

Jordan



Short-term Faculty-led Study Away Program • Summer Intersession • May 19-June 9, 2012

Course Name:

Jordan Archaeology Field School

Course Number: **HST 574/674**

Credit hours: **3** (undergraduate or graduate)

Location: **Northern Jordan Project**, villages of al-Shajrah and Kharjah

Program Highlights

- Participate in a "live" archaeological research project with an international, interdisciplinary team
- Work with environmental scientists and learn new skills
- Experience ethnographic work in a "live" Jordanian village
- Expand your knowledge through weekend excursions to sites in northern and central Jordan, such as:
 - Roman towns of Umm Qeis, Umm al-Jimal and Jerash
 - the medieval "desert castles" and Ajlun Castle
 - the Ottoman town of Salt
 - the modern metropolis of Amman
 - tells of the Madaba Plains
 - the Jordan Valley, Mt. Nebo and the Dead Sea
- Brush up on or learn new Arabic language skills
- Hike in some of the most striking landscapes of the Middle East

Estimated Cost: **\$2,505**

Includes: airfare, ground transportation, a room in a furnished apartment in Irbid (with utilities), weekend excursions, entrance fees to archaeological sites and museums, small tools and supplies for fieldwork, Study Away student fee and medical emergency fund. Separated costs not available.

Excludes: MSU tuition for 3 hours of undergraduate or graduate credit; board; passport & visa fees; immunizations; misc. personal expenses

Nonrefundable deposit due with Program Application by Dec. 9, 2011:
\$375 (will be billed to your student account)

Airfare due by Jan. 17, 2012: \$1,500
Also by this date, you must have your passport in hand and submit Jordanian Department of Antiquities security forms, plus 2 visa-size color photos, to Professor Walker.

Balance of program fee due by March 1, 2012: \$630

Informational Q&A Session:

4:00-5:00 p.m., Tues., Oct. 4, 2011
Strong Hall 205

Pre-travel Orientation/Training Sessions:

4 p.m., Thurs., Jan. 19, 2012

4 p.m., Tues., Jan. 24, 2012

Location TBA

Depart Springfield for Amman, Jordan:

Sat., May 19, 2012

Depart Amman for Springfield:

Sat., June 9, 2012

Post-travel Meeting; Journal & Essay Due:
Date, time & location TBA

Interested in going?

For more information, contact Dr. Bethany Walker, Professor of Middle Eastern History and Islamic Archaeology: **836-5099** or BethanyWalker@missouristate.edu



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Study Away!

Missouri State University Study Away Programs

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Course Overview

This program is a 3-week archaeological field school in Jordan, part of the continuing Northern Jordan Project (NJP). Launched in 2003, the NJP is an international, interdisciplinary archaeological-environmental project that investigates the relationships between village communities and their land from the Middle Ages through the present day.

It is based in the well-watered highlands of Northern Jordan, near the Sea of Galilee. The 2012 survey season will take place in the two "sister" villages of al-Shajrah and Kharjah, which face each other across the breathtaking Wadi Shallala. This land has been used for settlement, farming and burial of the dead since Roman times and is rich in archaeological sites.

Outside of daytime fieldwork, the academic program consists of afternoon labs for artifact processing and evening classes. Classes are led by Project staff and Yarmouk University faculty on a variety of topics that support the archaeological research, such as medieval and Ottoman history, traditional Jordanian village life, and climate and environmental science. Private tutoring in Arabic language can be arranged upon request.

Participants will stay in fully furnished faculty apartments on the Yarmouk University campus in Irbid, a college town and second largest city in Jordan. While you will live in the city, you will be doing archaeological fieldwork each day in a nearby village, experiencing the great diversity and richness of Jordanian culture in the process.

Weekend excursions will take you to some of the most important archaeological and cultural sites and most beautiful natural wonders of the country.

For more information about the project, visit <http://clio.missouristate.edu/bwalker/default.html>

Course Objectives

It is the primary goal of this course to introduce students to a wide range of archaeological techniques through interdisciplinary field work and classes. Students will gain experience in archaeological survey and affiliated methods in environmental science and ethnography, working closely with an international team of specialists in various fields.

