









TEL BETH-SHEMESH ARCHAEOLOGICAL PROJECT, ISRAEL

Course ID: ARCH 350D June 16 – July 13, 2019

DIRECTORS:

Dr. Shawn Bubel, University of Lethbridge (bubest@uleth.ca)

Dr. Dale Manor, Harding University (dmanor@harding.edu)

Dr. Zvi Lederman, Tel Aviv University (zvi.lederman@gmail.com)

Dr. Shlomo Bunimovitz, Tel Aviv University (bunimov@post.tau.ac.il)



INTRODUCTION

Since the beginning of modern explorations of the ancient world and its civilizations, Tel Beth-Shemesh attracted the interest of scholars and students of the ancient Near East. Its long sequence of occupational history has yielded a great deal of information about the past civilizations that flourished and faded in the region. The site is located between two valleys which were well-suited for grain production, growing grapes and olives, and animal grazing. They were also avenues of trade and communication. Tel Beth-Shemesh is located at the geographic meeting point of three different ethnic and cultural groups during the Iron Age, making it an ideal site to investigate ancient geopolitical, social, and cultural dynamics at a border zone. By applying insights gained through anthropological and archaeological research, the current expedition is shedding new light these and other theoretical issues.

Beginning in 1990, the Tel Beth-Shemesh Excavation Project has been run as a field school, where students from all over the world come together to learn the many aspects of archaeological field research: excavations methods and techniques, surveying with laser-based equipment, data acquisition and recording, artifact cataloguing, and cultural contextualizing. This summer our team will concentrate in the northern area of the site in order to explore cultural diversity, continuity, and changes from Level 4 (10th Century BCE) down to Level 9 (13th Century BCE). Our study not only examines the cultural changes that occurred at the site; it adds to our understanding of the region as a whole. We are especially excited to excavate more of an early Iron Age temple that we had partly exposed several

seasons ago. We will also focus on the Late Bronze Age destruction layer we exposed several seasons ago. Within and under this 13th Century BCE destruction layer we expect to find fired mudbricks, complete ceramic vessels, some of which will likely contain charred plant remains, and many artifacts still preserved in their primary context. We will be excavating in an area of the site where we discovered a very large palace from the el-Amarna Period (14th Century BCE), which may have been the seat of a (female!) monarch who ruled the walled Canaanite city and its environs, and corresponded with Amenhotep III.

ACADEMIC CREDIT UNITS & TRANSCRIPTS

Credit Units: Attending students will be awarded 8 semester credit units (equivalent to 12 quarter credit units) through our academic partner, Connecticut College. Connecticut College is a private, highly ranked liberal arts institution with a deep commitment to undergraduate education. Students will receive a letter grade for attending this field school (see grading assessment and matrix). This field school provides a minimum of 160 direct instructional hours. Students are encouraged to discuss the transferability of credit units with faculty and registrars at their home institution prior to attending this field school.

Transcripts: An official copy of transcripts will be mailed to the permanent address listed by students on their online application. One more transcript may be sent to the student home institution at no cost. Additional transcripts may be ordered at any time through the National Student Clearinghouse: http://bit.ly/2hvurkl.

PREREQUISITES

There are no prerequisites for participation in this field school. Students will receive hands-on training in archaeological field work so will spend most of their time learning how to excavate and record their finds. Students must come equipped with sufficient excitement and adequate understanding that the archaeological endeavor requires real, hard work in a camp-like environment. It will be hot, temperatures can rise above 30°C (85°F), and they will get very dirty. Students will be taught how to use a variety of excavation tools, from pick-axes, shovels, and wheelbarrows, to trowels, brushes, and sieves, and are expected to use all of them. Archaeology involves physical work and exposure to the elements and thus, requires a measure of acceptance that this will not be the typical university learning environment. Students will get sweaty, tired, and have to work closely with others. We hope that the thrill of discovering archaeological remains that were buried for thousands of years will outweigh the stiff muscles and early mornings.

