

## Unit Outline



# **Biblical Studies Study Tour - Israel and Jordan BB445/645/745**

QUEENSLAND THEOLOGICAL COLLEGE

### **About this Unit Outline**

This Unit outline contains information you will need to find your way around the Unit, **Biblical Studies Study Tour – Israel and Jordan**. It attempts to provide a structure for your learning, giving details of the topics, and how they will be assessed.

## Important notice

While every care has been taken to ensure accuracy in the information given below, **it is the personal responsibility of each student to check the current ACT Undergraduate or Postgraduate Handbook**, copies of which may be found in the Library or online at [www.actheology.edu.au](http://www.actheology.edu.au)

It is very important that students plan their time carefully to ensure that reading and especially assignments receive adequate attention and so as to prevent a bottleneck of work just before the end of this unit on Monday 18 January 2016.

It is very important that all quoted material in assignments be properly footnoted and acknowledged. The attention of students is drawn to the section in the current ACT Undergraduate or Postgraduate Handbook, headed "**Academic Misconduct**". Failure to comply with the standards required will incur penalties as outlined in the ACT Undergraduate or Postgraduate Handbook.

The attention of students is also drawn to the section in the current ACT Undergraduate or Postgraduate Handbook, headed "**Guidelines for Essays.**" (see also the QTC Student Handbook) All essays should comply with these standards.

# Information about this Unit

## Unit description

This unit enables candidates to spend a significant period of time in Israel and Jordan, so as to enhance their understanding of the biblical narratives, with a specific focus on the historical portions of the Old Testament set within the Jezreel Valley and the City of David, and on the life of Jesus as it is presented in the New Testament in the four canonical Gospels.

This unit is offered at three levels:

BB445 Undergraduate Level (BTh, DipTh, Dip Min etc)

BB645 Graduate Level (Grad Dip Div, MDiv )

BB745 Postgraduate Level (MA)

The Assessments for the different levels of this Unit are listed in separate tables in this unit outline. You must take care to use the correct version.

## Learning Outcomes

- To enable students to spend a significant period of time in some of the lands associated with biblical history;
- To assist students in gaining an appreciation of cultural, geographical and topographical factors which bear on the understanding of the biblical narrative;
- To enable students to understand the relevant Old Testament historical events and the ministry of Jesus in their historical, cultural, religious and political environment;
- To help students appreciate the impact of archaeological findings on the understandings of biblical narrative.

Statements of the Learning Outcomes and Content of study tour units may also be found in the Handbooks of the Australian College of Theology on the website [actheology.edu.au](http://actheology.edu.au)

## How this Unit contributes to the course

The Unit provides an opportunity for in-depth study of sites where many biblical events took place. It aims to assist students to gain a better understanding of the contents of the Bible, and especially of narrative events recorded in both the Old and New Testaments. This should lead to an enriched and more nuanced use of the Bible in your academic studies and in Ministry settings.

## Pre-requisites and co-requisites

There are no pre-requisites or co-requisites for this unit.

## How this Unit is organised & what we expect of you

There are three parts to this unit:

**Pre-Tour Reading and Book Review:** Substantial reading, attendance at a one-hour introductory lecture on Friday 20 November 2015, and submission of a book review by Thursday 26 November.

**Study Tour:** Sunday 29 November - Sunday 13 December. Includes Lectures and Discussions.

**Post-Tour Research and Written Reflection:** Submission of a Reflective Journal by Monday 18 January 2016.

This unit outline includes a substantial reading list to help you prepare for the study tour and to complete the Reflective Journal after you return.

### Completing the Assessment Tasks:

It is important to understand that in order to gain credit for this unit, **your assessment submissions must demonstrate substantial learning and analysis**. In particular, the Reflective Journal must be much more than simply a record of what you saw during the study tour. By completing structured assessment tasks you will demonstrate the knowledge and understandings that you have gained through this unit. For further details, please read carefully the list of Assessments and the Guide to Assessments in this outline.

You should also recognise that **this unit will require time and effort during the Christmas and Summer Vacation periods**. After you return to Australia you will have five weeks in which to complete the Reflective Journal. This should provide you with an adequate period in which to celebrate Christmas and spend time with others, as well as complete your assessment obligations. But you will need to prioritise your time carefully.

You should enrol for this unit only if you are able to commit the amount of time required to complete the Book Review and the Reflective Journal by the due dates. Extensions to due dates will be granted only for Medical or Compassionate Reasons.

