

BBBW5200 ENCOUNTERING THE BIBLICAL WORLD

R. Dennis Cole

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2 sem hours

Spring 2016

Tu-Th 800-850am

Catalog Description:

A survey is undertaken of a wide range of materials and issues related to the background of the Old and New Testaments, including: archaeology, historical geography, religion, manners and customs, economics, social concerns, and the literature of the ancient Near East and the Greco-Roman world. The course is designed to help students bridge the temporal and cultural gaps between contemporary society and the historical eras of the Bible.

NOBTS Mission - The mission of New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary is to equip leaders to fulfill the Great Commission and the Great Commandments through the local church and its ministries.

Student Learning Outcomes: In order to interpret and communicate the Bible accurately, the student, by the end of the course should:

1. Be able to apply their knowledge and comprehension of the background of the Bible including: archaeology, historical geography, religion, manners and customs, historical and social setting, and the literature of the ancient world to the process of interpreting and communicating the Bible accurately.
2. Value the necessity of bridging the temporal and cultural gaps between contemporary society and the biblical period.
3. Be able to identify the physical geographical elements of the land of Israel and the Ancient Near East.
4. Be able to locate the site of significant Biblical events of the Old and New Testaments

NOBTS CORE VALUES

Doctrinal Integrity: Knowledge and Practice of the Word of God

Characteristic Excellence: Pursuit of God's Revelation with Diligence

Spiritual Vitality: Transforming Power of God's Word

MISSION FOCUS: 2015-16 Emphasis – Highlighting the Message of God's

Blessing through Abraham and his descendants, His call for Israel to be Light to the Nations

Textbooks

Holman Bible Atlas by Thomas Brisco. (Broadman & Holman Publishers, 1998) **HBA**

Readings From the Ancient Near East by Bill T. Arnold and Bryan E. Beyer (Baker, 2002)

RANE

English Bible (preferably NASB, NKJV, NRSV, TNIV, ESV, HCSB)

Course Evaluation:

Sectional Tests (3)	20%	each	TAKEN ONLINE ON BLACKBOARD
Project	20%		
Reading	5%		
Map Quizzes (5)	15%		TAKEN ONLINE ON BLACKBOARD

SEE DUE DATES ON COURSE SCHEDULE BELOW

Note the dates for the Sectional tests and the Final Exam. Exceptions must be OK'd by the professor prior to Testing (Final Exam by Registrar). The reading evaluation will come in the form of a question on the final exam as the percentage of the required reading (noted on the course schedule below) you have completed. Each student is to keep a reading log of additional outside reading (beyond the requirements). This log is to be submitted on either the last day of class or at the final exam.

BIBLE SOFTWARE

Each student should acquire a Bible Software program, with one required for those in a specific Biblical Studies degree (like the MA in Biblical Studies, or the MDiv in Biblical Studies or Biblical Languages). The following are recommended by the Biblical Studies Division: Logos, BibleWorks, and Accordance. For those not majoring in biblical studies or in a Biblical Studies degree program, a free program from online can be used such as <http://mywsb.com> , <http://crosswire.org> and <http://www.e-sword.net> . Please consult with the professor if you have questions on this, and know that special discounts on the three major programs are available for NOBTS students.

COURSE PROJECT Due Date: THURSDAY, May 5 11:59pm

“Embedded Assignment”

Option One — Research Paper (Length 10-12 pages, dbl space, 12 pt font)

Research the history, archaeology, and identification of one of the following sites in Israel:

Megiddo	Debir	Sharuhen	Emmaus	Gilgal
Beersheba	Ai & Bethel	Gerar	Cana of Galilee	Ashdod
Ebenezer	Gath	Ekron	Ziklag	Gezer
Jericho	Beth Shean	Jezreel	Hebron	Kh. Qumran
Nazareth	Taanach	Herodian	Beth Shemesh	Aphek/Antipatris

The following elements should be researched in order to complete the project:

Suggested Tel Identification(s) - History

Biblical Data

Historical Data (non-biblical records)

Geographical and Topographical Data

Archaeological Data

Option Two — Teaching / Sermon Illustrations

Develop ten sermon/teaching illustrations related to **10** different passages of the Old and New Testaments, utilizing historical and archaeological materials gained from this class and/or your own reading and research. Emphasis could be on geographical factors (Paul's journeys), archaeological artifacts (iconography, wine press, water systems), social setting, etc. Each illustration should be given verbatim (single space), along with the basic sermon outline with biblical passage, theme, and a brief description of how this illustration would be used in the presentation setting. (estimated 1 to 1.5 pg per sermon illustration = ~250-350 words ea.).

