

Wheaton College SEMESTER IN JERUSALEM

SEMESTER IN JERUSALEM is a Wheaton College faculty-led spring semester program where a cohort of students study and engage with modern Middle East and ancient Biblical narratives.



Tentative Program Dates

Wheaton College plans to explore the possibility of offering the program in fall 2025 if conditions in Israel allow.

Location

Students reside and study at Jerusalem University College in Jerusalem, the cradle of ancient civilizations and one of the most vibrant cultural and religious communities in the world. Jerusalem has played a major role in world events for centuries—it is a city of religious and political significance. The JUC campus is nestled atop Mount Zion next to the Old City. In addition to classroom work at JUC, the program includes field studies to historical, cultural, religious, and political sites throughout Israel and (travel permitting) the West Bank territories and into Jordan.



Program Extension

Part of the Journeys course will involve enhanced opportunities during the semester in Israel for learning and study. Depending on timing and travel restrictions, after studying at JUC the program *may* provide a debrief experience in an alternate location with a complementary environment for the group to synthesize the semester of study and conclude the CORE course.

Cost

Program costs are comparable to a full-time on-campus semester at Wheaton (full semester tuition and a program fee equivalent to on-campus housing and food costs) and cover program tuition, room and board, academic excursions, and transportation within the program. This does not cover passport, visa (if more than standard fee), airfare to/from the program, vaccinations or pre-program medical tests, field study fees for some elective courses, textbooks, and other personal expenses. A non-refundable deposit is collected after acceptance to the program and applied toward program tuition fees. Financial aid is available on the same basis as that of an on-campus semester when CPOS requirements are met.

Requirements and Pre-Requisites

Students must be undergraduates in good academic and judicial standing and have at least a 2.5 GPA. All program participants must register for GPS 231: Orientation to Study Abroad (2 hrs.) offered during the semester prior to the program. It is recommended (but not required) that students complete either BITH 211: OT Literature and Interpretation or BITH 213: NT Literature and Interpretation prior to the program.



Courses

Students earn 14-17 credit hours during the program. Many courses are accepted for major or minor elective credit by the related academic department(s) and some fulfill CATC thematic core tags. Courses are taught at Jerusalem University College by noted Israeli and Palestinian professors from local universities who are experts in their fields. Students also take an integrative course taught by the Faculty Leader in residence.

Students complete the following required courses:

- GPS 306: Physical Settings of the Bible (4 hrs.) **HP**
- CORE 367: The Holocaust and the Holy Land: A Literary Exploration (4 hrs.) **AIS/GP/LE**

Elective courses (students choose two or three):

Fall 2025 Courses

- GPS 318: Biblical Archaeology I (3 hrs.)
 GPS 311: History of Ancient Israel (3 hrs.)
 GPS 308: History of the Church in the East (3 hrs.)
 GPS 312: Qumran and the Dead Sea Scrolls (3 hrs.)
 GPS 313: History of the Jews during the Medieval and Modern Periods (3 hrs.)
 GPS 403: Iconographic Art in Judaism and Early Christianity* (3 hrs.) **VPAV**
 GPS 3XX: Life and Times of Paul** (3 hrs.)
 GPS 316: Introduction to the Modern Middle East (3 hrs.)
 GPS 317: Palestinian Society and Politics (3 hrs.) **SI**
 GPS 402: Readings in Historical and Geographical Texts*** (3 hrs.)

**Course offering is subject to sufficient student enrollment and instructor availability*

***Course requires review/approval at Wheaton College*

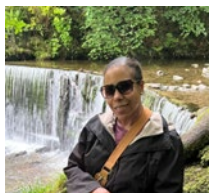
****HEBR 102 is a prerequisite for this course*



Major/Minor Elective Credits (beginning with the 2023–24 catalog*)

Course Title	ANTH ¹	ARCH ²	BITH ³	IR/PSCI/PACS ⁴	PPE	PHIL	GEOL	HIST ⁵	ART
Physical Settings of the Bible	X	X	X				X		
Biblical Archaeology I		X							
History of Ancient Israel		X	X						
History of the Church in the East			X					X	
Qumran and the Dead Sea Scrolls			X						
History of the Jews during the Medieval and Modern Periods				X				X	
Iconographic Art (subject to availability)									X
Life and Times of Paul (pending approval)			X						
Introduction to the Modern Middle East				X					
Palestinian Society and Politics	X			X					
Readings in Historical and Geographical Texts			X						

Contact GPS regarding program course application to a specific major/minor/certificate. The chart above should be used as a guide for students as some courses do not automatically count toward a major or minor.



Faculty Leader

Dr. Dyanne Martin, Assistant Professor of English and Education

For further information

Contact GPS at Semester.in.Jerusalem@wheaton.edu



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