### Census Date:

The **Census Date** for this unit is **Thursday 03 December 2015**. If you wish to withdraw from taking this unit for ACT credit without academic or financial penalty, or to change your enrolment to Auditing, then you must advise the QTC Registrar by **12 Noon (Brisbane Time)** on this date.

## Teaching Staff

LECTURER AND UNIT CO-ORDINATOR:

Rev. Wesley Redgen

P 07 3149 3654

E [wredgen@qtc.edu.au](mailto:wredgen@qtc.edu.au)

## Travel Advice for Israel

The Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT) advice issued on 05 August 2015 for places to be visited on the QTC Study Tour included:

**Israel (overall): *Exercise a high degree of caution.***

**The West Bank, including Bethlehem, Jericho and all parts of the Golan Heights east of Route 98: *Reconsider your need to travel.***

This section of the unit outline is a response to questions about government travel warnings, and QTC plans should the risk level increase between the issue of this outline and the departure date of 29 November 2015. Therefore, although the advisory levels have remained steady during 2015, QTC believes it best to ensure that those planning to join the QTC Study Tour are aware of the government advice, and that QTC is monitoring the situation.

As you are probably aware, the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT) issues advice about conditions prevailing in countries that Australians might wish to visit. For each country, and for parts of a country, the advice offered is in one of 4 categories:

*Exercise normal safety precautions*

*Exercise a high degree of caution*

*Reconsider your need to travel*

*Do not travel.*

**You can read the advice for any country at any time at <http://www.smartraveller.gov.au/zw-cgi/view/Advice/>**

The DFAT travel advisories also contain details of recent security incidents in parts of Israel and nearby, as well as precautions to be taken by visitors to this region.

It is important that you are well aware of current conditions before making your final payment towards the trip, when you will be asked to sign a statement that you have read the DFAT travel advisories and wish to travel.

QTC is keeping in close touch with our travel agent concerning developments in the tour region. The travel agent is monitoring the situation via a variety of official and informal sources within Israel and Jordan.

**If visits to a number of significant tour sites such as Jerusalem and Galilee were to become questionable in terms of safety, then the tour agent would probably recommend to QTC that the tour not go ahead at this time.**

We are advised that, generally speaking, airlines, hotels and tour companies would waive their normal cancellation fees if DFAT advises not to travel. But cancellation fees would probably *not* be waived if the advice issued is 'Reconsider your need to travel'.

**Australian Government 24-hour Consular Emergency Centre:  
+61 2 6261 3305 or 1300 555 135 or SMS +61 421 269 080**

## Guide to Pre-Reading for BB445:

**All students are required to submit a Book Review and to have read further books listed in this unit outline as appropriate for the unit at one of three levels: BB445, BB645, BB745.** See the **Learning Resources** for more details.

### Book for Review:

**Walker, Peter. *In the Steps of Jesus: an Illustrated Guide to the Places of the Holy Land*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2007. (or Lion 2009).**

This book focusses on understanding many of the specific sites we will be visiting. It has lots of pictures to help you orient yourself to what you will see when you get there. It discusses the sites as they are found today, a brief history of the sites and how they may have looked in Jesus' day. It pays little attention to archaeological matters.

The **Guide to Assessments** in this outline explains how to go about writing your book review.

Although the following book is not part of the review assignment, **all students are required to read:**

**Burge, Gary M. *The Bible and the Land*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2009.**

This book is very small. You can read it in a couple of hours. It is focused on the second learning outcome: *To assist students in gaining an appreciation of cultural, geographical and topographical factors which bear on the understanding of the biblical narrative.*

Although this book does not directly discuss many of the sites we will be seeing, it lays out important background information about the relationship between key aspects of the physical environment we will be seeing and the culture and message of the bible. This book is available quite cheaply second-hand on the internet.

**You are also required to read:**

**Currid, John D. *Doing Archaeology in the Land of the Bible: A Basic Guide*. Grand Rapids: Baker, 1999.**

This book is also quite small and available cheaply second hand online. It is focused on the fourth learning outcome: *To help students appreciate the impact of archaeological findings on the understandings of biblical narrative.* The title says it all. It is simply an introduction to archaeology in the bible lands. It is smaller and more basic than the book by Hoerth. While it does not directly address any of the sites we will be seeing, it will help you to be able to read archaeological remains yourself as we look at them.