DISCLAIMER - PLEASE READ CAREFULLY

Our primary concern is with education. Traveling and conducting field research involve risk. Students interested in participating in IFR programs must weigh whether the potential risk is worth the value of education provided. While risk is inherent in everything we do, we do not take risk lightly. The IFR engages in intensive review of each field school location prior to approval. Once a program is accepted, the IFR reviews each program annually to make sure it complies with all our standards and policies, including student safety.

We do our best to follow schedule and activities as outlined in this syllabus. Yet local permitting agencies, political, environmental, personal, or weather conditions may force changes. This syllabus, therefore, is only a general commitment. Students should allow flexibility and adaptability as research work is frequently subject to change.

Archaeological field work involves physical work in the outdoors. You should be aware that conditions in

the field are different than those you experience in your home, dorms, or college town. This program operates in south-central Israel. During the day, temperatures can reach above 30°C (85°F) and humidity is very low. In order to be protected from the sun you must wear clothing that covers your shoulders and a hat. Sunscreen and sturdy, closed-toe footwear are required. No sandals are permitted on site. Scorpions, spiders, and the occasional snake are encountered in the excavation area.

If you have any medical concerns, please consult with your doctor. For all other concerns, please consult with the project directors.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

The main objective of this field school is to expose students to the archaeological process, from excavation to analysis, and the importance of rigorous yet adaptable excavation and recording techniques. Through hands-on learning, students gain experience in excavating and field documentation. Students will also be introduced to the intellectual challenges presented by archaeological research, including the need to adjust field strategies as discoveries are made and theories change. Furthermore, students receive training in laboratory analysis and have the opportunity to process and catalogue the cultural remains they find. The broader context of their archaeological finds and the site itself will be explained as well. By the end of the field school, students will have a solid understanding of archaeological field methods, recognize the value of detailed excavation records, and an appreciation for the process. They will also know how their efforts and discoveries contribute to the academic goals of the research project.

Students will participate in the following research activities:

Excavations: Students will participate in guided excavations in the northern area of Tel Beth-Shemesh. The excavations will focus on the early Iron Age (1,200-1,100 BCE) and Late Bronze Age (1,250-1,200 BCE) occupation levels. These occupation levels are excavated using the Wheeler-box method. Students will be assigned to a 5 x 5 meter unit and will learn alongside other students how to excavate the cultural deposits within their unit. They will be taught how and when to use a pick-axe, flat hoe, small pick, trowel, brush, sieve, and other tools. They will to become proficient with these tools by the end of the field school.

Recording: Students will learn how to draw daily top-plans, measure and record the provenience of archaeological finds, document the matrix surrounding the cultural remains, and draw stratigraphic profiles. They will also learn how to fill out feature and sediment (locus/layer) forms and artifact catalogues.

Laboratory Analysis: Scheduled laboratory workshops will take place throughout the field school. Students are expected to participate in all laboratory tasks, including Pottery washing, sorting, reading, and cataloging, lithic washing and cataloguing, and the dry brushing and cataloguing of the faunal remains. Other activities, such as the classification of groundstone artifacts, will depend on the types of finds unearthed this coming season.

Students are expected to arrive at the guesthouse on Sunday, June 16. There will be an orientation session in the late afternoon. The excavations begin on Monday, June 17 and run until Thursday July 11. During the week (Sunday – Thursday) we will be excavating at the site from 5:00 until 13:00. In the afternoons, from 14:30 until 18:00, we will complete the laboratory work. A number of task-related workshops will take place in the field and the laboratory. Additional mini-workshops will be given as particular cultural remains are excavated. The formal lectures will be held just before dinner (18:00).

Weekend Field Trips: On the weekends (Friday-Saturday) students are free to travel on their own but are encouraged to participate in organized site tours throughout Israel with one of the project directors.

The four weekend tours will be to sites in southern Israel, central Israel, northern Israel, and Jerusalem. Site lectures will be given at all sites, and the broader context of the Tel Beth-Shemesh excavations discussed. The costs for each tour ranges from \$300 to \$225. Accommodations, dinner, breakfast, transportation, and all site entrance fees are included in the tour prices. Students that are interested in participating should let the project director know prior to departure.