Online Research through our Library

See the following URL for resources in online research:
<http://www.nobts.edu/Library/Default.html>

<i>Biblical Archaeology Review</i> (BAR)	<i>Archaeology</i>
<i>Bulletin of the American Schools of Oriental Research</i> (BASOR)	<i>Iraq</i>
<i>Palestine Exploration Quarterly</i> (PEQ)	<i>Levant</i> (LEV)
<i>Biblical Archaeologist</i> (BA), now <i>Near Eastern Archaeology</i>	<i>Biblical Illustrator</i>
<i>Revue de Qumran</i> (RQ)	<i>Archaeology Odyssey</i>
<i>Israel Exploration Journal</i> (IEJ)	
<i>Anatolian Studies</i> (AnSt)	

Note: The RUBRIC for grading/evaluation of this project is posted in the “Course Documents” section of Blackboard for this course.

MAP ASSIGNMENTS: GEOGRAPHY OF ISRAEL & THE ANCIENT NEAR EAST

MAP I QUIZ #1 GEOGRAPHY OF ISRAEL DUE FEBRUARY 6

Learn the following Geographical Features from **HBA 13 (Map 7)**, and others.

You also may need to consult other Bible maps for some locations.

Hill Country (Judah)	Galilee	Golan Heights
Hill Country (Samaria)	Bashan	Gilead
Sharon Plain	Arabah	Mt. Ebal
Wilderness of Judah	Plain of Philistia (Coastal)	Nahal Lachish
Shephelah (of Judah)	Jezreel Valley (Esdraelon)	Great Sea
Dead Sea	Sea of Chinnereth	Mount Hermon
Mt. Carmel	Mt. Tabor	Hill of Moreh
Mt. Gilboa	Nahal Beersheba	Gerar Brook
Yarkon River	Yarmuk River	Jordan River
Arnon River	Jabbok River	Wadi Zered
Sorek River	Nahal Besor	Kishon River (Brook)
Elah Valley (Nahal)	Ammon	Edom
King's Highway	Way to Beth-Horon	Mt. Gerizim
Moab	Wadi Far'ah	Jabesh River
Way of the Land of the Philistines = Way of the Sea = Via Maris (Roman Name)		

MAP QUIZ #2— ANCIENT NEAR EAST DUE FEBRUARY 27

Learn the following Cities, Regions (Countries), and Geographical Features
 From **HBA: 4 (Map 3), 5 (Maps 4), 9 (Map 5), 11 (Map 6), et al.**
 You may also need to consult other Bible maps for some locations

Cities, Regions/Countries			Geographical Features
Thebes	Egypt	Tyre	Tigris River
Memphis	Babylonia	Nuzi	Euphrates River
Ebla	Assyria	Babylon	Orontes River
Mari	Cyprus	Sumer	Zagros Mts.
Haran	Canaan	Hittites	Taurus Mts.
Ugarit	Phoenicia	Akkad	Nile River
Damascus	Sinai	Persia	Habur River
Ur	Carchemish	Hattusas	Ararat Mts.
Sidon	Elam	Avaris	Mt. Seir
Arabia	Nineveh	Aram-Naharaim	Arabah
Urartu (Ararat)	Cyprus	Sinai Wilderness	Shur Wilderness

MAP QUIZ #3 ISRAEL & CANAAN CITIES DUE MARCH 23
CHALCOLITHIC BRONZE IRON AGES
CANAAN & ISRAEL

Beth Shean	Laish (Dan)	Ai
Megiddo	Hazor	Jerusalem
Tirzah	Ashkelon	Mizpah (Mizpeh)
Shechem	Hamath Gader	Pella
Gezer	Ashdod	Abel Beth-Maacah
Beth Shemesh (Sorek Valley)	Kiriath-jearim	Yavneh
Lachish	Taanach	Bab edh-Dhra
Dothan	Zoar	Yarmuth (Jarmuth)
Arad	Hebron	Beersheba
En Gedi	Mareshah	Aphek (E of Joppa)
Bethel	Gerar	Succoth (Deir 'Alla)
Jezreel	Heshbon	Ashdod
Gath	En Gedi	Lachish
Zoar	Bethlehem	Samaria
Timnah (Sorek V.)	Aroer	Kedesh
Acco (Akko, Acre)	Rabbath-Ammon	Ekron
Nahariyah	Gaza	Gibeon
Abila	Chinnereth	Joppa
Dor	Debir (Tel Rabud)	Jericho
Dibon	Shiloh	Ibleam
Azekah	Gibeah	Yokneam (Jokneam)

