The Hebrew University of Jerusalem & the Global Academic Community

In an increasingly connected world, technology is reducing and eliminating traditional borders and boundaries. Information and knowledge are being shared faster than ever before and real-time communication is bringing people and ideas together, often without ever meeting face-to-face.

The Hebrew University of Jerusalem is fully committed to internationalization: welcoming international faculty, researchers, and students from all parts of the world, sharing our expertise, sending our students out into the world and exchanging knowledge.

The Hebrew University invests in developing meaningful partnerships worldwide to promote academic collaborations. Whether offering international graduate programs taught in English, joint masters and doctoral programs, exchange programs with universities abroad, or joint research opportunities, the Hebrew University is building international bridges that benefit our students and faculty and enrich our campuses and the global community alike.

Fostering Strategic Collaborations with Leading Institutions Worldwide

- Promoting joint research, teaching, and special projects
- Increasing participation in the international academic community

Welcoming International Students

- Offering opportunities for study at Hebrew University, whether in the regular curriculum or special programs
- Hosting visiting students from top institutions worldwide
- Sharing Israeli expertise in agriculture, public health, development, and the biomedical sciences with students from developing countries

Study Abroad

- Offering Israelis opportunities for a year or semester of study abroad
- Establishing academic exchange opportunities in a variety of fields such as law, business, and humanities

Creating a Global Campus

- Offering more courses in English, bringing together Israeli and international students
- Organizing programs, internships, and activities for visiting students

GLOBAL COLLABORATION IS VITAL TO THE CREATION AND SHARING OF KNOWLEDGE IN THE 21ST CENTURY.

Israel offers an exciting and eclectic mix of top-level academic research and creative tech startups. It is the ideal place for young talent to carry out their work and to develop their career.

Dr. Fabrizio Fierro, biochemistry post-doctoral researcher (Italy) at the Robert H. Smith Faculty of Agriculture, Food & Environment
Strategic Collaboration

The Hebrew University is an active partner in several strategic collaborations with universities worldwide. Working together over the years, we have co-created joint teaching, exchange programs, research projects, workshops, and more.

The Hebrew University looks forward to continuing to develop new strategic partnerships in the coming years.

Humanities Graduate Exchange

The Hebrew University is proud to have exchange agreements with humanities faculties at eight prestigious universities, including: Harvard University, Yale University, Stanford University, Princeton University, University of California, Berkeley, University of Chicago, University of Toronto, and University of Oxford.

University of Toronto Alliance

This 13-year collaboration in the social sciences and humanities was recently expanded to include a Research & Training Alliance, which focuses on joint research, along with exchanges for students and researchers at all levels. Each year, one project is selected and funded for up to four years, alternating between disciplines. In addition, the universities have an exchange program, including specific exchanges for students of social work and the social sciences.

Freie Universitaet Berlin, Germany

Established in 2011, this strategic collaboration is the Hebrew University’s most comprehensive partnership. It includes joint doctoral and post-doctoral programs, joint seed funding, and the University Alliance for Sustainability. This collaboration has resulted in dozens of joint research projects and workshops, along with the German-Israeli Virtual Campus (GIVCA). In addition, many students participate in exchange programs between the campuses.

University of Melbourne, Australia

For more than a decade, this strategic collaboration has enabled the Joint Research Workshop Grants Program, bringing together researchers from the two institutions. In addition, the two universities have student exchange programs and recently began offering a joint doctoral program in all fields.
University of Illinois and Discovery Partners Institute (DPI), Chicago, Illinois, USA:
Hebrew University is a partner in DPI, and an active partner with the University of Illinois system. HU and DPI cooperate in entrepreneurship, agriculture, big data, artificial intelligence, and cyber-security.