### Book orders for Pre-Reading

If you would like to order any of the books for the Pre-Reading through QTC, you may do so by emailing the QTC Librarian, Annette McGrath at [library@qtc.edu.au](mailto:library@qtc.edu.au) before Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> October. Include the titles and authors of the books you would like to purchase. The books will be ordered at the cheapest price available, and you will be emailed when they arrive. There may be a delay of 2-3 weeks on some titles if they have to be ordered from overseas, so early orders are advised.

## Guide to Pre-Reading for BB645 and BB745:

All students are required to submit a Book Review and to have read further books listed in this unit outline as appropriate for the unit at one of three levels: BB445, BB645, BB745. See the **Learning Resources** for more details.

### Books for Review:

#### EITHER

**Hoerth, A. *Archaeology and the Old Testament*. Grand Rapids: Baker, 2005.**

As the title says, this book is focused on the fourth learning outcome: *To help students appreciate the impact of archaeological findings on the understandings of biblical narrative.*

Well written, easy to read, helpful photos and diagrams. It only indirectly covers some sites we will visit, but is helpful for understanding the relationship between archeological discoveries and the biblical accounts.

If you review *Archaeology and the Old Testament* by Hoerth, then you are also required to read **Walker, Peter. *In the Steps of Jesus: an Illustrated Guide to the Places of the Holy Land*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2007. (or Lion 2009).**

This book focusses on understanding many of the specific sites we will be visiting. It has lots of pictures to help you orient yourself to what you will see when you get there. It discusses the sites as they are found today, a brief history of the sites and how they may have looked in Jesus' day. It pays little attention to archaeological matters.

#### OR

**Murphy-O'Connor, J. *The Holy Land*. 5th ed. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2008.**

This book is highly detailed and technical but an excellent resource for the tour. It covers most of the sites we will be visiting (and hundreds more). It goes into the history of the sites and what can be seen today. This would be a great book for a self-guided tour.

If you review *The Holy Land* by Murphy-O'Connor, then you are also required to read **Currid, John D. *Doing Archaeology in the Land of the Bible: A Basic Guide*. Grand Rapids: Baker, 1999.**

This book is also quite small and available cheaply second hand online. It is focused on the fourth learning outcome: *To help students appreciate the impact of archaeological findings on the understandings of biblical narrative.* The title says it all. It is simply an introduction to archaeology in the bible lands. It is smaller and more basic than the book by Hoerth. While it does not directly address any of the sites we will be seeing, it will help you to be able to read archaeological remains yourself as we look at them.

The **Guide to Assessments** in this outline explains how to go about writing your book review.

Although the following book is not part of the review assignment, **all students are required to read:**

**Burge, Gary M. *The Bible and the Land*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2009.**

This book is very small. You can read it in a couple of hours. It is focused on the second learning outcome: *To assist students in gaining an appreciation of cultural, geographical and topographical factors which bear on the understanding of the biblical narrative.*

Although this book does not directly discuss many of the sites we will be seeing, it lays out important background information about the relationship between key aspects of the physical environment we will be seeing and the culture and message of the bible. This book is available quite cheaply second-hand on the internet.

**Book orders for Pre-Reading**

If you would like to order any of the books for the Pre-Reading through QTC, you may do so by emailing the QTC Librarian, Annette McGrath at [library@qtc.edu.au](mailto:library@qtc.edu.au) before Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> October. Include the titles and authors of the books you would like to purchase. The books will be ordered at the cheapest price available, and you will be emailed when they arrive. There may be a delay of 2-3 weeks on some titles if they have to be ordered from overseas, so early orders are advised.

# Study Tour Schedule

**Sunday 29 November: Day 1**

Depart Brisbane (Evening)

**Monday 30 November: Day 2**

Arrive Dubai. Transfer to flight to Amman, Jordan. Travel south to Petra.

**Tuesday 01 December: Day 3**

Petra.

**Wednesday 02 December: Day 4**

Travel north to Mount Nebo. Enter Israel via the Allenby Bridge crossing of the Jordan River. Jericho. Drive north to Tiberias.

**Thursday 03 December: Day 5**

Caná. Nazareth. Bet Shean. Return to Tiberias.

**Friday 04 December: Day 6**

Sea of Galilee from Tiberias to Capernaum. Tabgha. Mt Beatitudes. Return to Tiberias.

**Saturday 05 December: Day 7**

Golan Heights. Springs of Banias (Caesarea Philippi). Kursi. Korazim. Return to Tiberias.

**Sunday 06 December: Day 8**

Travel south-west to Megiddo. Jezreel Valley. Muhraka. Mt Carmel. Haifa. Caesarea. Jerusalem.