MAP QUIZ #4 NT CITIES IN ISRAEL**DUE APRIL 16****NEW TESTAMENT ISRAEL - PALESTINE
HELLENISTIC-HASMONEAN-ROMAN BYZANTINE**

Abila (nr Yarmuk River)	Machaerus	Tiberias
Jamnia	Scythopolis (Beth Shean)	Mt. Gerizim
Tyre	Antipatris	Caesarea Philippi (Paneas)
Ptolemais (Acco)	Gamla	Jericho
Sepphoris	Azotus (Ashdod)	Kh. Qumran
Ascalon (Ashkelon)	En Gedi	Aelia Capitolina
Gadara	Bethlehem	Herodium (Herodian)
Caesarea Maritima	Joppa	Nazareth
Pella	Modin	Jerusalem
Gerasa	Bethsaida	Sychar
Masada	Sebaste (Samaria)	Philadelphia (R.-Ammon)
Capernaum	Magdala	Chorazin

MAP QUIZ #5**DUE MAY 7****NEW TESTAMENT - MEDITERRANEAN WORLD**Regions & Islands

Italy
Cyrenaica
Cilicia
Galatia
Achaia
Macedonia
Cappadocia
Malta
Crete
Africa
Aegyptica
Sicily
Syria

Cities

Alexandria	Cyrene	Paphos
Fair Havens	Tarsus	Antioch (Syria, Orontes)
Ephesus	Smyrna	Philadelphia
Sardis	Pergamum	Thyatira
Salamis	Colossae	Laodicea
Philippi	Thessalonika	Iconium
Corinth	Miletus	Ostia
Syracuse	Troas	Rome
Athens	Carthage	Antioch (Pisidia)
Petra	Damascus	Berea

COURSE SCHEDULE

- JAN 19** **Introduction to Course & to Biblical Archaeology**
The Birth of a Discipline; Development of Methodology
HBA: 29-32
- 21** **Archaeology & Biblical Studies**
Science & Art: Two Fields Converging and Diverging
- 26** **Geographical Overview of Israel - Palestine**
Least Among the Nations — A Well-Watered Land
HBA: 12-24
- 28** **Geographical Overview of Egypt & Mesopotamia**
“The Gift of the Nile” and the Territorial Origins of the Patriarchs
HBA: 3-11
- FEB 2** **Beginnings of Civilization: Neolithic and Chalcolithic Periods**
Agricultural Revolution and the Advent of Religious Cultures in the ANE
HBA: 33-35
- 4** **Early Bronze Age in Egypt & Mesopotamia: Urbanization & Social Structures**
The Age of the Pyramids and the Great Sumerian City-States
HBA: 35-40 Gen 1-11
- FEB 6** **MAP QUIZ #1 DUE FEB 6 midnight ONLINE**
- 9** **MARDI GRAS – NO CLASSES**
- 16** **Literary Traditions: Religious, Political--Historical, Economic**
Emergence of Writing Systems and the Development of Literary Traditions
- 16** **Genesis vs. ANE Creation Mythology Read Genesis 1-3**
Comparisons and Contrasts; Modern Approaches to Earth Beginnings
RANE #4-6, 8-9, 12-13
- 18** **Sacrificial Systems in the Ancient Near East**
Worship Systems in the ANE Read Leviticus 1-27
Read: **ZPEB 5:194-211 “Sacrifice and Offerings” *** copy on Blackboard**
- 23** **The Israelite Holy Days Calendar Read handout +**
“Calendar(s)” in ZPEB and ABD ***
*****ZPEB = Zondervan Pictorial Encyclopedia of the Bible**
*****ABD = Anchor Bible Dictionary**
- 25** **Middle Bronze Age in the ANE: Setting of the Biblical Patriarchs**
The Flourishing of Urban Canaanite Culture
The Hyksos in Egypt

