PROGRAMS of STUDY

The Hebrew University of Jerusalem
Rothberg International School

https://overseas.huji.ac.il
The Hebrew University of Jerusalem, Israel’s leading university and research institution, is consistently ranked among the top 100 universities in the world. The University’s faculty and alumni are prominent world scholars and recipients of many national and international awards, including eight Nobel Prizes. Currently, some 23,000 students, from different countries and diverse religious and ethnic backgrounds, study on the University’s four campuses.

The University opened its first program for international students in 1955 with 22 students. Today its Rothberg International School (RIS) offers a variety of programs each year to more than 2,000 students, coming from about 75 countries. Classes at the RIS combine academic excellence with the opportunity to live and breathe the subject matter. The School’s wide-ranging academic offerings are complemented by stimulating extracurricular activities, including workshops, seminars and tours around Jerusalem and the rest of Israel.
A city sacred to Judaism, Christianity and Islam, Jerusalem has captured the hearts, minds and souls of the world for over 3,000 years. Jerusalem is a meeting of past and present, of ancient roots and modern innovations. It is a city about which the Talmud says: “Of the ten measures of beauty allotted to the world, nine were given to Jerusalem.”

Jerusalem is well known for its abundant historical and holy sites as well as its fascinating tourist attractions. This thriving metropolis is rich in art galleries and museums, theaters and concert venues, restaurants and cafes. Throughout the year, the city hosts numerous festivals, exhibitions, international conferences, sports competitions, outdoor performances and many other special events. As the capital of Israel, Jerusalem is also a political center of national and international significance.
Programs in the RIS Division of Graduate Studies are offered in cooperation with faculties and schools at the Hebrew University. Both degree and visiting student options are offered, with seminars and research tutorials in the areas of Jewish and religious studies, Jewish education, Israel studies, the Middle East, the Bible, nonprofit management and leadership, business and law. These courses are taught mainly in English. Modern Hebrew language instruction is available on all levels, as are courses in Biblical Hebrew, Arabic, Akkadian and Greek. Extensive academic advising is provided to all students in the Division.

Master's Degree Programs in English

One-Year Programs

» **New** MBA in Entrepreneurship and Innovation, in conjunction with the Jerusalem School of Business Administration
» M.A. in Islamic and Middle Eastern Studies, in conjunction with the Department of Islamic and Middle Eastern Studies
» M.A. in Israel Studies: Society and Politics, in conjunction with the Department of Political Science and the Department of Sociology and Anthropology
» M.A. in Jewish Education, in conjunction with the Melton Centre for Jewish Education
» M.A. in Nonprofit Management and Leadership, in conjunction with the Paul Baerwald School of Social Work and Social Welfare
» LL.M. in Human Rights and International Law, in conjunction with the Faculty of Law
» LL.M. in International Business Law and Intellectual Property, in conjunction with the Faculty of Law

Two-Year Programs

» M.A. in Jewish Studies, in conjunction with the Mandel Institute of Jewish Studies
» M.A. in The Bible and the Ancient Near East, in conjunction with the Department of Bible and the Institute of Archaeology and the Ancient Near East

Graduate Year Program (with Semester Option)

This program has been structured to satisfy a broad range of students, from those who have just completed their Bachelor’s degrees to those who are working on their doctoral dissertations. Students design their own program, based on their academic interests and research goals. Credits earned may be transferable to programs abroad or used to fulfill certain graduate degree requirements at the Hebrew University.

Special Programs for Visiting Students

» The Hebrew University Program for Students from the Pontifical Biblical Institute in Rome
» One Year Program for Theology Students from Germany
» **New** Journalism and the Media in Contemporary Israel
» Iberian and Latin American Studies & the Middle East (taught in Spanish), in conjunction with the Department of Romance and Latin American Studies

In the Graduate Summer Semester, courses are offered in two major areas: Management Skills for Social Entrepreneurs and Israel and the Middle East.
Undergraduate students are offered a variety of rich, interdisciplinary programs extending over an academic year or semester. Students attend an intensive Hebrew language course (Ulpan), designed to facilitate their acclimation to life in Israel, before the start of their program. Students also enjoy an extensive program of extracurricular activities.