**Monday 07 December: Day 9**

Mount of Olives. Gethsemane. Travel south to Bethlehem. Return to Jerusalem.

**Tuesday 08 December: Day 10**

Travel north to Samaria. Shiloh. Mt Gerizim & Mt Ebal. Jacob's Well. Taybeh (Ephraim). Return to Jerusalem.

**Wednesday 09 December: Day 11**

New City. City of David. Western Wall. Temple Mount. Jewish Quarter.

**Thursday 10 December: Day 12**

Old City of Jerusalem. Mt Zion. Garden Tomb.

**Friday 11 December: Day 13**

Masada. Ein Gedi. Dead Sea. Qumran. Bethany. Return to Jerusalem.

**Saturday 12 December: Day 14**

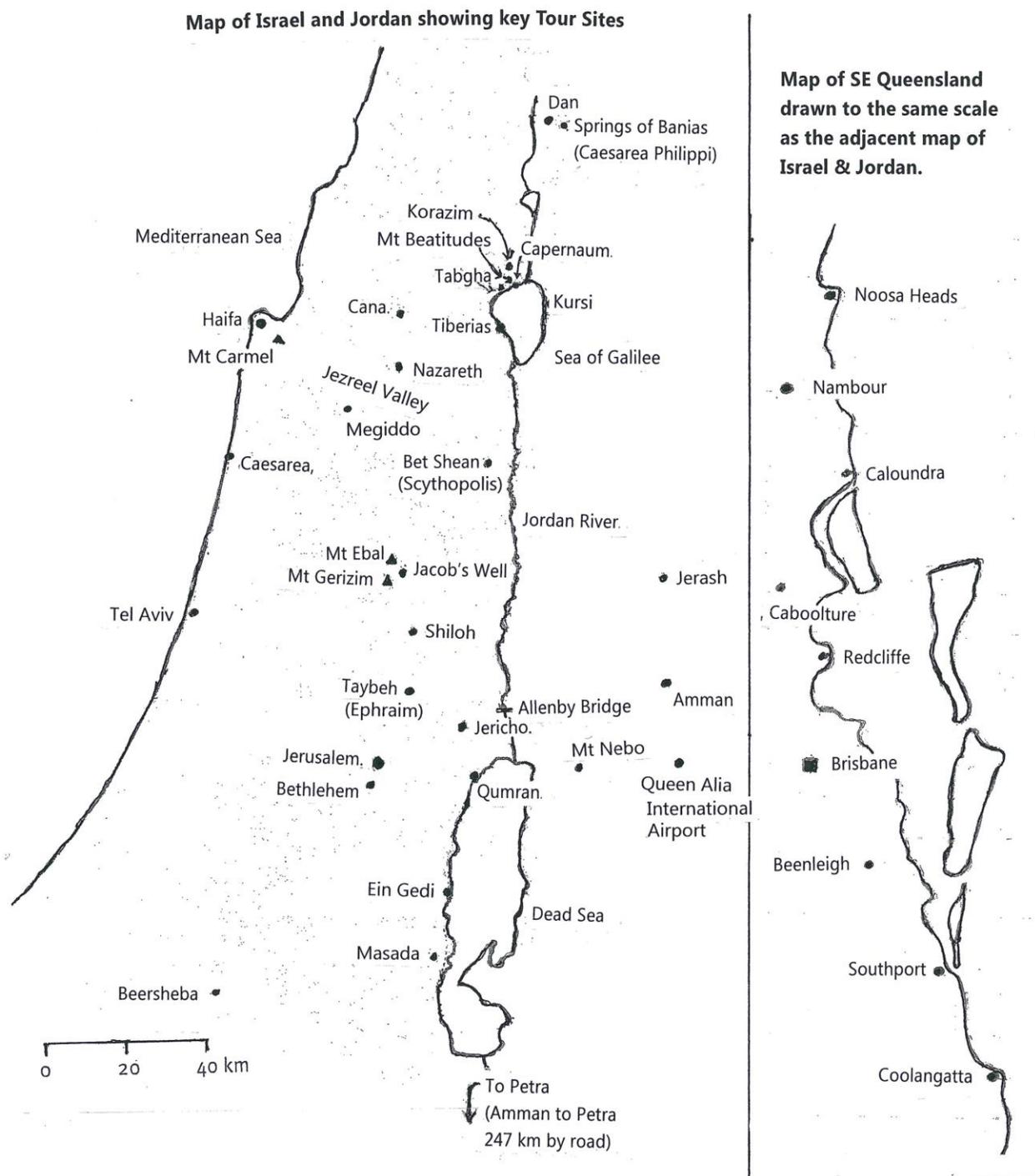
Depart Jerusalem. Return to Jordan via Allenby Bridge. Jerash. Depart Amman for Brisbane via Dubai.