HBA: 41-51 Genesis 12-50 RANE #14-16, 18, 21-26, 30

27 MAP QUIZ #2 DUE FEB 27 midnight ONLINE

**MAR 2 SECTIONAL TEST #1
DUE WEDNESDAY MARCH 2 Night 1159p ONLINE**

- MAR 1 Patriarchal Customs and Religious Practices**
“Our forefathers were wandering Aramaeans
- 3 The Political Setting of the Exodus from Egypt**
“There arose a Pharaoh who know not Joseph
HBA: 52-62 Exodus 1-11 RANE #17, 27-29, 31-32, 55
- 8 The Exodus from Egypt and the Journey to Sinai**
From the Sea to Mountain Majesty
HBA: 63-74 Exodus 12-21
- 10 Conquest and Settlement of the Promised Land**
Biblical, Archaeological, and Historical data
HBA: 75-88 Numbers 1,9-26,31-35; Joshua 1-24 RANE #50

MARCH 13-19 FALL BREAK

MARCH 23 MAP QUIZ #3

- MAR 23 The Period of the Judges of Israel**
“Everyone did what was right in his own eyes
HBA: 89-96 Judges 1-21
- 25 The Emergence of the Israelite Monarchy: Samuel, Saul, & David**
“We will have a king over us that we may be like all the nations
HBA: 97-102 1 Samuel 1-31
- 30 Samuel, Saul, & David (cont.)**
- April 1 The United Monarchy**
Glorious Kingdom but Seeds of Discontent
HBA: 102-114 2 Samuel 1-12, 1 Kings 1-11 RANE #51-54, 599
- 6 Divided Kingdom Period To the Fall of Samaria**
“Thus the king did evil in the eyes of the LORD more than all the kings before...”
HBA: 115-141 1 Kings 12 - 2 Kings 17 RANE #39-43, 56-58
- 8 The Judahite Kingdom 2 Kings 18-25 From Hope to Despair**
HBA: 142-157

APRIL 9 SECTIONAL TEST #2 DUE

- 13 **Restoration & Prospects for the Kingdom**
 “Now in the first year of King Cyrus . . .
 HBA: 158-173 2 Chronicles 36 - Ezra & Nehemiah
- 15 **Late Persian & Hellenistic Periods Transformation**
 Temple State, Land Grants, & the Fragmentation of Jewish Religious Life

MAP QUIZ #4 DUE APRIL 16

- 20 **In the Days of Herod & Rome**
 HBA: 174-201 Read Dead Sea Scrolls handouts
- 22 **Jesus in Galilee: Cultural & Geographical Setting**
 “Follow me and I will make you fishers of men”
 HBA: 207-235 Matthew 1-20
- 27 **Jesus in Jerusalem: Cultural & Geographical Setting**
 “My House shall be called a House of Prayer”
 HBA: 223-235 Matthew 16-20
- 29 **The Death and Resurrection of Jesus**
 “*This is Jesus of Nazareth, the King of the Jews*
 Matthew 21-28; Luke 19-24

- MAY 3 & 5 The Greco-Roman World and the Expansion of Christianity**
 “*So being sent by the Holy Spirit they went down to Seleucia, and from there they sailed to Cyprus*”
 HBA: 236-276 Acts 1-28

MAY 5 **PAPERS & PROJECTS DUE MIDNIGHT**

MAY 7 MAP QUIZ #5 DUE MAY 7

MAY 10 FINAL EXAM ONLINE DUE 4:00 PM

*****Graduating Seniors must take the Final Exam by 12:00 NOON*****

SELECTED BIBLIOGRAPHY

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- Kenyon, Kathleen. *Archaeology in the Holy Lands*. NY: Nelson (reprinted), 1960, 1985.
- Kramer, Samuel Noah, ed. *Mythologies of the Ancient World*. Garden City: Doubleday, 1961.
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eds. E. Stern, et al. Simon and Schuster, 1992.
- The Oxford Encyclopedia of the Archaeology in the Near East*.
eds. E. Meyers, et al. Oxford, 1997.
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Edited by Clinton A. Arnold. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2002.
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ARCHAEOLOGICAL PERIODS IN ISRAEL / PALESTINE

?????-10,000	Paleolithic - Mesolithic
10,000-8500	Mesolithic - Natufian (?)
c.8500-4300	Neolithic
4300-3300	Chalcolithic
3300-2300	Early Bronze
{2300-2000}	Intermediate Bronze (EBIV/MBIA)}
2300-1550	Middle Bronze
1550-1200	Late Bronze
1200-1000	Iron I
1000-586	Iron II
586-332	Persian (Iron III)
332-63 (37)	Hellenistic/Hasmonean
63 (37)BC-70AD	Herodian (Early Roman I)
70-324	Late Roman (II)
324-640	Byzantine
640-1099	Early Arab/Moslem
1099-1291	Crusader
1291-1917	Late Moslem / Arab (Mamlukes - Turkish)
1917-1948	British Mandate
1948-PRESENT	State of Israel (& Palestine)