LEARNING OUTCOMES

On successful completion of this field school, students will:

- Understand the different elements of this archaeological field project and the relationships between these elements;
- have a solid grasp of archaeological field methods and be able to apply them at this site and others;
- be able to record the excavation process and archaeological finds, and appreciate the value of detailed excavation records;
- have gained significant experience processing and analysing archaeological remains, with a concentration on ceramics, lithics, and faunal remains; and
- know how their efforts and discoveries contribute to the academic goals of the research project.

GRADING MATRIX

Students are required to participate in all components of the field school, including field work, laboratory work, workshops, and lectures. Their grades are determined as follows:

40% - *Field work*. Students will be assessed on the quality of their field work (i.e. their ability to effectively use the excavation tools, correctly articulate a cultural feature, trim a baulk, measure the provenience of an artifact, record their finds, use the level record sheets, fill out pottery tags, etc.).

20% - *Laboratory work*. Students will also be assessed on the quality of their laboratory work (i.e. participation in Pottery washing and reading, proficiency in ceramic classification, lithic cataloguing, and faunal element identification).

20% - *Field Journal*. Students are required to keep a personal field journal that will be graded at the end of the course. This field journal must include a daily top-plan sketch and a summary of day's excavation activities. Students are also encouraged to note the significance of their finds as they learn more about them, the site, and the broader cultural sphere. These journals will be returned to the students before they leave Israel.

20% - Final Examination. Students will take an exam in the last week of the field school. They will be tested on excavation techniques, recording methods, and the context of the cultural remains they recovered at the site. They are expected to be able to link the lectures and readings to their field and laboratory work.

TRAVEL & MEETING POINT

Hold purchasing your airline ticket until six (6) weeks prior to departure date. Natural disasters, political changes, weather conditions and a range of other factors may require the cancelation of a field school. The IFR typically takes a close look at local conditions 6-7 weeks prior to program beginning and make Go/No Go decisions by then. This time frame still allows the purchase of discounted airline tickets while protecting students from potential loss of airline ticket costs if we decide to cancel a program.

If your flight is delayed or you miss the group's designated meeting time, please call, text, or email the project director immediately. A local emergency cell phone number will be provided to all enrolled students.

VISA REQUIREMENTS

US citizens do not need visa to enter Israel, but an onward or return ticket and proof of sufficient funds are required for entry. Although the Israeli government does not require that a passport be valid for six months from the date of entry, airlines routinely do so and may decline boarding if a traveler has less than six months validity on his or her passport. Travelers normally receive a free, three-month tourist visa upon arrival in Israel, which may be extended.

Israel no longer stamps passports with an entry stamp, but instead provides all travelers with an entry card, although travelers reserve the right to stamp the passport. All travelers should retain this entry card throughout the duration of their stay in Israel as it is their proof of lawful entry. Although not required for exit, travelers are advised to have their entry card to avoid delays when departing Israel.

Citizens of other countries should research the website of the Israeli Embassy in their home country for visa requirements.

ACCOMMODATIONS

During the week, students and staff stay in the modest but comfortable guesthouse at Ramat Shapiro, which is a few miles from the site. Each room accommodates 3-4 people, is air-conditioned, and has an adjoining bathroom. Bedding and towels are provided by the guest-house.

All meals will be communal events and will provide plenty of nutritious, basic food in the tradition of local cousin. Lunch and dinner are served in the central dining room at the guesthouse. A variety of dishes will be prepared, each of which will have a protein, vegetables, and a starch (rice, potatoes, bread, etc.). Israel is known for its fresh vegetables and fruit, so students will have lots of opportunities to try these. Breakfast is served on site (second breakfast) and normally includes cucumbers, tomatoes, and other fresh vegetables, eggs, bread, cereal, fresh milk, yoghurt, and cottage cheese. Food treats on the weekends would be falafel and shawarma dishes. The meals at the guesthouse are kosher. Specific dietary needs cannot be accommodated but vegetable dishes are always served. Tap water at the guesthouse and throughout Israel is safe to drink.