Undergraduate Study Abroad Program (USAP)

The USAP, taught mainly in English, is open to qualified undergraduates who have completed at least one year of university. Credits earned in the following areas may be transferred to the student’s home school:

- The Bible, Archaeology and the Ancient Near East
- Jewish History, Civilization and Education
- Israeli History, Politics, Society and Law
- Middle Eastern and Islamic Studies
- Hebrew and Arabic Language
- Religious Studies (including Early Christianity)
- Brain and Behavioral Sciences
- Business (with the Hebrew University’s Jerusalem School of Business Administration)
- Law (with the Hebrew University’s Faculty of Law)

Additional courses are also offered in English in other departments of the Hebrew University. Qualified students may conduct a supervised independent study project or an internship.

The following Special Programs are offered:

- Judaism and Christianity in Late Antiquity
- Dynamics of the Middle East (DOME)
- New Journalism and the Media in Contemporary Israel
- Jewish Experiential Education Program
- New Quantitative Biology
- Arabic Immersion Program
- Spring in Jerusalem Honors Program (initiated together with Harvard University), for outstanding 3rd and 4th year students

Arts Programs

(Open to Undergraduate and Graduate Students)

- DanceJerusalem and Jerusalem Sounds – offered jointly with the Jerusalem Academy of Music and Dance
- ArtJerusalem – offered jointly with the Bezalel Academy of Arts and Design, Jerusalem
- New Film Jerusalem – offered jointly with the Sam Spiegel Film and Television School, Jerusalem

Programs for Freshman (First-Year) Students

- Freshman/Academic Gap Program – specially designed for students planning to pursue a bachelor’s degree in their home country; credits are generally transferable to North American universities
- Israel Universities Option (IUO) – prepares students for continued academic study in Israel, either at the Hebrew University or another Israeli institution of higher education
- Hebrew and Israeli Culture Program (HICP) – offers students the opportunity to achieve proficiency in Hebrew while exploring and studying Israeli society and culture
- New Thrive at Hebrew University combines academic studies at the RIS with a Jewish enrichment program run by Jewish Year Abroad, a private educational provider
- Nativ College Leadership Program in Israel – for recent North American high school graduates, in affiliation with the United Synagogue of Conservative Judaism
Prestigious areas of study at the Hebrew University are now open to new, outstanding international students in the framework of an innovative admissions track for Bachelor’s degree studies – BASIS. The program commences with a Foundation Year at the RIS. Students who successfully complete the year are admitted directly to Bachelor’s degree programs in their selected department. This unique track, the first of its kind in Israel, facilitates a challenging, personal experience in an international environment in Jerusalem.

**HEBREWARD LANGUAGE INSTRUCTION**

*https://overseas.huji.ac.il/hebrew*

Modern Hebrew language courses are offered on six levels, ranging from beginners to upper advanced, to students and mature learners. Classes are held during the autumn and spring semesters, as well as in the summer and winter between semesters. Students benefit from dynamic language instruction, complemented by such activities as workshops, guest lectures and singing. Special emphasis is placed on both spoken and written Hebrew.

The following intensive courses are offered:

» **Jerusalem Ulpan** (late June–July)

» **Summer Ulpan** (August–September), designed for new students commencing studies at the Hebrew University in the autumn semester

» **Scopus Ulpan** (August)

» **Undergraduate Ulpan**, intended for new RIS Undergraduate students only

» **Winter Ulpan** (between semesters), designed for new students commencing studies at the Hebrew University in the spring semester

**New** The Hebrew Immersion Program (Ulpan and semester) is intended for visiting students and mature learners with a basic knowledge of Hebrew. This intensive program includes cultural activities and an internship component.
A variety of short-term programs and summer courses provide visiting undergraduate and graduate students, as well as mature learners, with a stimulating academic experience that encourages them to live and breathe the subject matter.

**Summer Courses**

During the four-week summer term, students have the opportunity to take a variety of accredited courses that are taught from a multitude of perspectives. Courses taught in English are offered in various fields, including:

- Israel Studies
- Jewish and Religious Studies
- Middle Eastern Studies
- Peace and Conflict Studies
- International Law
- Trauma and Resilience
- Entrepreneurship and Innovation

Language courses provide intensive instruction in Biblical Hebrew and in the Arabic Immersion Program.