**Sunday 13 December: Day 15**

Arrive Brisbane (Evening).

## Map of Tour Sites in Israel and Jordan

This map shows the locations of key sites to be visited. You should also consult maps showing this area during Old Testament and New Testament times, as well a current map showing the borders of the State of Israel and its neighbours. The map of South-East Queensland below is drawn to the same scale as the map of Israel and Jordan. This should help you appreciate distances to be travelled during the study tour.



## BB445 Assessments

Assessments are submitted online via Moodle.

**In order to pass the unit, you must submit all assessment pieces and attain a mark of at least 50% for the unit as a whole.**

Unless an extension has been applied for and granted in accordance with the Late Penalty Policy found in the QTC Handbook, where a student submits an assessment past its due date, the assessment marks will be reduced at the rate of 3% of the total possible marks for the assessment item per calendar day, up to 14 days late. Your essays must also be within 10% of the required word limit and your ability to meet this requirement will also be taken into account in determining your mark. QTC seeks to prepare you for ministry, and in ministry delivering presentations on time and within an acceptable length are essential skills.

ASSESSMENT TASK	DESCRIPTION
<p><b>Book Review</b> <b>2000 words</b> <b>40%</b> <b>Due Date:</b> <b>Thursday 26</b> <b>November 2015</b></p>	<p>Write a 2000 word review of the following book, noting the advice in the Guide to Assessments in this unit outline.</p> <p>Walker, Peter. In the Steps of Jesus: an Illustrated Guide to the Places of the Holy Land. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2007. (or Lion 2009).</p> <p>Students are also expected to have read further books listed in the unit outline as appropriate for this unit at BB445 level.</p>
<p><b>Reflective Journal</b> <b>3000 words</b> <b>60%</b> <b>Due Date:</b> <b>Monday</b> <b>18 January 2016</b></p>	<p>Answer <b>ONE</b> of the following questions, noting the advice in the Guide to Assessments in this unit outline.</p> <p><b>EITHER</b></p> <p>How does an understanding of the first century Jewish and Greco-Roman context shed light on a Christian reading of the New Testament?</p> <p><b>OR</b></p> <p>How does an understanding of the historical setting of Old Testament historical narratives shed light on a Christian reading of the Old Testament?</p> <p>In your answer, make specific reference to at least <b>FIVE</b> discrete archaeological sites, artefacts or ancient texts and assess their significance for understanding the scripture.</p> <p>Include an annotated bibliography of at least five books/articles (drawn from the reading list) totalling 200 pages, which you have read in preparation of your journal. Annotations should approximate a short paragraph of no more than 100 words for each book/article.</p>

## BB645 Assessments

**Assessments are submitted online via Moodle.**

**In order to pass the unit, you must submit all assessment pieces and attain a mark of at least 50% for the unit as a whole.**

Unless an extension has been applied for and granted in accordance with the Late Penalty Policy found in the QTC Handbook, where a student submits an assessment past its due date, the assessment marks will be reduced at the rate of 3% of the total possible marks for the assessment item per calendar day, up to 14 days late. Your essays must also be within 10% of the required word limit and your ability to meet this requirement will also be taken into account in determining your mark. QTC seeks to prepare you for ministry, and in ministry delivering presentations on time and within an acceptable length are essential skills.