Students are encouraged to participate in the optional weekend field trips. We will stay at hostels or guesthouses in southern and northern Israel, and in Jerusalem. Those not participating must find alternative accommodations.

COURSE SCHEDULE

All IFR field schools begin with safety orientation. This orientation includes proper behavior at the field area, proper clothing, local cultural sensitivities and sensibilities, potential fauna and flora hazards, review of IFR harassment and discrimination policies, and review of the student Code of Conduct

Week 1 (June 16-22):

Sunday Students and staff arrive at the Tel Aviv International Airport (TLV) and transfer as a

group to the guesthouse

18:00: Preliminary introductions, course overview

18:30: Group dinner

Monday 4:00: Rise-and-shine, light breakfast

5:00: Take the bus to the site

5:30: Site orientation and tool overview

8:30: Second Breakfast on site 9:00: Site clean-up and grid layout 13:00: Return to the guesthouse 13:30: Group lunch 14:30: Laboratory setup 16:30: Shower break

18:00: Lecture - Tel Beth-Shemesh Excavations 1

19:00: Group Dinner

Tuesday 5:00: Bus to the site

5:30: Excavation unit orientation8:30: Second Breakfast on site

9:00: Unit excavation

13:00: Return to the guesthouse

13:30: Group lunch

14:30: Laboratory orientation

16:30: Shower break

18:00: Lecture - Tel Beth-Shemesh Excavations 2

19:00: Group Dinner

Wednesday 5:00: Bus to the site

5:30: Unit excavation

8:30: Second Breakfast on site

9:00: Excavation recording workshop 13:00: Return to the guesthouse

13:30: Group lunch

14:30: Pottery washing and reading workshop

16:30: Shower break

18:00: Lecture - Tel Beth-Shemesh Excavations 3

19:00: Group Dinner

Thursday 5:00: Bus to the site

5:30: Unit excavation

8:30: Second Breakfast on site

9:00: Unit excavation 12:00: Tel Tour 1

13:00: Return to the guesthouse

13:30: Group lunch

14:30: Pottery washing and reading

16:30: Shower break 19:00: Group Dinner

Optional Weekend Tour 1 – Southern Israel (possible sites include Arad, Avdat, Beer Sheva, Lachish, Masada, Ein Gedi, Qumran, and the Dead Sea)

Friday 7:00: Rise-and-shine

7:30: Breakfast

8:00: Depart for weekend field trip to the south

9:00: Visit archaeological sites in southern Israel with one of the project directors

19:00: Check in to hostel 19:30: Group Dinner

Saturday 7:00: Rise-and-shine

7:30: Breakfast

8:00: Visit archaeological sites in southern Israel with one of the project directors

19:30: Group Dinner

21:00: Return to the guesthouse

Week 2 (June 23-29):

Sunday 5:00: Bus to the site

5:30: Unit excavation

8:30: Second Breakfast on site

9:00: Unit excavation

13:00: Return to the guesthouse

13:30: Group lunch 14:30: Pottery washing 17:00: Shower break

18:00: Lecture – The Philistines and Tel Beth-Shemesh

19:00: Group Dinner

Monday 5:00: Bus to the site

5:30: Excavation unit orientation8:30: Second Breakfast on site

9:00: Unit excavation

13:00: Return to the guesthouse

13:30: Group lunch 14:30: Shower break

17:00: Pottery reading workshop 18:00: Lecture - Faunal Analysis

19:00: Group Dinner

Tuesday 5:00: Bus to the site

5:30: Unit excavation

8:30: Second Breakfast on site

9:00: Unit excavation 12:00: Tel Tour 2

13:00: Return to the guesthouse

13:30: Group lunch

14:30: Pottery washing and reading 13:00: Faunal analysis workshop

17:00: Shower break

18:00: Lecture – The Use of GIS for Recording and Analysis at Tel Beth-Shemesh

19:00: Group Dinner

Wednesday 5:00: Bus to the site

5:30: Unit excavation

8:30: Second Breakfast on site 9:00: Plant remains workshop

13:00: Return to the guesthouse

13:30: Group lunch

14:30: Pottery washing and reading

17:00: Shower break

18:00: Lecture: - Canaanite Culture of the Late Bronze Period

19:00: Group Dinner

Thursday 5:00: Bus to the site

5:30: Unit excavation

8:30: Second Breakfast on site

9:00: Unit excavation

13:00: Return to the guesthouse

13:30: Group lunch

14:30: Pottery washing and reading

17:00: Shower break 19:00: Group Dinner

Optional Weekend Tour 2 – Central Israel (possible sites include Tel Aviv (Joppa), Stalactite cave, and Beit Guvrin)