Singapore-Hebrew University Alliance for Research and Enterprise (SHARE):
SHARE was established in 2016 to advance research collaborations between Israel and Singapore. It is the only international research center of the Hebrew University outside of Israel. Currently, SHARE has two major research projects, each with a leading Singapore University. With the National University of Singapore (NUS), researching inflammatory diseases and with Nanyang Technological University (NTU), researching nanomaterials for energy and water management. Joint doctoral programs operate with both institutions, enhancing the academics, teaching, and exchange of Singaporean and Israeli students.

The Cleveland Clinic, Ohio, USA:
The Hebrew University is a partner in the Global Center for Transformative Nanomedicine and cooperates in the areas of biotechnology, nanotechnology, molecular modeling, and drug development.

Shanghai Jiao Tong University, China:
This collaboration includes joint graduate and exchange programs across disciplines, as well as joint funding for projects in the fields of Covid-19, nanotechnology, and agriculture.
Welcoming International Students

The Hebrew University of Jerusalem is proud to welcome over 2,400 international undergraduate, graduate, and post-doctoral students to campus each year. Representing approximately 80 countries, these students engage with Hebrew University’s world-class faculty and cutting-edge research, all while experiencing the vibrancy of daily life in Israel.

The Rothberg International School is at the heart of the Hebrew University’s international student activity, welcoming students for a wide variety of programs: summer courses, academic preparatory programs, semester and year-long exchange programs, and advanced degrees.

Did you know? The Hebrew University is ranked #1 in Israel for international doctoral and postdoctoral students.

International Programs at the Hebrew University

The Hebrew University offers numerous graduate programs in English, as well as individual courses and opportunities across all degree levels.

Among these, the University is home to four international master’s programs in the spirit of Tikun Olam – repairing the world. These programs aim to share Israeli expertise in key fields with students from developing countries, often with Israeli and international students studying side by side.

These programs advance the United Nations’ Agenda for Sustainable Development, specifically Goal 17 (Partnerships), which calls for “implementing effective and targeted capacity-building in developing countries to support national plans to implement all the sustainable development goals.”

Since their inception, these four programs have trained over one thousand professionals, dispatching Hebrew University ambassadors across the globe – to make the world a better place.

- INTERNATIONAL MASTER OF PUBLIC HEALTH
- INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL OF AGRICULTURAL SCIENCES
- GLOCAL: INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT
- INTERNATIONAL BIO-MEDICAL SCIENCES
- ADDITIONAL GRADUATE STUDY OPPORTUNITIES
International Master of Public Health

The Hebrew University-Hadassah Braun School of Public Health and Community Medicine offers an intensive 12-month International Master of Public Health (IMPH) program that provides world-class training for public health professionals predominantly from the developing world.

The comprehensive curriculum includes a wide range of topics, including epidemiology and biostatistics; health economics and administration; health promotion and community-based programs; control of diseases; environmental and occupational health; sociological and behavioral factors; nutrition and food security, and combatting malnutrition.

IMPH students come from a plethora of professional backgrounds. They are physicians, nurses, health professionals, economists, social scientists, and more. Their wide range of cultural backgrounds and experiences contribute to creating an environment which is at once scientifically challenging and culturally stimulating.

Since its inception in 1970, over 900 students from 102 countries have graduated from this program. They hold key positions, leading, teaching, and promoting public health across the globe.

The IMPH program maintains an active alumni network and organizes an annual alumni conference in Africa, offering opportunities for networking, peer learning, and ongoing professional development.

I take global public health strategies and apply them on a local level. Because I have the advantage of understanding the situation on the ground, I can apply these tools to make sure that governments and communities can take full advantage of global knowledge and experience.

DR. NARMADA ACHARYA
(Nepal, IMPH 1997–98)

Prior to attending the IMPH program, Dr. Acharya was a Senior Training Officer with Care Nepal, where she worked on family planning and reproductive health.

Following her graduation, she returned to Care Nepal with confidence and renewed energy to positively impact people’s lives. She led the construction of delivery rooms in seven health facilities, reducing neonatal deaths and postpartum infections.