ASSESSMENT TASK	DESCRIPTION
<p><b>Book Review</b> <b>2000 words</b> <b>35%</b> <b>Due Date:</b> <b>Thursday 26</b> <b>November 2015</b></p>	<p>Write a <b>2000</b> word review of <b>ONE</b> of the following books, noting the advice in the Guide to Assesments in this unit outline.</p> <p><b>EITHER</b> Hoerth, A. Archaeology and the Old Testament. Grand Rapids: Baker, 2005.</p> <p><b>OR</b> Murphy-O'Connor, J. The Holy Land. 5th ed. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2008.</p> <p>Students are also expected to have read further books listed in the unit outline as appropriate for this unit at BB645 level.</p>
<p><b>Reflective Journal</b> <b>4000 words</b> <b>65%</b> <b>Due Date:</b> <b>Monday</b> <b>18 January 2016</b></p>	<p>Answer <b>ONE</b> of the following questions, noting the advice in the Guide to Assessments in this unit outline.</p> <p><b>EITHER</b> How does an understanding of the first century Jewish and Greco-Roman context shed light on a Christian reading of the New Testament?</p> <p><b>OR</b> How does an understanding of the historical setting of Old Testament historical narratives shed light on a Christian reading of the Old Testament?</p> <p>In your answer, make specific reference to at least <b>FIVE</b> discrete archaeological sites, artefacts or ancient texts and assess their significance for understanding the scripture.</p> <p>Include an annotated bibliography of at least five books/articles at an advanced level (drawn from the reading list) totalling 200 pages, which you have read in preparation of your journal. Annotations should approximate a short paragraph for each book/article.</p>

## BB745 Assessments

Assessments are submitted online via Moodle.

**In order to pass the unit, you must submit all assessment pieces and attain a mark of at least 50% for the unit as a whole.**

Unless an extension has been applied for and granted in accordance with the Late Penalty Policy found in the QTC Handbook, where a student submits an assessment past its due date, the assessment marks will be reduced at the rate of 3% of the total possible marks for the assessment item per calendar day, up to 14 days late. Your essays must also be within 10% of the required word limit and your ability to meet this requirement will also be taken into account in determining your mark. QTC seeks to prepare you for ministry, and in ministry delivering presentations on time and within an acceptable length are essential skills.

ASSESSMENT TASK	DESCRIPTION
<p><b>Book Review</b> <b>2500 words</b> <b>30%</b></p> <p><b>Due Date:</b> <b>Thursday 26</b> <b>November 2015</b></p>	<p>Write a <b>2500</b> word review of <b>ONE</b> of the following books, noting the advice in the Guide to Assessments in this unit outline.</p> <p><b>EITHER</b> Hoerth, A. Archaeology and the Old Testament. Grand Rapids: Baker, 2005.</p> <p><b>OR</b> Murphy-O'Connor, J. The Holy Land. 5th ed. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2008.</p> <p>Students are also expected to have read further books listed in the unit outline as appropriate for this unit at BB745 level.</p>
<p><b>Reflective Journal</b> <b>5500 words</b> <b>70%</b></p> <p><b>Due Date:</b> <b>Monday</b> <b>18 January 2016</b></p>	<p>Answer <b>ONE</b> of the following questions, noting the Guide to Assessments.</p> <p><b>EITHER</b> How does an understanding of the first century Jewish and Greco-Roman context shed light on a Christian reading of the New Testament? How important are these insights for an understanding of the Christian faith in the twenty-first century?</p> <p><b>OR</b> How does an understanding of the historical setting of Old Testament historical narratives shed light on a Christian reading of the Old Testament? How important for Christian faith is the factuality of events recorded in the Old Testament?</p> <p>In your answer, make specific reference to at least <b>FIVE</b> discrete archaeological sites, artefacts or ancient texts and assess their significance for understanding the scripture. For <b>one</b> of these five examples, include within your essay a marked section of about <b>500</b> words outlining its significance for the exegesis of a particular biblical passage of your choice.</p> <p>Include an annotated bibliography of at least five books/articles at an advanced level (drawn from the reading list) totalling 200 pages, which you have read in preparation of your journal. Annotations should approximate a short paragraph for each book/article.</p>

## Guide to Assessments

All students are expected to read the guidelines for written assignments provided in the ACT Handbooks, available in the library or online. You should also read the relevant sections of the QTC Student Manual.

All written work for this unit should conform to the guidelines of the *SBL Handbook of Style* (with the exception of Australian spelling conventions).

All Greek and Hebrew cited must be typed in a Unicode font; SBL BibLit is commended as one font covering Greek Hebrew and Roman Unicode ranges, but is not required. It is freely available from the SBL website: <http://www.sbl-site.org/educational/biblicalfonts.aspx>.

The Learning Resources listed in this outline provide a beginning point for research for assessments for this unit. Students are expected to engage with the works listed there, but are not limited to these resources.

Do note carefully the *number of words required* for each assessment item, depending on whether you are enrolled for BB445, BB645 or BB745.

### Book Review

Your review should include an accurate summary of the major themes and emphases of the book, supported by close reference to relevant chapters. It should also include a critical appraisal of the book, giving consideration to its purpose and intended audience. Your review must include a bibliography and footnotes.