Friday 7:00: Rise-and-shine

7:30: Breakfast

8:00: Depart for a day trip to Tel Aviv and Central Israel with one of the project directors

19:00: Return to the guesthouse

19:30: Group Dinner

Saturday Free day to study and catch up on field journals

Week 3 (June 30-July 6):

Sunday 5:00: Bus to the site

5:30: Unit excavation

8:30: Second Breakfast on site

9:00: Unit excavation

13:00: Return to the guesthouse

13:30: Group lunch

14:30: Pottery washing and reading workshop

17:00: Shower break

18:00: Lecture - Are We Digging 'NIN-UR.MAH.MES's City?

19:00: Group Dinner

Monday 5:00: Bus to the site

5:30: Excavation unit orientation 8:30: Second Breakfast on site

9:00: Unit excavation

13:00: Return to the guesthouse

13:30: Group lunch 14:30: Shower break 17:00: Pottery reading workshop 18:00: Lecture – Lithic Analysis

19:00: Group Dinner

Tuesday 5:00: Bus to the site

5:30: Unit excavation

8:30: Second Breakfast on site

9:00: Unit excavation 12:00: Tel Tour 3

13:00: Return to the guesthouse

13:30: Group lunch

14:30: Pottery washing and reading

17:00: Shower break

18:00: Lecture - A Priest House at Beth-Shemesh?

19:00: Group Dinner

Wednesday 5:00: Bus to the site

5:30: Unit excavation

8:30: Second Breakfast on site 9:00: Plant remains workshop 13:00: Return to the guesthouse

13:30: Group lunch

14:30: Pottery washing and reading workshop

17:00: Shower break

18:00: Lecture - Dust and Ashes: Geoarchaeology at Tel Beth-Shemesh

19:00: Group Dinner

Thursday 5:00: Bus to the site

5:30: Unit excavation

8:30: Second Breakfast on site

9:00: Unit excavation

13:00: Return to the guesthouse

13:30: Group lunch

14:30: Pottery washing and reading

17:00: Shower break 19:00: Group Dinner

Optional Weekend Tour 3 – Northern Israel (possible sites include, Akko, Caesarea, Hazor, Megiddo, Tel Dan, Beit She'an, Nimrod Fortress, Nazareth, and the Sea of Galilee).

Friday 7:00: Rise-and-shine

7:30: Breakfast

8:00: Depart for weekend field trip to the north

9:00: Visit archaeological sites in northern Israel with one of the project directors

19:00: Check in to hostel 19:30: Group Dinner

Saturday 7:00: Rise-and-shine

7:30: Breakfast

8:00: Visit archaeological sites in northern Israel with one of the project directors

19:00: Return to the guesthouse

19:30: Group Dinner

Week 4 (July 7-July 13):

Sunday 5:00: Bus to the site

5:30: Unit excavation

8:30: Second Breakfast on site

9:00: Unit excavation

13:00: Return to the guesthouse

13:30: Group lunch

14:30: Pottery washing and reading

17:00: Shower break

18:00: Lecture - What We Have Learned This Season at Tel Beth-Shemesh

19:00: Group Dinner

Monday 5:00: Bus to the site

5:30: Excavation unit orientation 8:30: Second Breakfast on site

9:00: Unit excavation 12:00: Tel Tour 4

13:00: Return to the guesthouse

13:30: Group lunch 14:30: Shower break

17:00: Pottery reading workshop 18:00: Study Review Session

19:00: Group Dinner

Tuesday 5:00: Bus to the site

5:30: Unit excavation

8:30: Second Breakfast on site

9:00: Unit excavation

13:00: Return to the guesthouse

13:30: Group lunch

14:30: Pottery washing and reading workshop

16:00: Shower break 17:00: Final Exam 19:00: Group dinner

Wednesday 5:00: Bus to the site

5:30: Unit excavation

8:30: Second Breakfast on site 9:00: Plant remains workshop 13:00: Return to the guesthouse