A BRIEF HISTORICAL SKETCH OF ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESEARCH IN THE ANCIENT NEAR EAST

I. SURVEYS AND PILGRIMAGES

- A. **Helena**-mother of Constantine identified sites such as in Bethlehem with the Church of the Nativity and the Church of the Holy Sepulchre in Jerusalem.
- B. **Origen** (c.230-254) ("We have visited the places to learn by inquiry of the footsteps of Jesus and of his disciples and of the prophets.") + other C2-C3 AD church fathers note local traditions.
- C. **Eusebius** (c.325) - *Chronicle* of early searching for Holy places in Palestine --also in his *Onomasticon* (4th section of research on biblical geography, 1 - 3 are lost) lists alphabetically sites in Palestine w/ annotations.
- D. **Jerome** (c.385-420) Finished translation of Latin Vulgate at Bethlehem Church of Nativity and revised Eusebius' *Onomasticon*. Letters also mention sites.
- E. **Crusaders** - identified numerous sites and built churches on scores of them.

*** Some suggest that Thomas Jefferson may have been the first to carry out a form of scientific excavation, when in 1784 he dug a trench through an Indian mound on his Virginia property, noting layers (or strata) of bones and burial artifacts.

II. EMERGENCE OF EGYPTIAN AND MESOPOTAMIAN ARCHAEOLOGY

Beginnings of Methodological Excavation and Language Decipherment

A. EGYPT

18th Century

- 1. **Giovanni Belzoni** - plundered Egyptian tombs such as Abu Simbel, damaging many "unprofitable" items such as numerous mummies "to rob the Egyptians of their papyri" -- yet was considered somewhat scientific for his day.
- 2. **Napoleon** - 1790 took 175 scholars (architects, artists, historians, etc.) to Egypt with his army. 1799 - Rosetta stone found by artillery officers. Confiscated by the British. Opened hieroglyphics, with Demotic and Greek.
- 3. **Jean Francois Champollion** (Prof. of History and Oriental Languages at Grenoble at age 19) succeeded in deciphering the hieroglyphics. Published results.

19th Century

- 1. **Col. Richard W. H. Vyse** - used gunpowder to enter a pyramid in 1837.
- 2. **A.F.F. Mariette** (Fr)-collected manuscripts from Memphis, Gizeh sphinx, Tanis, Thebes. First to insist Egyptian authorities control excavation. Few still resorting to the use of gunpowder.

3. **Karl R. Lepsius** (Prussia) discovered Proto-Dynastic and Early Dynastic tombs and mastabas in Egypt, as well as Ptolemaic inscriptions.
4. **Gaston C.C. Maspero** (Fr) excavated pyramids & tombs of Pepi I, II, et al.
5. **Sir Flinders Petrie** - With British novelist Amelia Ann Stanford Edwards founded British School of Archaeology in Egypt (Egyptian Exploration Society). Appalled at the "excavation" methodology of his predecessors, Petrie developed more scientific approach (see below). Excavated Tel el-Hesi in SW Palestine in 1890. Moved to Palestine in 1926 BC due to difficulties in Egypt. Buried in Israel at Ecole Biblique.

B. MESOPOTAMIA AND ANATOLIA

17th - 18th Centuries

1. Cuneiform texts made their way to Europe (Br, Ger, Fr, Den, It) via diplomats, doctors, et al travelers, beginning in 1621.
2. Decipherment of cuneiform ("wedge-shaped" from Latin cuneus) was gradual and slow.

George F. Grotefend (a high school classics teacher, who was knowledgeable in Sanskrit and Pahlevi-desc. from Old Persian) deciphered some Old Persian names from inscriptions from Persepolis, which had been suggested as the capital of the ancient Achaemenid Empire. Yet cuneiform was far from translated. Persian modified cuneiform contained about 41 known symbols. Its cuneiform ancestors were such as Sumerian with 900+ pictographs which later became cuneiform representations; Old Babylonian (Semitic) of Hammurabi (c.1750 BC) with 600-700 signs; to Middle Babylonian with 350+; Elamite with 113 c.2500 BC; to 98 in Neo-Assyrian of 700 BC.

Sir Charles Rawlinson copied the Behistun inscription from the cliffs and worked on the basic decipherment from 1835 to 1851.