#### Marking Criteria:

- relevance of the review to the set task;
- accurate summary of the major themes and emphases of the text, supported by close reference to relevant chapters;
- critical appraisal of the text, giving consideration to its purpose and intended audience;
- clear and effective communication, including independence of thought and expression;
- appropriate presentation, including bibliography and footnotes.

#### Further guidance for the Book Review

1. This task is designed to orient you to what you will be learning on tour. The goal is that you will arrive there with a framework in your head containing some background knowledge. This framework will aid your understanding of what you see and hear on tour.

2. This unit has a dual focus. One focus is simply to see the sites and gain understanding of the bible from what is visible. The other focus is to understand the archaeology that has happened at the place, and the light this archaeology has shed on understanding the bible events that occurred there. The goal is to bring the two together.
3. The set books strike the balance between these foci in different ways. The books by Walker and O'Connor focus on connecting what you will actually see with the bible, but with little focus on the archaeological process behind understanding some sites. The books by Hoerth and Currid focus on connecting archaeological research with the bible, but do not attempt to cover the sites we will see.
4. As the various books cover quite different content, this task will vary depending on which book you choose. For example, Hoerth gives a good background understanding of the relationship between archaeology and the bible, but won't be directly helpful for the details of many of the sites we visit. Whereas, Walker will orient you to many of the sites we visit, but will not cover the archaeology well. Choose your book well.
5. If you choose Walker or O'Connor, you are not expected to read the entire book. Read all introductory sections. Then use the tour itinerary together with the contents page and index to read about the sites we will be visiting. You do not need to read about sites we will not be visiting.

## Reflective Journal

Present your response in the form of a reflective journal that integrates what you have learnt from pre-tour reading, on-tour lectures (from tour guides and the QTC lecturer) and post-tour research about the first century context of the NT. The journal may include diagrams, maps and photographs, where relevant. All sources used must, of course, be recognised in the usual way using footnotes and a bibliography.

### Marking Criteria:

- Demonstrated understanding of how the historical, geographical and cultural context sheds light on the biblical text;
- Critical interactions with secondary literature;
- Clear and effective communication, including independence of thought and expression;
- Appropriate presentation, including maps, diagrams, photographs, bibliography and footnotes.

### Further guidance for the Reflective Journal

1. Relate the sites to particular biblical passages, focusing on narratives. Choose to comment on those site experiences that most strongly change or enhance your understanding. Your study guide will make suggestions regarding biblical/historical references but do not feel limited by the passages suggested. Make notes particularly in the categories listed in points 2 and 3 below.

2. Take note of any particular geographical or topographical features of the sites that might illuminate biblical/historical references. Focus particularly on the way in which seeing these features changes the way you understand the relevant narratives. Reflect on the way your own experience has shaped the way you read biblical texts and how the experience of Israel/Jordan has reshaped your understanding.
3. Take particular note of the way in which discoveries made at the sites (cultural, social, religious, linguistic, military etc) help to illuminate critical issues of biblical interpretation. Our tour guide may hopefully also be able to guide you to documentary evidence about these features. Ask questions. Then use the information as part of your own reflection.

As it will be dark quite early on tour, we will set aside some evenings for de-brief discussion times to talk through the above. Hopefully these times will help you shape your thoughts for the journal.

**Please note:** The maximum file size that can be accepted for submission is 100MB. If you decide to include multiple photographs, it should be possible to reduce the file size of each photo so that the total file size is less than 100MB, rather than reduce the total number of photographs.

## Learning Resources

As well as reading the prescribed books listed in the Guide to Pre-Reading, all students should consult widely among books and journal articles listed below. The following list includes works related to both the Old Testament and the New Testament, providing sources relevant to both alternatives in the Reflective Journal questions.

**Items below preceded by an asterisk \* are particularly suitable for students taking this unit at BB445 level, but will be of interest to all students.**

\*Alexander, T. Desmond and David W. Baker, eds. *The Dictionary of the Old Testament: Pentateuch*. Downers Grove, IL: IVP, 2003.

\*Arnold, Bill T. and H. G. M. Williamson, eds. *Dictionary of the Old Testament: Historical Books*. Downers Grove, IL: IVP Academic, 2005.

\*Barnett, P. *Jesus and the Rise of Early Christianity: A History of New Testament Times*. Downers Grove, IL: IVP, 1999.

