students are not allowed to arrange for their own air travel. **There are 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. The only exception is if parents pick up their student in Jerusalem on the day prior to departure.

Luggage

Each person is limited to one checked bag, one carry-on bag, and one personal item (purse, camera bag, etc.). Details about limits on size and weight will be provided after placement. A back-pack will be provided by the Jerusalem Center to be used for academic purposes and for week-long excursions. It can be used as the carry-on piece of luggage, but is too large to be a “personal item.”

Individual Activities and Travel

Students are encouraged to see as much of Jerusalem as possible during their stay; however, free time will be structured. No one is allowed to leave the Center alone (students 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. Students do not need a visa to enter the country, and all in-country visa requirements and processes are handled by the Jerusalem Center.

Miscellaneous

Health

The Jerusalem Center cannot be responsible for financial obligations because of illness 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 consult with the Jerusalem Center Office prior to submitting an application. (See Part 3 of the APPLICATION FOR ADMISSION.)

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 counselling or psychiatric services and treatment for pre-existing medical conditions are not covered by this insurance. If these services are required during the program, the student must cover all costs. Provisions of the policy are available upon request.

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 \$400 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 any outstanding debt. Forfeiture of the housing refund could also be a result of policy violations.

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.

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 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 our control. 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 APPLICATION Part 6).

Contact Information for Jerusalem Center Provo Office:

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