Dr. Acharya then moved to UNICEF, first working as a program officer in Nepal, and then overseeing a maternal mortality reduction project in South Asia. She created outreach policies for women and children living in rural areas, developed guidelines for emergency obstetric care, and promoted community engagement. Her next stop was Afghanistan, where she established and managed the UNICEF field office in the years after the conflict.

Dr. Acharya returned to Nepal and worked on HIV/AIDS, first with the International Labour Organization, and then with UNAIDS Nepal. She subsequently worked at UNAIDS Cambodia and UNAIDS Zambia. Currently she leads, coordinates, and evaluates HIV/AIDS efforts in twenty countries, along with reproductive health programs in Eastern and Southern Africa.
TO DATE, OVER 300 STUDENTS FROM 45 COUNTRIES HAVE GRADUATED FROM THE SMITH FACULTY’S INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL

The nearest water point to my village is approximately 17 km away, with the only accessible means of transport being donkeys, since it is mountainous; people spend half a day just fetching water. When I went home during the semester break, I discussed with my community’s leaders the idea of constructing water reservoirs to collect water runoff for irrigation. My parents supported my idea and helped me dig. So far, my community has built five reservoirs.

Beatrice Gidion, MSc in Plant Sciences (Kenya)

Back at home, a colleague contacted me because I had acquired new knowledge and experience through the master program in animal sciences at the Hebrew University, which was key in utilizing the natural resources in my country to bring to life the project of a model goat farm.

Mugagga Kalyesubula, MSc in Animal Sciences (Kenya)
Glocal International Development Program

The Glocal (Global-Local) program is an innovative, interdisciplinary master program that translates academic research in community development into practical skills. Over the course of 18 months, Israeli and international students learn to work with communities and international and local development organizations, addressing a wide range of issues. The program teaches the theoretical pillars of international development alongside practical courses in which students hone their skills in areas such as evaluation, program design, and cross-cultural dynamics.

A highlight of the Glocal program is the 4-month internship, (in a foreign country), providing students with hands-on experience in the field. Internships may touch upon community tourism, youth empowerment, spatial planning, agriculture and food security, economic empowerment, women’s empowerment, and more.

Hailing from Sachnin in northern Israel, Aia Khalaily completed her Glocal internship in Quito, Ecuador. Using her native Arabic and understanding of Arab culture, she helped refugee women from Iraq, Syria, and Yemen build small businesses or find employment. She supported their initiative to open a Middle Eastern catering service, thus growing the women’s income. In addition, Aia helped organize cultural events, helping the women share their culture and socialize with the local community.

Aia Khalaily, Glocal, 2018/19 (Israel)

“Glocal contributed a lot to my professional life, as a Senior Consultant working on advancing gender equity within the greater context of sustainable development in Rwanda. The courses I took in evaluation and action research have enabled me to carry out research in Rwanda, evaluate different programs, and conduct trainings.”

Ernest Ngabonzima, Glocal 2014/15 (Rwanda)
The International MSc Program in Bio-Medical Sciences

This two-year MSc program is intended for international students with a BSc who wish to engage in research. Ranked among the top 100 research institutes globally, the Hebrew University is an exceptionally attractive place for young scientists. Speaking the international language of science, students from across the globe converge in Jerusalem to conduct research and advance human knowledge.

The program combines coursework with applied bio-medical research, all under the auspices of the Faculty of Dental Medicine. Classes are taken alongside Israeli students and cover a wide range of topics, such as stem cells, microbiology, immunology, virology, cell movement, tissue engineering, cancer, and epigenetics – to name a few. Students who excel may continue for a PhD.

Additional Graduate Study in English

The Hebrew University also offers international students a wide range of graduate programs, all fully accredited and taught in English. These include MA, MSc, and PhD programs in a wide range of fields.

Hundreds of international graduate students join their Israeli counterparts each year to study in these programs. Regardless of their course of study, studying and researching alongside colleagues from around the world is an enriching experience benefitting all students and the entire campus.