***** Note:** It is estimated that only about 20% of the more than 500,000 cuneiform tablets have yet been translated. e.g.- Donald J. Wiseman published some of the important Babylonian Chronicles (9 tablets) in 1956 and Esarhaddon's treaties (1958), 80 years after they were brought to the British Museum. Many thousands of others remain untouched after 100+ years.

19th Century

1. **C.J. Rich** - early 19th century. Excavated small tells near Baghdad and Kirkuk-Mosul.
2. **P.E. Botta** (Fr) - continued excavations at Mosul. Began at Nineveh.
3. **Sir Austen H. Layard** (Br) - Nineveh--Sennacherib's palace and Ashurbanipal's Palace and library (25,000 tablets). Nimrud--palaces of Ashurnasirpal, Shalmaneser II, Adadnirari, Esarhaddon (1845, 1852-53, 1878-82).

4. 1840-1850 - race between French and British to secure the most material national and personal museums. Untrained men plundered sites for whole pottery, solid objects, clay tablets, etc. Many damaged and lost, e.g.- Assyrian gate portal lost in Euphrates River.
5. **Hormuzd Rassam** and **Sir Henry C. Rawlinson** continued work for England. Rawlinson is known especially for his work in copying the Behistun inscription which led to the decipherment of cuneiform scripts (1837-).
6. **Victor Place** succeeded Botta in 1851, resumed excavation at Khorsabad palace of Sargon II.
7. **W. K. Loftus** excavated at Erech (Uruk, Warka) 1850, 1853-54) & later Larsa.
8. **Heinrich Schliemann** (Ger pastor) identified the mound of Hissarlik as Troy using Iliad as source text. Began digging 1870-72. With Wilhelm Dorpfeld (architect) published the first archaeological report, citing nine strata in the mound.
9. **E. de Sarzec** at Lagash. Rassam resumed work at Nineveh and Babylon.

20th Century

1. **Robert Koldewey** excavated at Babylon 1899-1917 (Iraq). Others continued work at Susa, Elam Lagash.
2. **Hugo Winckler** (Ger) began Hittite excavations at Boghazkoy (1906). Central Asia Minor (Turkey). Germans, Austrians, & Turks have worked at numerous sites in region.
3. **Baron Max von Oppenheim** excavated Tel Halaf, 1911-14, 1929-31. Prehistoric Halafian culture defined, dated to 5th-4th M BC. Comparable material excavated at Samaria by Herzfeld 1912-14, also at Arpachiya, Tepe Gawra, and Tel Billa in Nineveh region.
4. **Sir Leonard Woolley** excavated Ur (1922, 1926-) and Al-'Ubaid (1923-25). 1926 discovered the Royal Tombs of the early Sumerians.
5. **Erich Schmidt** at Persepolis beginning in 1935.

*** **Note:** The nation of Iraq was established in 1932, and the IRAQ Dept. of Antiquities has continued to excavate throughout Iraq with cooperative efforts of the British, French and American schools of archaeology. Laws limiting the export of archaeological artifacts were enacted as early as 1933.

6. 1949-1961 - excavation to Calah (Assyria).
7. 1965-present – Ebla >>15,000 tablets found in new "Eblaite" language, plus Sumerian and Akkadian. Located in N. Syria, near Aleppo.

8. Note recent excavations at Tel Emar and Tel Leilan.
Numerous excavations have continued in Turkey, Iraq, Iran, Syria, Jordan, Egypt.

C. PALESTINE

19th Century

- a. Surveys by: **Irby and Mangles** (1817-1818)

**** **Edward Robinson** (Amer.) and **Rev. Eli Smith** (Protestant missionary in Beirut, fluent in Arabic) in 1838 journeyed 105 days from Cairo to Beirut via Sinai, recording biblical and geographical data, from which were produced 3 vols. *Biblical Researches in Palestine, Mount Sinai and Arabia Petraea* (1841). Later in 1852 traveled in Galilee and Samaria, compiling additional vols. on those regions and a *Physical Geography of Palestine*.

- b. **** **Palestine Exploration Fund** founded (1867-1870)
C.R. Conder and **H.H. Kitchner** - a comprehensive survey under the Palestine Exploration Fund – P.E.F. (1872-1887)
The Survey of Western Palestine (1881) and *Survey of Eastern Palestine* (1889).

- c. **Ecole Biblique** founded in 1870's (French) just West of Damascus gate.

