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http://www.brooklyn.cuny.edu/internationaleducation

Program of Study in Israel (PSI)

Study a range of subjects offered in English for a semester/year/summer at Tel Aviv University, Hebrew University, Ben Gurion University of the Negev, or Haifa University on the PSI program. Students may direct enroll in other Israeli Universities after confirming with IEGE for acceptability of credits towards the students' degree program.

Who can study on the PSI program?: The PSI program, administered by IEGE, is open to all Brooklyn College students. Other CUNY may participate in the PSI program only by special arrangement, and generally can direct enroll to the desired institution.

Academics: Students can choose from a wide range of courses offered in English in special programs for visiting foreign students. Students with a high level of Hebrew may also register for courses taught in Hebrew within the regular university curriculum. Sample areas of study offered in English: Archeology, Arts, Arabic, Global Health, Political Science, Psychology, Middle Eastern History, Performing Arts, Pre-Medicine, Music, Jewish History and Traditions, Israeli culture and customs, Religious Studies, Sustainability, among many other courses. Courses in English, such as Business, may be found at some institutions within the regular university curriculum as well. Students not fluent in Hebrew are usually required to take an intensive Hebrew language study course (Ulpan) that precedes the beginning of the academic semester.

<u>Israeli Academic Calendar</u>: The beginning date of fall classes varies depending on the Jewish calendar and fall holidays. Generally, a student might complete the Ulpan in late July through early September or early September into October, break for the holidays and then begin fall classes in mid-October, studying through the end of December or into early January. The winter Ulpan, prior to the spring semester, takes place in late January and spring courses begin in late February.

<u>Co-Curricular</u>: Host institutions offer volunteer experiences, internships and research opportunities to visiting students. Campuses have an active club life and extracurricular opportunities to make friends.

<u>Housing</u>: Students will live in residence halls with Israeli students or international students, depending on the institution. Apartment living may also be an option. Students studying at Ben Gurion University may apply for free housing in compensation for volunteerism.

<u>Costs</u>: Estimated total costs for a 2018 semester study (Airfare, housing, meals, personal expenses, tuition, books, Ulpan), prior to the application of scholarships and financial aid, is estimated between \$15,000- \$17,000. Students may apply financial aid and scholarships towards this cost. Students pay the full tuition of their host institution in two steps: Students pay CUNY tuition to Brooklyn College. The remaining balance of the host institution tuition, as well as the housing costs, are billed directly to the student by the host Israeli institution.

<u>Financial Aid and Scholarships</u>: A variety of funding sources, are available. The host institution will have scholarships for visiting students. PSI applicants of Brooklyn College may apply for SASA, Furman, Gould, use their Opportunity Grants and Macaulay funds, etc. Jewish students will want to explore opportunities offered by Masa (<u>www.masaisrael.org</u>). National scholarships such as the Gilman and the Boren are excellent choices, particularly for those who plan to do Arabic language and Middle Eastern studies. Also, most financial aid can be applied to semester study abroad. Questions about your financial aid should be directed to that office.

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<u>Application/Registration</u>: Deadlines for Israeli universities are April 15 (some later) for fall term and November 15 for winter and spring terms. Students will complete two applications: 1) The online IEGE Notification/Application for study abroad; and, 2) an online application for the Israeli institution of choice (see links below).

<u>Transcripts, Grades and Course Equivalencies.</u> 1) Prior to departure, and to guarantee that courses taken abroad will apply to a student's financial aid and degree requirements, students must obtain departmental approval of equivalency for courses that will be taken abroad. This is done through the completion of the Course Equivalency Form (CEF, see Forms on the IEGE website). 2) Before you return from the PSI program in Israel, please advise the study abroad office or Registrar of the Israeli host institution to send the official Israeli transcript to IEGE. 3) Using the CEF and official transcript, grades, credits and course equivalencies are posted by IEGE to the student's transcript.

For more information:

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