Thursday March 12, 2020

Dear Students,

In our effort to keep you informed of the COVID-19/Novel Coronavirus situation, please find the following updates regarding:

1. Studies at the Hebrew University Faculty Departments and Rothberg International School
2. Students in quarantine – symptoms and assistance
3. Latest updates on home quarantine in Israel
4. New regulations regarding entry into Israel
5. Visits to West Bank cities of Bethlehem, Beit Jala or Beit Sahour – March 9
6. General Comments

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1. Studies at the Hebrew University Faculty Departments and the Rothberg International School

The Hebrew University Faculty Departments have decided to postpone the start of the Spring Semester to March 22, 2020, at which time all classes will be delivered online. To clarify, all graduate and newly arriving students (exchange and external) are advised that courses will begin on March 22, and will be delivered strictly online. There will be no in-class attendance until further notice. The Rothberg International School’s programs that are currently in progress will begin delivering all courses online effective Sunday, March 15, 2020. To clarify, students in the Undergraduate Division as well as the Mechina and Sadara programs should not arrive to the school for in-class participation, as all classes will be offered strictly online, at the same hour as their originally scheduled time-slots.

Courses will be delivered on Zoom’s online platform. You will be sent a Zoom link through which to access your individual courses, and all lectures will be recorded and uploaded to Moodle. If you encounter any technical problems, please contact your department offices: Mechina Tel: 02- 5881602, Graduate division Tel: 02-5883183, Undergraduate Division Tel: 02-5882610, Hebrew Division Tel: 02-5882352 – or via email to these respective offices.

2. Students in Quarantine

Students who are now in quarantine are asked to complete the following two forms:

- Ministry of Health: https://govforms.gov.il/mw/forms/HouseIsolation%40health.gov.il
- Hebrew University: https://hr.huji.ac.il/homeisolation

The quarantine is intended to protect our community from the spread of the virus. We ask that you follow the guidelines (see “What is the guidance for home isolation?”) as listed on the Ministry of Health's website. Please note that quarantine violation is illegal and may result in severe consequences.

The time spent in quarantine can be quite challenging. We are doing our best to provide assistance and support, and we encourage you to contact the Student Life Staff if you need anything!

While most students are being happily assisted by their friends and roommates, we’d like to share the following list of shops and services for your reference. Please make sure to pay online in advance, and ask the delivery service to leave the order at your door.


Business Telephone Website Kosher Note

Shufersal Online - Supermarket  https://www.shufersal.co.il/Pages/Catalog.aspx  Supermarket Delivery. The website is in Hebrew

Baladi - Supermaret 0545468900  https://baladi.shopo.co.il/  Supermarket delivery. The website is in English. Purchases of minimum of 300nis. open 7 days a week, from 7am to 11 pm. Open on Shabat.

Domino's Pizza 1700707070  https://www.dominos.co.il/  Pizza Delivery. The website is in Hebrew, but you can call and order in English. Open on Shabat.

Bake 1700506022  Food Delivery: Pizza, Burgers, Salads, etc. Open on Shabat.


Chili Pizza 026254040 http://www.pizzachili.co.il/  Website in English. Open on Shabat.

Q's wings & burger 02-560-6095  Burgers delivery at the French Hill. Open on Shabat.

Domino Pizza 053-942-7752  Kosher. Pizza Delivery at the French Hill.


Shawarma King 02-3001520  Kosher. Shawarma, Schnitzel, full English Breakfast

If Symptoms Develop
In case of fever (38° Centigrade/100.4° Fahrenheit or higher), coughing, difficulty breathing or other respiratory symptoms within 14 days from the time you left the above-mentioned countries, please dial 101 for the Magen David Adom (Israel's National EMS) Hotline as well as the Student Life emergency number: 054-8820217. Do not go to a medical clinic or ER. If necessary, a paramedic will be sent out.

3. Latest Updates Regarding Quarantine in Israel
The Government of Israel has implemented enhanced screening and quarantine measures for travelers arriving to Israel to reduce the spread of COVID-19. Effective Thursday, March 12, 2020, at 20:00 (Israel time), foreign travelers from all countries will be required to remain in home quarantine for 14 days from date of entry; non-Israeli residents will be required to prove they have the means to self-quarantine in order to be admitted into Israel.
For Israeli citizens and residents, the requirement of home quarantine went into effect on March 9, 2020. Hotels may refuse to honor reservations for individuals in quarantine.
Transportation options from the airport to any location may be limited. Restrictions are continually being updated by the Israeli government.

4. New regulations regarding entry into Israel, effective March 12, 2020:
The foreign national must contact their nearest Israeli Embassy via email to:
1. Explain the nature of your application, and declare that you have an accommodation arrangement in Israel, which is not a hotel or a dormitory (dormitories are currently unacceptable), but rather a pre-rented apartment, or a family member in-country that is willing to host you for the two-week self-quarantine.
2. Fill out an affidavit with the details of the apartment or the family who is intending to host. The affidavit will be sent together with the explanations to the consul, and from there, after the consulate's examination, to Israel for further examination. If the request is approved, a letter addressed for the applicant, which confirms that he can enter the country, will be provided to the consul.
3. One of the conditions for approving the application is that you will be collected from the airport by a private individual (not public transport, including taxi), who will meet you at the airport and will escort you directly to the apartment where you will be staying for the duration of your self-quarantine period.
It is very important to note that foreign citizens who do not receive permission from the embassy in advance will not be allowed to enter the country, and will be sent back to the country from which they arrived. Please see the latest update from the ministry of foreign affairs: https://mfa.gov.il/MFA/PressRoom/2020/Documents/Consular_Division_COVID%2019.pdf

Individuals already in the country who were required to remain in home-quarantine according to previous instructions must continue to do so until the end of the 14-day period set at the time of their arrival in Israel.

5. Visits to West Bank cities of Bethlehem, Beit Jala or Beit Sahour

In addition, on March 9, 2020, the Israeli Ministry of Health instructed anyone who has visited the West Bank cities of Bethlehem, Beit Jala or Beit Sahour in the last 14 days to enter home-quarantine as per the Israeli Ministry of Health's instructions. This does not apply to those who have transited through those areas without stopping. Visit the Israeli Ministry of Health’s COVID-19 website for updated information and self-quarantine instructions in Israel.

6. General Comments

- Travelers should be prepared for travel restrictions to be put into effect with little or no advance notice. Travelers may be subjected to screening at airports or ports of entry. Flights into or out of Israel may be canceled with little or no advance notice.
- Students who wish to travel outside Israel with the intention to return will not be able to re-enter the country.

Please don’t hesitate to contact the Student Life Staff, and in case of an emergency, call the madrich on-call number: 0548820217.

Full guidelines, please see the Israel Ministry of Health website: https://govextra.gov.il/ministry-of-health/corona/corona-virus-en/#_blank

We thank you for your cooperation and your patience as we navigate this dynamic situation. Please remember to reach out to us for any assistance you may require.

Sigal Kleynerman | Director, Office of Student Life
Rothberg International School
The Hebrew University of Jerusalem
Boyar Building, Room 104a
Mount Scopus, Jerusalem 9190501, Israel
T +972.2.5882606 | F +972.25882362