- d. **Capt. Charles Warren** began excavating Jerusalem, discovered water shaft to Gihon Spring

***e. **Sir Flinders Petrie** - developed more scientific excavation techniques at Tel el-Hesi: (1890). Noted as first modern scientific excavation in the Holy Land. Stressed: a) stratigraphy, b) ceramic chronology and typology, c) utilized metallurgists and botanists to examine remains.

III.DEVELOPMENT OF SCIENTIFIC EXCAVATION METHODOLOGY (1900-1960)

A. Notable Excavations

1. 1900-1910

- a. **R.A.S. Macalister** excavation of Gezer. Bliss & Macalister excavations.
b. American Schools of Oriental Research in Jerusalem and Baghdad founded.
c. Samaria excavation by **Reisner, Fisher**, and Lyon who further refined excavation techniques.

2. 1920-1930

- a. British Palestine Department of Antiquities founded, headed by **John Garstang**.
b. Beth-Shean (University of Pennsylvania)
c. Megiddo (University of Chicago)
d. **W. F. Albright** excavated Tel Beit Mirsim (Johns Hopkins University) who further refined ceramic chronology.
e. Tel en-Nasbeh (Mizpah) by **W.F. Bade**.
f. Ophel Hill in Jerusalem (1927) by **J.W. Crowfoot**.
g. Beth-Shemesh (Rowe, et al.)

3. 1930-1940

- a. **Nelson Glueck** (Jewish spy) survey of Transjordan (1933-1946)
- b. Beth Shean, Megiddo and Beit Mirsim continued.
- c. Jericho (British) by **John Garstang**
- d. Lachish (British) by **J. Starkey, L. Harding, O. Tufnell**
- e. Samaria (**K. Kenyon, E.L. Sukenik** - Br.)
- f. Bethel (**James Kelso** and **W.F. Albright**)

4. 1947-1950

- a. **E.L. Sukenik** obtains first of Dead Sea Scrolls. **John Trever** of the ASOR office in Jerusalem photographs and authenticates antiquity of them w/ **W.F. Albright**.
- b. Search for caves at Qumran begins. Qumran site excav. 1951-56 by **Fr. Roland De Vaux**
- c. Tel Qasile by **Benjamin Mazar**, first excavation established by the newly created State of Israel.

5. 1950-1960 -- Israeli Archaeology comes of age

- a. **Nelson Glueck** survey of Negev
- b. Jericho, Jerusalem (**Dame Kathleen Kenyon**)
- c. Shechem (ASOR - **G. Ernest Wright**)
- d. Hazor, **Yigael Yadin** with **Yohanon Aharoni**
- e. Gibeon (**James Pritchard** - University of Pennsylvania)
- f. Dothan (**James Free** - Wheaton College)
- g. Caesarea (**M. Avi-Yonah**; more recently under American consortium-CAHEP)
- h. Ashdod (Moshe Dothan)

B. Stages of Development in Archaeological Excavation Methods

1. Area or Sectional Excavation - Sir Flinders Petrie, Heinrich Schliemann (1870s-1920)

Development of Principles of Stratigraphy and Typology
Beginning utilization of varied scientific disciplines

2. Reisner-Fisher Method -- Locus to Architecture 1920-1955)

Excavation of architectural units — rooms, buildings, palaces, defense walls, etc.
Expansion of utilization of scientific disciplines

3. Wheeler - Kenyon Method — Balk to Debris Layer (1955-present)

Survey utilizing Israel national grid system, subdivided into sections and squares
Recent use of subsurface radar to map subterranean structures prior to excavation
Future use of satellite technology in determination of areas to excavate
Balk (wall of earth between squares) preserved on perimeter of **5 X 5 meter square**
To preserve stratigraphic sequence and check on previous work
Development of scientific disciplines such as paleobotany, paleozoology, paleography, social sciences related to ancient peoples, digital photography in deciphering ancient documents, metallurgy, anthropology, chemistry, physics, et al.

