

The following information will be published on the Courses page of the Summer Sessions Website :			
Course Title:	THE ROMAN TO MEDIEVAL NEAR EAST: THE CAESAREA EXCAVATIONS, ISRAEL		
Course Number:	CLAS3730	Course Credit:	3
First Instructor:	Joseph L. Rife	First Instructor Email:	joseph.rife@vanderbilt.edu
Second Instructor:		Second Instructor Email:	
Program start date:		Program end date:	
Program location(s): (City, Country)	Caesarea, Israel		
If program goes to multiple countries (US included), please indicate specific start and end date for each country			
Does this course fulfill any AXLE credit? If so, what?	INT		
What are the pre-requisites (if any) for enrolling in this course?	None		
What is covered in the student budget: (how many nights of housing, how many meals, travel, any necessary supplies textbooks, visa, admission to museums, etc.)	The student budget covers tuition and fees, all educational program expenses (travel in Israel, admissions to sites and museums), full room, and meals on most days.		
What is <u>not</u> covered in the student budget: (e.g., international airfare, supplies, visa costs, meals, etc.)	The student budget does not cover airfare to and from Tel Aviv, meals on excursions (six lunches plus two dinners), and incidental expenses (snacks, souvenirs, etc)..		
Visa needed for US passport holders?	None		
Please provide the course description below:			
<p>From the earliest years of the Roman Empire through the fall of the Crusader Kingdom in the Holy Land, Caesarea on the north coast of Israel was a thriving hub of power and innovation. One of the largest ports on the eastern Mediterranean seaboard, Caesarea was a booming harbor that received frequent traffic from throughout world. It was the shining creation of Herod the Great, the capital of the province of Judaea, a hotspot for Jewish resistance to Roman rule, a destination for St. Peter's mission and a Late Antique center for Christian scholarship, a major marketplace under the Islamic caliphates, and a formidable fortress for western knights. Caesarea was thus a microcosm of the dramatic changes that swept through the region over fourteen centuries and define our world today.</p> <p>Students in this Maymester can discover this fascinating world of the past by joining the team of the new Caesarea Excavations. This is a unique opportunity to explore one of the world's most spectacular seaside archaeological sites while digging alongside Herod's temple great in the heart of the city. The nearly four-week program introduces students to the history and archaeology of the Near East and the culture of modern Israel. Students will learn about archaeological field techniques and interpretation, including stratigraphic excavation and recording, artifactual processing, and conservation. Students will also attend a series of seminars on various topics, from Roman pottery and architecture to ancient Judaism and early Islam, and they will join in excursions to major sites, such as the Galilee, Beth She'an, Jerusalem, Masada, and the Dead Sea. The team stays at the comfortable kibbutz Sdot Yam along the short near Caesarea in a safe and beautiful resort district with many amenities. Requirements include participation in team activities, readings, quizzes on geography and chronology, one oral report and paper, one essay exam.</p>			

