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ABOUT THE UF IN HAIFA PROGRAM

The UF semester program in Haifa is multidisciplinary, experiential, and designed for UF students interested in studying abroad in Israel at the University of Haifa. Suitable candidates generally have a background in the Humanities and the Social Sciences and will have completed at least one year of university study at the undergraduate level. A key goal of the program is to accelerate language proficiency which is made possible through a near total-immersion experience. In addition, the program provides exposure and training in various fields such as Political Science, Anthropology, Communications, Psychology, Literature, Economics, History, Jewish Studies and many more.

UF students will study together with international students from all over the world in an exciting academic environment and at the same time have the opportunity to immerse themselves in Israeli life both on campus and in the city.

THE UNIVERSITY OF HAIFA

Founded in 1963, the University of Haifa has become one of Israel’s leading universities, hosting six different faculties: Faculty of Humanities, Faculty of Social Sciences, Faculty of Law, Faculty of Social Welfare and Health Sciences, Faculty of Science and Science Education, Faculty of Education, and a Graduate School of Business. The international students at the University of Haifa add to the diverse mosaic of the University’s 18,000 Israeli students. The city of Haifa is proud of its long-standing record of coexistence and mutual respect among the Jewish, Christian, Muslim, Baha’i, and Druze communities. Reflecting and supporting this tradition, the University of Haifa is likewise a multicultural institution in which all students benefit from many opportunities for productive interaction.

THE CITY OF HAIFA

Haifa is Israel’s third largest city. First and foremost a port city for international commerce, it has in recent decades become a major center for Israel’s high-tech industry. Two of the most distinguishing features of Haifa are the physical beauty of the city and the coexistence of its ethnically diverse communities who live and work together. Home to the Carmel National Forest and miles of developed and natural beaches on the Mediterranean Sea, Haifa provides a wonderful environment for almost any kind of recreational activity. The Christian and Muslim communities of Haifa, and the neighboring Druze villages of Usifiya and D aliat-el-Carmel, are important components of the city’s social and cultural development. Along with Jewish communities from Europe, North Africa, the Middle East, North and South America, Ethiopia, and India, they have combined to create a modern and uniquely Mediterranean city in Israel.
ACADEMIC PROGRAM
The UF in Haifa Program is designed for undergraduate students from a variety of academic backgrounds who would like to spend a semester at the University of Haifa. The 15-credit program includes a core course designed especially for the program and taught by a UF faculty member as well as language study and elective courses. Students enroll in courses offered by the International School, as well as in those offered in other departments of the University, assuming the student is sufficiently proficient in Hebrew and fulfills the course’s prerequisites.

The disciplines in which courses are offered include the following:

- Hebrew and Arabic Language · Literature
- Contemporary Israel and Middle East Studies
- Communications
- Economics and Business
- History
- Law
- Peace & Conflict Studies
- Political Science
- Psychology
- Religious & Jewish Studies
- Sociology

CORE COURSE
Students will enroll in a core course on Israeli history and culture taught by a UF faculty member who will spend the semester at the University of Haifa. The core course is mandatory for all UF students.

ACADEMIC CREDIT
University of Florida students receive UF credit for the core course and transfer credit for the language courses, electives and internships successfully completed at the University of Haifa.

HEBREW & ARABIC LANGUAGE STUDY
Hebrew language classes (Ulpan) are offered from beginning to advanced levels for 8 hours per week. Modern Standard Arabic is offered at elementary and intermediate levels for 6 hours per week. Spoken Arabic is offered at the elementary level for 4 hours per week. Language study is mandatory.

ELECTIVE COURSES
More than 15 elective courses are offered in English within a wide variety of academic disciplines. Courses in the International School are taught in English by faculty from various departments within the University of Haifa.

INTERNERSHIP OPTION
Internships are related to the students’ academic or vocational interests and are completed within organizations in Haifa or on campus. Students will intern for 15 hours per week at their chosen facility, complete weekly reports and write a paper addressing an issue they dealt with at their internship.
CAMPUS HOUSING

All students in the program will be provided housing in the Talia dormitories on campus. The dormitories are spacious apartments of six single rooms, each with its own bathroom, and a shared kitchen and living space. Apartments hold six students and generally there are no more than two international students in an apartment together with four Israeli roommates. The aim is to fully integrate international students into campus life with Israelis. The dormitory has a TV and clubroom, laundry facilities and a grocery store.

FACILITIES

Students receive a University of Haifa Student Card and they may use all the student facilities offered to full-time students including library privileges, computer services, sports facilities, etc. The International School office has English-speaking staff available to help with all administrative and personal issues. Social Activities Coordinators live in the dormitories on campus and are available to answer questions and requests from students at all times.

EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

In addition to the academic components of the program, students can participate in an extensive number of trips and tours led by faculty or professional tour guides that offer students an exciting view of Israel’s natural beauty and historical sites. In addition, throughout the semester there are lectures on various aspects of life in Israel, including politics, security, culture, religion and other topics of interest to the students. Students are encouraged to be involved in the Community Service Program which is run by the University of Haifa.

SAFETY & SECURITY

The safety and security of all students are primary concerns of the University of Haifa. All campus and dormitory entrances are guarded and all off-campus activities are organized and run in consultation with the relevant security authorities. During Student Orientation at the beginning of the semester, students are provided with instructions on how to stay safe while in Israel. In addition, all international students are required to rent an Israeli cell phone through a recognized provider so that the University staff is able to reach students at all times, both with practical information and in case of an emergency. In case of an emergency, the University of Haifa has a crisis management and evacuation plan in place.
CONTACT INFORMATION

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