13:30: Group lunch

14:30: Pottery washing and reading

15:00: Artifact packing 17:00: Shower break

19:00: Group dinner and farewell party

Thursday 5:00: Bus to the site

5:30: Excavation unit and area clean-up for final photos

8:00: Final photos

9:00: Equipment cleaning and packing 13:00: Return to the guesthouse

13:30: Group lunch

14:30: Depart for Jerusalem

17:00: Visit the city of Jerusalem with one of the project directors

19:00: Group dinner at the hostel in Jerusalem

Optional Weekend Tour 4 - Jerusalem

Friday 7:00: Rise-and-shine

7:30: Breakfast

9:00: Visit the city of Jerusalem with one of the project directors

19:30: Group Dinner at the hostel in Jerusalem

Saturday Transfer to Tel Aviv international airport to fly home

Optional three-day After Trip – Details provided to registered students

EQUIPMENT LIST

Students are required to bring a hard-covered field note book, pens, pencils, an eraser, a small cm ruler, and a Marshalltown trowel. The trowel must be a pointing trowel that is between 4 and 6 inches long. Everyone must wear robust, closed shoes or work boots on site. No one is permitted on site with sneakers or sandals. Work gloves are not required as there are several pairs on site, but students may wish to bring their own pair. Hats must be worn at all times when outdoors and sunscreen is necessary as temperatures are typically above 25 degrees Celsius. For this reason, everyone must wear a T-shirt or long-sleeved shirt on site to protect their shoulders from burning. Sunglasses with UV protection are also recommended.

A detailed packing list will be sent to the students one month before departure.

REQUIRED READINGS

The readings listed below will be posted on the field school website or via Dropbox. Hard copies will also be available at the field school.

Ashkenazi, Hai, Look, Cory, Lederman, Zvi, and Bunimovitz, Shlomo

2008 Destruction Analysis Using GIS at Tel Beth-Shemesh, Israel. Paper presented at the American Schools of Oriental Research Annual Meeting, Boston.

Bubel, Shawn

2012 Contributions of Lithic Analysis to the Understanding of the Late Bronze and Iron Ages at Tel Beth-Shemesh. Paper presented at the American Schools of Oriental Research Annual Meeting, Chicago.

Bunimovitz, Shlomo and Faust, Avraham

2010 Re-constructing Biblical Archaeology: Toward an Integration of Archaeology and the Bible, In *Historical Biblical Archaeology and the Future: The New Pragmatism,* edited by Thomas E. Levy, pp. 45-56. Equinox Publishing Limited: Sheffield.

Bunimovitz, Shlomo and Lederman, Zvi

- 2015 Migration, Hybridization, and Resistance: Identity Dynamics in the Early Iron Age Southern Levant. In *The Cambridge Prehistory of the Bronze and Iron Age Mediterranean*, edited by A. Bernard Knapp and Peter van Dommelen, pp. 252-265. Cambrige University Press.
- 2012 Iron Age Iron: From Invention to Innovation, In *Studies in Mediterranean Archaeology: Fifty Years On*, edited by Jennifer M. Webb and David Frankel, Vol. CXXXVII, pp. 103-112. Astroms Forlag: Uppsala.
- 2011 Canaanite Resistance: The Philistines and Beth-Shemesh A Case Study from Iron Age I. *Bulletin of the American Schools of Oriental Research* 334: 37-51.
- The Archaeology of Border Communities Renewed Excavations at Tel Beth-Shemesh, Part 1: The Iron Age, *Near Eastern Archaeology* 72: 114-142.
- The Early Israelite Monarchy in the Sorek Valley: Tel Beth-Shemesh and Tel Batash (Timnah) in the 10th and 9th Centuries BCE. In *I Will Speak the Riddles of Ancient Times: Archaeological and Historical Studies in Honor of Amihai Mazar on the Occasion of His Sixtieth Birthday*, edited by Aren M. Maeir and Pierre de Miroschedji, Vol. 2, pp. 402-427. Eisenbrauns: Winona Lake.
- 1997 Beth-Shemesh: Culture Conflict on Judah's Frontier, *Biblical Archaeology Review* 23 (1): 42-49, 75-77.

