# University of St. Francis

## Footsteps of Our Lord

## Study Abroad in Israel

**March 2 – 10, 2012**

**Led by:**

- **Dr. Donna Metlicka** has been with University of St. Francis since 2003 and is an Associate Professor in the College of Education. Her area of expertise is literacy and she has national and international travel experience. She can be contacted at dmetlicka@stfrancis.edu.

- **Dr. Salim Diab** is a Professor of Chemistry in the Department of Natural Sciences at the University of St. Francis. He has been with the University since 1979. His area of expertise is Organic Chemistry, Environmental Chemistry, Forensic Science, and Conceptual Learning and Teaching. Dr. Diab was born in Nazareth, Israel and has traveled to a number of European countries, South America, and to Israel, of course. He can be reached at sdiab@stfrancis.edu.

**EDUC 494 International Diversity: Study Abroad in Israel**

This course will introduce participants to the cultural and educational diversity offered in Israel. Participants will visit culturally significant sites in Nazareth, home of Joseph and Mary, Jerusalem, site of the Crucifixion, and Bethlehem, birthplace of Jesus. Guided tours include major locations from the life of Jesus.

**Theology 494: Selected Topics Walking with Jesus in the Holy Land, Dr. Madonna Murphy Professor of Education (3 credits)**

Using the Gospels, students will study all of the main places in the Holy Land that are featured in the gospel accounts in order to prepare for their trip to Israel. Class will meet until the trip and then following the trip, each student will write a paper and make a presentation to class about one of the Holy Land sites.

**HIST 242: The Middle East: Crucible of Conflict (3 credits)**

surveys briefly the long history of the region, but concentrates on developments since 1900 with a view towards answering the question why the area seems so prone to conflict. Both Israel and the Arab states are studied, as well as their relations to one another and to the West. Topics covered include the spread of Islam, flowering of Middle Eastern civilizations, the Crusades, European imperialism, rise of nationalism Islamic and Arab nationalism, oil, conflicts following the creation of Israel, and relations with the United States. The goal for this class is to go beyond the headlines and to consider in a sober manner how the past has shaped the Middle East and its peoples. (Note: This course meets Gen Ed requirements for Historical Awareness.)

**POLI 283: Middle East in World Affairs (3 credits)**

Involves an overview of the region. The major focus of the course concentrates on contemporary issues and politics in the Middle East: political Islam, the impact of the Iranian revolution, the Arab-Israeli conflict, Russian inroads in the Middle East and Afghanistan, oil, U.S. policy toward the Middle East and the Palestinian question. In addition, the course covers specific problems and prospects of individual states in the Middle East.

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**Friday, March 2 - Chicago Departure.** Afternoon departure from Chicago O’Hare International Airport on a British Airways flight to Tel Aviv with connecting service in London.

**Saturday, March 3 - Tel Aviv/Nazareth Arrival.** Arrive at Tel Aviv Airport and meet your tour manager who will be with the group throughout the course. Transfer to St. Margaret Guest House in Nazareth for check-in and group dinner. (D)

**Sunday, March 4 - Nazareth.** Full-day touring to include Caesarea, Megiddo, Haifa (Persian Gardens at Ba’hai Shrine) and Acre, including the ancient city and harbor. Evening exchange with students from Nazareth Academic Institute. (B)

**Monday, March 5 - Nazareth.** Full-day touring to include a morning visit at Nazareth Academic Institute, Tiberias, with a boat ride to Capernaum, and Tabgha, home to the Church of Multiplication. Stop at the Mt. of Beatitudes en route back to Nazareth. (B)

**Tuesday, March 6 - Nazareth/Jerusalem.** Morning visits to the Church of Annunciation, St. Joseph’s workshop, and Mary’s well. Afternoon visits to Cana, Yardenit baptismal site on the River Jordan, and Beth Shean. Before arriving in Jerusalem, stop at Mt. of Olives for a panoramic view of the city. Check-in at the Gloria Hotel. (B)

**Wednesday, March 7 - Jerusalem.** Full-day touring to include Church of All Nations, King David’s Tomb and room of the Last Supper on Mt. Zion, Tour the Old City including the Cardo, Temple Mount, Western Wall, Via Dolorosa, the Church of the Holy Sepulchre, Oriental Bazaar and Garden Tomb. (B)

**Thursday, March 8 - Jerusalem (Bethlehem).** Morning departure by private motorcoach to Bethlehem. Enter through the separation wall and visit the Nativity church, the Milk Grotto and St. Catherine’s Church. Time permitting stop at Cremisan Winery before returning to the guesthouse in Jerusalem. (B)

**Friday, March 9 - Jerusalem (Dead Sea).** Morning departure to the Dead Sea area, with visits of Qumran and Masada, including a cable car ride to the summit. Stop at Ein Gedi for bathing in the Dead Sea, then return to Jerusalem for a farewell dinner at a local restaurant. (B,D)

**Saturday, March 10 - Jerusalem/Chicago.** Early morning transfer to Tel Aviv Airport for departure on a British Airways flight to Chicago with connecting service in London. Evening arrival at Chicago O’Hare International Airport. (B-boxed)

Itinerary subject to change due to local scheduling.
Program cost and minimum number of participants: $2,595 based on a minimum of 20 paying participants. $2,795 based on a minimum of 15 paying participants. $3,135 based on a minimum of 10 paying participants. Based on exchange rates and tariffs in effect as of June 7, 2011; subject to change in the event that there is a fluctuation of more than 4%.