\* Barstad, Hans M. "The Strange Fear of the Bible: Some Reflections on the 'Bibliophobia' in Recent Ancient Israelite Historiography," Pages 120–27 in *Leading Captivity Captive: 'The Exile' as History and Ideology*. Edited by Lester L. Grabbe. JSOTSup 278. ESHM 2. Sheffield: Sheffield Academic, 1998.

\*Boda, Mark J. and J Gordon McConville, eds. *Dictionary of the Old Testament Prophets*. Downers Grove, IL: IVP Academic, 2012.

Bond, H., *Pontius Pilate in History and Interpretation*. SNTSMS 100, Cambridge: CUP 1998.

Bond, H. K. *Caiaphas: Friend of Rome and Judge of Jesus?* Louisville, KY: Westminster: John Knox, 2004.

Brandon, S.G.F. *Jesus and the Zealots: A Study of the Political Factor in Primitive Christianity*. Manchester: Manchester University Press, 1967. \*

\*Bright, John. *A History of Israel*. 4th ed. Louisville, KY: Westminster John Knox, 2000.

\*Bruce, F.F. *New Testament History*. New York: Doubleday, 1972.

\*Carter, W. *Seven events that shaped the New Testament world*. Grand Rapids, MI: Baker, 2013.

Charlesworth, J. H. *Jesus and Temple: Textual and Archaeological Explorations*. Minneapolis: MN: Fortress, 2014.

Donaldson, T.L. "Rural Bandits, City Mobs and the Zealots." *JSJ* 21, no. 1 (1990): 19-40.

\*Evans, Craig A. and Stanley E. Porter, eds. *Dictionary of New Testament Background*. Downers Grove, IL: IVP Academic, 2010.

Evans, C. A. "Jesus and the Ossuaries." *BBR* 13, no. 1 (2003): 21-46.

Evans, C.A. "Excavating Caiaphas, Pilate, and Simon of Cyrene: Assessing the Literary and Archaeological Evidence." Pages 323-40 in *Jesus and Archaeology*. Edited by J.H. Charlesworth. Grand Rapids, MI: Eerdmans, 2006.

\*Ferguson, E. *Backgrounds of Early Christianity*. 3rd ed. Grand Rapids, MI: Eerdmans, 2003.

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### **Suggested reading - General bible:**

Journals like *Biblical Archaeology Review*, *Diggings*.

Hoppe, L.J. *A Guide to the Lands of the Bible*. Collegeville, MN: Michael Glazier, 1999.

Murphy-O'Connor, J. *The Holy Land*. 5th ed. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2008.

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Harris, R.L. *Exploring the World of the Bible Lands*. London: Thames and Hudson, 1995.

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Negev, A & S. Gibson (eds.) *Archaeological Encyclopedia of the Holy Land*. New York: Continuum, 2001.

Losch, R.R. *The Uttermost Part of the Earth. A Guide to Places in the Bible*. Grand Rapids, MI: Eerdmans, 2005.

### **Other helpful books:**

#### **Biblical History**

Rogerson, John, *Chronicles of the Bible Lands: A History of the Holy Land*. London: Angus Books, 1985.

(This is a beautiful large format book, no doubt very expensive. Full of large colour photos, charts and maps.)

#### **Historical Atlases**

Aharoni, Yohanan, Michael Avi-Yonah, Ze'ev Safrai, and R. Steven Notley, *The Carta Bible Atlas*. Fifth ed. Jerusalem: Carta, 2011.

Bahat, Dan, Chaim T. Rubinstein, and Shlomo Ketko, *The Carta Jerusalem Atlas*. Jerusalem: Carta, 2011. (These two Carta atlases are standard works, both beautifully produced.)

Currid, John D. and David P. Barrett. *Crossway ESV Bible Atlas*. Wheaton, IL: Crossway, 2010.

#### *Internet resources*

The following sites are a good starting point:

[www.bibleplaces.com](http://www.bibleplaces.com)

[www.holylandphotos.org](http://www.holylandphotos.org)

[www.ancientsandals.com](http://www.ancientsandals.com)

You may also find the following useful:

<http://bibleatlas.org/>

<http://www.openbible.info/geo/photos/>

<http://www.biblewalks.com/>

# ACT Standards

## Grades

Grades in assessment instruments are awarded in the following categories-

Grade	Score	GPA
Fail (F)	0-49%	0
Pass (P)	50-57%	1
Pass+ (P+)	58-64%	1.5
Credit (C)	65-74%	2
Distinction (D)	75-84%	3
High Distinction (HD)	85+%	4