Chovanec, Zuzana, Bunimovitz, Shlomo, and Lederman, Zvi

2015 Is There Opium Here? – Analysis of Cypriot Base Ring Juglets from Tel Beth-Shemesh, Israel, Mediterranean Archaeology and Archaeometry, Vol 15, No. 2: 175-189.

Manor Dale

- A Priest's House at Beth-Shemesh? And Incised qdš Bowl and the 701 BCE Destruction. In Tel Beth-Shemesh: A Border Community in Judah. Renewed Excavations 1990-2000: The Iron Age, edited by Shlomo Bunimovitz and Zvi Lederman. Institute of Archaeology, Monograph Series. Tel Aviv University Press.
- 2013 Beth-Shemesh. In *The Oxford Encyclopedia of The Bible and Archaeology*, edited by Daniel M. Master, Volume 1, pp. 129-139. Oxford University Press.

Ziffer, I., Bunimovitz, S., and Lederman, Z.

Divine or Humane? An Intriguing Plaque Figurine from Tel Beth-Shemesh, Ägypten und Levante 19: 333-341.

RECOMMENDED READINGS

Bunimovitz, Shlomo and Lederman, Zvi

- Solving a Century-Old Puzzle: New Discoveries at the Middle Bronze Gate of Tel Beth-Shemesh, Palestine Exploration Quarterly 145 (1):6-24.
- 2011 Close Yet Apart: Diverse Cultural Dynamics at Iron Age Beth-Shemesh and Lachish. In *The Fire Signals of Lachish: Studies in the Archaeology and History of Israel in the Late Bronze Age, Iron Age, and Persian Period in Honor of David Ussishkin,* edited by Israel Finkelstein and Nadav Na'aman, pp. 33-53. Eisenbrauns.
- 2010 A Unique Philistine Fish Motif from Tel Beth-Shemesh, *Israel Exploration Journal* 60: 58-71.

Gillings, Mark and Wheatley, David

2005 Chapter 11: Geographic Information Systems. In *Handbook of Archaeological Methods*, Vol I, pp. 373-422, edited by Herbert D.G. Maschner and Christopher Chippindale. AltaMira Press.

Hill, Christopher, L.

2005 Chapter 25: Geoarchaeology. In *Handbook of Archaeological Methods*, Vol. II, pp. 1002-1033, edited by Herbert D.G. Maschner and Christopher Chippindale. AltaMira Press.

Knappett, Carl

2005 Chapter 18: Pottery. In *Handbook of Archaeological Methods*, Vol. II, pp. 673-714, edited by Herbert D.G. Maschner and Christopher Chippindale. AltaMira Press.

Levy, Thomas, E., Najjar, Mohammad, and Higham, Thomas

2010 Ancient Texts and Archaeology Revisited – Radiocarbon and Biblical Dating in the Southern Levant, *Antiquity* 84: 834-847.

Lyman, Lee

2005 Chapter 21: Zooarchaeology: In *Handbook of Archaeological Methods*, Vol. II, pp. 835-870, edited by Herbert D.G. Maschner and Christopher Chippindale. AltaMira Press.

Mazar, Amihai

1992 Archaeology of the Land of the Bible. Yale University Press. (Relevant Chapters: 7 - 12).

McCarter, Kyle, P., Bunimovitz, Shlomo, and Lederman, Zvi

2001 An Archaei Ba'l Inscription from Tel Beth-Shemesh, *Tel Aviv*, Vol. 38: 179-193.