The course also aims to enrich the cross-cultural experience. Participants will be immersed in Jordanian culture by living in a college town and working in two villages.

Weekend tours will expose participants to a great variety of landscapes and cultures. Students with previous coursework in Arabic language will have ample opportunity to put to use and further develop their language skills, and those with no previous training can be tutored and learn a new skill.

Jordan has for centuries been at the crossroads of some of the world's greatest empires and has a rich and very diverse cultural heritage. It is a stable and friendly country and the ideal setting for an introduction to Middle Eastern culture.

Course Schedule & Itinerary

The program schedule consists of a 5-day (Sun.-Thurs.) work week, dedicated to field work (6 am-noon); afternoon labs for pottery washing, reading and artifact processing (4-6 pm); and evening lectures 3 days per week (7 pm). All participants are off on Fridays. Group tours are held on Saturdays. The first is a tour of the Decapolis and Roman sites of northern Jordan (Umm Qeis, Umm al-Jimal, Jerash). The second targets the tell sites of central Jordan, such as Tall Hisban, with down-time in the Jordanian capital of Amman and the old Christian town of Madaba. The final excursion explores the eastern steppes and deserts and the medieval castles of Qasr Kharana and Ajlun.

Course Credit & Requirements

Students receive 3 hours of either undergraduate credit (HST 574) or graduate credit (HST 674) for satisfactory completion of the program. There are no prerequisites for the course, although previous coursework in World history, Middle East history or Middle East Studies, archaeology or anthropology, or Arabic language is highly recommended. All majors are welcome. No previous field experience is necessary: students will receive training "in the field" in Jordan.

Required Texts

Excavation Manual: *Madaba Plains Project* (\$10, loose-leaf) — order from publisher at: <http://www.andrews.edu/archaeology/pubs/books/manual.html>. All other readings will be provided electronically to students through the course Blackboard site.

Assessment of learning

Students will be assessed through both hands-on fieldwork and traditional in-class assignments. Grades are based on:

- Performance in fieldwork and careful completion of field notes
- Evening lecture attendance and notes
- Academic journal and post-travel essay

Application & Payment Procedures:

Missouri State University students who are approved by the Program Director may apply. Instructions are included on program application. A **non-refundable deposit of \$375** will be billed to your student account upon application. Airfare of \$1,500 will be billed on Jan. 17, 2012, and the balance of the program cost will be billed to your account on March 1, 2012.

The published program cost is based on rates in effect on the publication date of this flyer and may be subject to change.

Program participants agree to a potential increase of up to 10% in the program fee if costs increase before or during travel.

Cancellation & Refund Policies:

- Students who withdraw prior to Jan. 1, 2012 will receive a refund of fees paid, less the \$375 deposit and any non-refundable purchases made on his/her behalf.
- If a student is forced to withdraw after Jan. 1, 2012 for a bona fide medical reason, s/he will receive a refund of fees paid, less the \$375 deposit and expenses. Certificate of incapacitating illness or injury from a licensed physician required.
- Students withdrawing voluntarily after Jan. 1, 2012, or withdrawing due to medical reasons not protected under the fees refund policy, receive no refund.
- Once the program has started, there will be no refunds under any circumstances.
- All notifications of withdrawal must be made in writing and sent to the Program Director and to Elizabeth Strong at the Study Away Office, Jim D. Morris Center, Suite 403. **Non-payment of fees does not guarantee automatic withdrawal.**
- Any plans by a participant not to travel and return with the group must also be submitted in writing to the Program Director and the Study Away Office.
- The program will be cancelled if enrollment is fewer than 15 participants. In this event, students will receive a full refund.

Voucher Eligibility & Financial Aid

If you entered MSU as a freshman in 2009 or 2010, you may use the **Study Away \$500 voucher**. Students who receive financial aid through MSU may apply that aid to the program, if eligible. Contact the Office of Financial Aid at **836-5262** for more information.