Air transportation (included in program cost): Chicago/Tel Aviv round-trip air based on currently confirmed fare by British Airways, subject to restrictions and cancellation penalties by the airline; current taxes and surcharges of $880 are included and subject to change until ticketed.

Surface travel/transfers: By private air-conditioned motorcoach as indicated in the itinerary.

Accommodations and meals: Twin occupancy accommodations as indicated or similar, with breakfast daily and two dinners. Single Supplement: $445*.

Program arrangements: As indicated in the itinerary including entrance fees for guided touring where applicable; services of professional English-speaking guide throughout Israel; tour-related gratuities (driver, guide, included meals). NOTE: Participants with special needs may incur surcharges for additional services. Handicap accessibility varies significantly from country to country. Participants are responsible for ensuring that they meet passport and visa requirements of each country visited. If required, passport and visa information must be received by Seminars International 45 days prior to departure; late information will result in additional fees.

Payment schedule: $500 per person due with enrollment by November 21, 2011; balance due December 29, 2011 upon receipt of invoice.

Cancellation and refund policy: Should cancellation occur prior to 90 days before departure, the initial deposit will be refunded less a $100 fee per person. In addition to any airline penalties, the following specified costs are non-refundable: 60-89 days: full deposit; 46-59 days: 50% of program price; 15 - 45 days: recoverable costs only (possible forfeiture of entire program cost); cancellations received less than 15 days from departure will receive no refund. Cancellations must be submitted in writing; the date such notification is received by Seminars International, Inc. is the cancellation date. Trip cancellation insurance is strongly recommended.

Exclusions: Items not listed above, including but not limited to meals other than those indicated; beverages except at breakfast; optional entertainment and excursions; excess baggage charges; all personal items, such as telephone calls, laundry expenses, individual room service; insurance (brochure available through Seminars International); non-tour-related gratuities; departure taxes (except U.S.); passport and visa fees. Note: Most countries require passports to be valid up to six months after the scheduled return.

Deviations policy: Some participants may wish to precede the group, extend their stay, or originate or deplane from different cities. Every effort will be made to assist program members who require deviations in air and/or land arrangements for a $75 per person service charge, plus any additional charges levied by the airline. Once the deviation has been booked, any changes may incur additional costs. Please remember that you are purchasing a group program. Thus, any deviation from the program arrangements will require staff time that is not calculated in the program price. No refund can be granted to participants who wish to omit portions of the itinerary. All deviation requests must be submitted in writing at least 75 days prior to departure to avoid any misunderstandings. Please make sure all participants have this information.

Seminars International (SI) acts only as an agent and neither SI nor any employee or appointee nor any other person, party or organization or agency collaborating with it is or shall be responsible or liable for any injury or loss, accident or damage, delay or deviation or curtailment, howsoever caused or arising or the consequences thereof, which may occur during any part of the travel or program or during such free time as the members may elect to spend independently on program. The airlines or commercial carriers concerned are not to be held responsible for any acts, omissions, or events during the time the passengers are not on board their planes or conveyances. The passage contracts in use by the airlines concerned, when issued, will constitute the sole contract between the airlines and the purchaser of this program and/or passenger.

The Alumni Office of the University of St. Francis will enroll alumni participants.

To enroll in EDUC 494 International Diversity: Study Abroad in Israel, students should:

1. Contact one of the faculty leaders, Dr. Salim Diab (sdiab@stfrancis.edu) or Dr. Donna Metlicka (dmetlicka@stfrancis.edu).

2. Enroll in EDUC 494 (0-3 credit hours)

3. Attend one or both Information Sessions (see below).

4. Complete a registration packet and pay $500.00 deposit.

To complete a registration packet (enrollment in the course is not required) and to submit the $500 deposit, please contact:

Alumni Office
500 Wilcox St., Joliet, IL 60435
alumni@stfrancis.edu, phone: 877.811.ALUM

Information Sessions
September 8, 2011 at 2:00 PM in the Moes Room, Tower Hall
October 4, 2011 at 7:00 PM in the Moes Room, Tower Hall

Statement of Conditions

The University of St. Francis, Seminars International (SI) and their agents and employees are not liable for any acts, omissions, or events during the time the passengers are not on board their planes or conveyances. The passage contracts in use by the airlines concerned, when issued, will constitute the sole contract between the airlines and the purchaser of this program and/or passenger.