



M.A. in Ancient Judaism and Christian Origins

THE M.A. is a 36-credit [48 with 12 credits of Modern Hebrew] multidisciplinary curriculum that introduces the student to the "fields of knowledge necessary for advanced research in the New Testament and Christian Origins. The program is unique in that it engages aspects of language, history, religious thought and material culture for both Judaism and Christianity in late antiquity. Students will study with both Christian and Jewish scholars in their areas of expertise.



Seat of Moses, Chorazin, Israel (photo: Maureen Garcia)

At the center of the Christian faith is the belief that God has acted in history. For this reason the elements of language, culture, history, and physical setting, which frame the Gospel's sacred narrative, are important for a more profound understanding of what has been accomplished on our behalf. Students in Nyack College's *Ancient Judaism and Christian Origins* MA program are challenged in heart and mind to engage the world of the Bible, and so to hear more clearly the message of Scripture. No other academic program affords students such a rich opportunity to study Jesus and the world in which he lived.



Mona Lisa of the Galilee, Sepphoris, Israel (photo: MFG)

"Judaism and Christianity are not mother and daughter, but they are in reality sisters, because the mother of both is ancient Judaism"-David Flusser

Program Coursework Includes:

- Study in Biblical Lands
- Historical Geography
- Jewish Hermeneutical Methods and the New Testament
- Qumran and Hellenistic Christianity
- N.T. Seminars (e.g. Parables, Paul, Midrash in Art, etc.)
- Hebrew Readings in the Dead Sea Scrolls and Early Rabbinic Literature
- Synoptic Gospels

Admissions Info:

1. Baccalaureate degree from an accredited institution.
2. A GPA of 3.0 or above.
3. GRE exam scores at or above: Verbal – 153, Quantitative – 150 and Writing 4.5.
4. Competency by exam in Biblical Hebrew.

Questions?

Contact Us

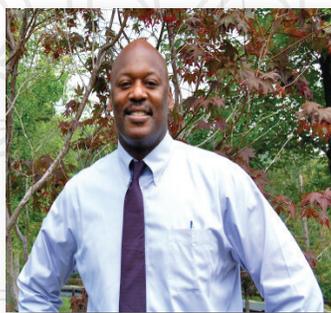
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Faculty



Program Director R. Steven Notley is Distinguished Professor of New Testament and Christian Origins at Nyack College. He lived in Jerusalem for sixteen years and received his Ph.D. in Comparative Religions from the Hebrew University, where he studied under the late Professor David Flusser. He is a recognized leader in his field and continues to publish collaboratively with Israeli scholars. Among his list of publications, he co-authored with Flusser the historical biography, *The Sage from Galilee: Rediscovering Jesus' Genius* (Eerdmans 2007); with Ze'ev Safrai (Bar Ilan University) *Eusebius, Onomasticon: A Triglott Edition with Notes and Commentary* (Brill 2005); and with Anson Rainey (Tel Aviv University) the monumental biblical atlas *The Sacred Bridge: Carta's Atlas of the Biblical World* (Carta 2005). Recently he completed his second work with Safrai, a pioneering collection and annotated translation of the earliest rabbinic parables that provide the literary and religious context for the parables of Jesus, *Parables of the Sages* (Carta 2011).



David Emanuel is Assistant Professor of Hebrew Bible at Nyack College. He is a British national who received his M.Sc. in Computer Science from the University of London in 1997. He lived for eleven years in Jerusalem where he studied at the Hebrew University, receiving his M.A. (Bible and Ancient Near East) and then studied under the direction of Professor Yair Zakovich for his Ph.D. in Hebrew Bible with an emphasis in inner-biblical interpretation and allusion in the Psalter. In Jerusalem he worked at the Orion Center for the Study of the Dead Sea Scrolls and assisted in editing the Encyclopaedia Aethiopica, which is devoted to providing detailed information on all aspects of Ethiopian society: history, languages, religions, food, wildlife, politics etc. His most recent publication is *From Bards to Biblical Exegetes* (Wipf and Stock 2012).