Archaeological Field Schools (digs) at sites throughout Israel are offered, mainly in the summer.

**Special Programs**

Working with faculty members and administrators from prestigious universities and institutions around the world, the RIS creates tailor-made programs that address their specific educational needs. More than 30 individualized programs, varying in duration, intensity and focus, are held throughout the year, including:

- Mishpatim Seminar in Israeli and International Law
- Summer Program in Economics Education
- Seminar on Water Cooperation and Ecology
- Global Education Cohort
- Semester Program for Bible Translators

The Preparatory Program—Mechina provides an introduction to academic studies and language instruction to recent high school graduates who plan to pursue undergraduate studies at the Hebrew University or other institutions of higher education in Israel. The year-long program serves as a gateway to the Hebrew-speaking Israeli society, while helping the student refine the skills needed for regular university studies. A supportive environment helps the student to become independent in a new country, culture, and academic system. Both academic and career counseling are provided.

Two trends of study are offered:

- Humanities and Social Sciences
- Exact and Life Sciences

In general, the program consists of intensive Hebrew and English language instruction, courses in Jewish/Israel studies and statistics/mathematics, as well as introductory courses recognized by several departments in the Hebrew University faculties of Humanities, Social Sciences, and Science. Most of the courses are taught in Hebrew.
Financial Aid
https://overseas.huji.ac.il/financialaid

A limited number of scholarships based on demonstrated need or merit are available.

New immigrant (oleh) students may be eligible for tuition scholarships from the Israel Student Authority. For information see: www.studentsolim.gov.il

U.S. students admitted to a Master’s degree program may qualify for loans from the U.S. federal government.

Housing
https://overseas.huji.ac.il/housing

RIS students are usually housed in the Scopus Student Village, where they receive a private, air-conditioned bedroom in a suite containing 2-5 bedrooms, a living room, a kitchen and bathroom facilities. Students who are Shomrei Shabbat can request housing with other observant students.

Security

The safety, security and well-being of all students are of primary concern to the Hebrew University. A comprehensive security orientation is given to all students upon arrival. Entrances to the campuses and student housing complexes are guarded, and these facilities are patrolled around the clock. Student activities, whether on or off campus, meet the strictest security requirements.

Health and Counseling Services
https://overseas.huji.ac.il/health

Health insurance is compulsory for all students at the Hebrew University. Most visiting students enrolled in RIS programs receive comprehensive health insurance as part of their tuition fees.

The Student Counseling Services provide confidential, professional assistance to students seeking help with personal or emotional problems. Students also have access to an in-house psychologist.

Extracurricular Activities
https://overseas.huji.ac.il/osa

The RIS Office of Student Activities (OSA) offers a broad program of social and cultural activities designed to enhance the experience of living and studying in Jerusalem. Students are given opportunities to attend workshops and weekend seminars, to tour Jerusalem and other parts of Israel, and to participate in holiday celebrations and recreational clubs, as well as social and cultural events.

Madrichim

A team of specially selected, multilingual Israeli students called madrichim reside in the dormitories and facilitate the acclimation of RIS students to life and society in Israel. In the event of an emergency, a madrich is on call.

Religious Services and Activities
https://overseas.huji.ac.il/religiouslife

Jerusalem abounds with houses of worship for Jews, Christians, and Muslims. On campus the Hecht Synagogue is the focal point for Jewish religious activities. The Hillel-Hecht Beit Midrash program enables students of a wide variety of backgrounds to explore classic Jewish texts. OSA coordinates holiday celebrations. The Student Christian Forum organizes special activities and provides informal counseling for Christian students.

Sports
https://overseas.huji.ac.il/sports

The Lerner Family Indoor Sports Complex houses a semi-Olympic swimming pool, sauna, aerobic fitness center, gym, studio and more. Adjacent to the complex are ten outdoor tennis courts and two multipurpose courts. Various recreational classes and clubs are available. Membership entails an extra fee.
Detailed information about the RIS and its programs, including course lists, tuition and fees, as well as on-line application, is available on the RIS website: https://overseas.huji.ac.il

Follow us at: www.facebook.com/RISatHUJI

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