Summer Study Away in Akko, Israel

Located on the Mediterranean Sea and the only natural harbor in the region, the UNESCO World Heritage site of Acre/Akko is the focus of this unique and cutting-edge field school. Throughout its history, Akko has served as a major emporium for the ancient world. Bronze and Iron Age Akko appears prominently in ancient Egyptian, Urartian, Assyrian, classical, and biblical accounts. Excavations on this ancient mound, known locally as Tell Napoleon or Tell el-Fukhar and this ancient mound, known locally as Tell Napoleon or Tell el-Fukhar and situated east of Akko, have uncovered unique and cutting-edge field school. Site of Acre/Akko is the focus of this site of Acre/Akko is the focus of this region, the UNESCO World Heritage region, the UNESCO World Heritage

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During more recent times, it is famous as the city that withstood Napoleon’s two-month siege and marked the end of his campaign to conquer the Middle East. Today Akko is a major tourist destination, well-known for its picturesque and historic Ottoman period town that is constructed on the ruins of the best-preserved Crusader city in the world.

Archaeological Excavation – CLCV300 2 course credits

This multidisciplinary course will be of interest to students not only in classics but also many other fields, including anthropology, architectural studies, art history, the Cities Program, history, international studies, Jewish studies, language and culture studies, museum studies, public policy, and religion. Rising seniors will be encouraged to think about thesis topics.

NEW summer options: CLCV300 participants will have the opportunity to study archaeoconcretionary and soil science, faunal analysis, architectural conservation, GIS mapping, and more! CLCV300 has also been approved for students interested in obtaining graduate level credit for this program, please contact Professor Martha Risser.

Advanced Level Independent Study – CLCV301 2 course credits

Advanced Level Independent Study in Akko is for students who would like to conduct research of the Tel in Akko with Professor Martha Risser, please be in touch for more information.

This program is divided into three components:

1. Archaeological field methods
   - The emphasis is on the actual work conducted in the field. Students will work in fields that are broken up into squares. Every student will be taught how to record the finds and will eventually be responsible for some of the recording. Recording methods and other duties include such things as: taking levels, recording find spots, filling out tags for pottery buckets, soil samples, and special finds; photo records; bulk drawing; making top plans; recording pottery; washing pottery; and attending pottery readings during which the excavated material they excavated is analyzed.

2. Public archaeology, conservation, and heritage
   - This part of the course will introduce students to the city of Akko from numerous perspectives, including history, archaeology, religion, culture, tourism, and city government through a series of lectures presented by the faculty on-site, work and tours of the Tel and the country, and guest speakers. The work will cover the major historical and archaeological periods represented in Akko and the larger context in which Akko functioned. To better understand the complexities involved in Akko, people from the city government and tourist agencies will meet with our students to talk about the problems faced in dealing with a modern city built directly upon a very ancient one.

3. Field trips
   - The first weekend will provide detailed tours of the remains of the many different periods in which the city of Akko flourished. The trip to Jerusalem will focus on the Old City of Jerusalem to provide a comparison of how a city directly connected to Akko deals with similar issues and remains from many of the same historical periods. The tours on the final weekend will focus on nearby cities and sites to reveal how Akko fits into its historic contexts, functioning as a part city, and yet remains quite unique.

The program

As part of a consortium with Pennsylvania State University and other schools, Trinity College runs a summer archaeological field school program at Akko in Israel. The main components of this course will be archaeological excavation, recording, field analysis, and preservation. Through site tours, field trips, workshops, and a lecture series, we will also study the major historical and archaeological periods represented in Akko and the larger context in which Akko functioned.

Living and working conditions

The Akko Field School will reside at the Israeli Naval Academy in Akko, on the Mediterranean Sea. The rooms are air conditioned and dormitory style. Each room accommodates three or four people and has a private bath. Working conditions will include daily excavation on the Akko site. You must be in good health and able to tolerate the excavation and location conditions.

Expenses

The comprehensive fee will cover tuition for two Trinity College credits, accommodations, required field trips, fees, emergency insurance, and most meals. The fee for the program does NOT include travel to and from Akko, Israel. A nonrefundable $1,000 deposit toward the program fee is due to the OP at 66 Vernon Street within two weeks of acceptance.

The dig in Akko was everything I hoped it would be. Archaeology is unique in that you can connect nearly any field of study to archaeological practice, and I was able to connect my classics and engineering majors.”

~ Claire Anderson ’14

Photo by Claire Anderson ’14
Application Instructions

To apply, please visit the Summer Programs Web site at www.trincoll.edu/urbanGlobal/StudyAway/Summer and apply online. Application deadline is April 1.

All students must be prepared to submit online the following materials for admission:

- The completed online application
- Application Agreement
- Faculty Recommendation completed by one of your college professors
- Personal statement explaining your interest in applying to the Akko, Israel Summer Program
- Trinity students may submit an unofficial transcript from their My Trin account
- Medical Clearance Statement

For general questions, contact:
Office of International Programs
Trinity College
66 Vernon Street
Hartford, CT 06106
Phone: (860) 297-2005
Fax: (860) 297-5218
oip@trincoll.edu

For academic questions, contact the faculty sponsor:
Trinity College Associate Professor of Classics Martha Risser
(860) 297-2386
martha.risser@trincoll.edu

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300 Summit Street
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www.trincoll.edu/UrbanGlobal/StudyAway/Summer