IV. EXPANSION PERIOD: THE SCIENCE OF ARCHAEOLOGY (1960-present)

A. Key Excavations of the 1960s -- 1980s

1. Arad (Hebrew University – **Aharoni** -Iron Age and **Ruth Amiram** - EB)
2. Ein Gedi (Hebrew University)
3. **Benjamin Mazar** begins South wall of Temple Mount in Jerusalem after 1967 War.
4. Gezer (**G.E. Wright, William Dever** - Hebrew Union College)
5. Deir Allah (Scandinavia)
6. Taanach (ASOR) - **Paul Lapp**
7. Ai (SBTS - **Joseph Callaway**)
8. Heshbon (Andrews University under **Harold Stigers**)
9. Dan (**Avraham Biran** - Tel Aviv University) - continues to present
10. Ashdod (**D.N. Freedman, A. Biran, Moshe Dothan**)
11. Joppa (Israeli)
12. Capernaum (RC-Franciscan fathers, recently w/ **Vassilios Tsferis**)
13. Tel el-Hesi (ASOR)
14. Caesarea (Drew University and consortium)
15. Khirbet Shema (ASOR - **Eric** and **Carol Meyers**)
16. Beersheba (**Y. Aharoni** - Tel Aviv University)
17. Aphek/Antipatris (Tel Aviv U.- NOBTS under **M. Kohavi** - **G. Kelm**)
18. Lachish (**Y. Aharoni, A. Rainey, D. Ussishkin** - Tel Aviv University)
19. Tel Qasile (**B. Mazar, Amihai Mazar**)
20. Timnah--Tel Batash (**A. Mazar**--Hebrew Univ, **G. Kelm**--NOBTS, SWBTS)

B. Present — Scores of major and minor sites are excavated yearly.

For 2015 see **BAR** January 2015 issue

Recent Excavations include such sites as:

Beth Shean (Scythopolis)	Hazor	Tel Haror (=Gerar?)
Tel Halif (En Rimmon)	Jezreel	Bethsaida
Caesarea Philippi (Banias)	Tel Qasile	Sepphoris
Caesarea Maritima	Ashkelon	Mareshah (Marisa)
Tel Hadar (Geshurites?)	Ekron	Qumran caves
Petra (Edomite & Nabatean strata)	Dor	Yavneh/Jamnia
Jerusalem	Tiberias	Yodefat (Jotapata)
Yarmuth	Dan	Pella
Wadi Mujib Project	Abila	Plains of Moab Project
Apollonia	el-Burj	Nebi Samuel
Megiddo	Chinnereth	Tel Rehov
Tel es-Safi (Gath)	Tel Gezer (3)	Tel Zeitah
Tel Qeiyafa (Sha'araim?)	Beth Shemesh	Hippus/Susita
Abel Beth-Maacah	Cana of Galilee	Azekah
Lachish	Magdala	Tel Huqoq

Competency Assessment Rubric for BBBW5200 Encountering the Biblical World Research Papers & Projects

Student Name_____

Semester_____

Cognitive/Understanding Assessment

1. The Student	☐ demonstrated a comprehensive understanding of the resources for Biblical Backgrounds research ☐ reflected an awareness of the resources for Biblical Backgrounds research but did not utilize those resources adequately ☐ reflected an awareness of some of the resources for Biblical Backgrounds research but did not utilize many of the resources ☐ was unable to identify or explain the resources for Biblical Backgrounds research
2. The Student	☐ demonstrated a comprehensive understanding of the physical world of the Bible ☐ reflected an awareness of the process of the physical world of the Bible but did not adequately relate it to Biblical interpretation ☐ reflected an awareness of some of the issues related to the Biblical geography but did not utilize them fully in Biblical interpretation ☐ was unable to identify or explain the geography of the Bible

Application Assessment

1. The Student	☐ demonstrated a comprehensive understanding of the principles of applying Biblical Backgrounds to interpreting the Bible ☐ reflected an awareness of the principles of applying Biblical Backgrounds to interpreting the Bible but did not explain them adequately ☐ reflected an awareness of some of the principles of applying Biblical Backgrounds to interpreting the Bible but did not address them fully ☐ was unable to identify or explain the principles of applying Biblical Backgrounds to the process of interpreting the Bible
2. The Student	☐ demonstrated a valuing of the necessity of bridging the temporal and cultural gaps between contemporary society and the Biblical world ☐ reflected a general appreciation of the necessity of bridging the temporal and cultural gaps between contemporary society and the Biblical world ☐ reflected a lack of appreciation for the need of bridging the temporal and cultural gaps between contemporary society and the Biblical world ☐ rejected the need for bridging the temporal and cultural gaps between contemporary society and the Biblical world

Communicative Assessment

1. The Student	☐ fully interpreted and communicated the Bible teaching utilizing Biblical background materials ☐ interpreted and communicated the Bible teaching utilizing some Biblical background materials but did not relate the meaning fully ☐ inadequately interpreted and communicated the Bible teaching utilizing Biblical background materials ☐ was unable to interpret and communicate the Bible teaching utilizing Biblical background materials
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