“"I realized that I'd read several articles from prestigious reviews authored by ELSC faculty, which attested the quality of the publications and the international outreach of the center. ELSC is the promised land for a budding neuroscientist.”

Arthur Berrou, PhD at the Edmond & Lily Safra Center for Brain Sciences (France)

“"My education has given me a solid foundation for a career in research, and I am so glad I made the decision to come here. I am lucky enough to have access to everything that the Hebrew University can offer.”

Karthikeyan Pandi, PhD in Dental Science (India)

“"The bio-medical science program is superb. It has been an eye-opening experience for me, as I’ve come to understand the nitty-gritty of scientific research. Gaining hands-on research experience and learning how to manage a laboratory will be invaluable for my future.”

Solomon Oguche, MSc in Biomedical Sciences (Nigeria)
Study Abroad

For today’s students, the entire world is within their reach. International familiarity and competencies must be integral to their academic experience. By connecting Hebrew University students to the academic world outside of “small and smart Israel,” they develop and hone the skills necessary to excel in the global marketplace.

Currently, over 800 Hebrew University students study abroad each year, and the University hopes to increase that number, eventually enabling nearly a quarter of the student body to go abroad as part of their studies. In fact, according to an article published in the Harvard Business Review, there is a proven correlation between spending a semester abroad and success in today’s world, as measured through creativity, understanding multiple viewpoints, and being promoted.

The Hebrew University enjoys exchange agreements with some 123 universities worldwide, including in South America, the USA, Australia, Canada, Asia, Russia, and Europe. These agreements not only facilitate the mobility of international and local students to and from the Hebrew University, but also play an important role in raising the University’s academic, international profile.

Eitan Waxman is an undergraduate student of Business Administration and East Asian studies. He spent a semester as Tsinghua University in Beijing, China.

I have always dreamed of living in Paris. It was truly incredible walking every morning to class with the smell of butter in the air, passing by the Louvre, and watching the sunrise on the Seine. I am grateful for having the opportunity not only to live in my favorite city, but to also learn more about its history and culture.

“I gained so much from studying abroad. Although I speak English and Chinese, I’ve never had to study academically in either language. Being immersed in a different culture, seeing how people from different backgrounds relate to each other, and even experiencing life on a very different campus – all challenged me as a student and enriched me as a person. This was the experience of a lifetime.”

Yasmin Azhari Ariav is a master student in International Relations with a focus on political economy who participated in an exchange program during her BA to Sciences-PO in Paris.

THE HEBREW UNIVERSITY’S STUDY ABROAD PROGRAMS

The Hebrew University offers support for students at all degree levels (bachelor, master, and doctoral) who wish to expand their horizons and study abroad.

Yasmin Azhari Ariav is a master student in International Relations with a focus on political economy who participated in an exchange program during her BA to Sciences-PO in Paris.
Creating a Global Campus

The Hebrew University has been ranked #1 in Israel for internationalization by Israel’s Council for Higher Education. The University wishes to build on that success, creating an internationally friendly and dynamic campus.

The University strives to integrate international students into the larger campus community, in order provide them with increased and meaningful interactions with their Israeli peers – inside and outside of the classroom.

As the primary language of instruction is Hebrew, the University is steadily increasing the number of courses and programs offered in English. Although this effort requires updating digital modules, conducting simulated lectures, and translating syllabi and websites, these steps will ensure that international students can participate in regular programs together with Israeli students, thus creating truly global, vibrant classrooms. An international environment also gives Israeli students an opportunity to improve their English and intercultural communications skills.

STUDENT LIFE

At the heart of Hebrew University’s international student experience, the Rothberg International School (RIS) provides student services for all international students, regardless of their program of study. Assistance starts before students arrive and continues throughout the duration of their stay.

RIS also offers social and cultural activities, including opportunities to socialize with Israeli students and become better acquainted with Jerusalem and Israel: food, geography, culture, festivals, politics, and more.

Students leave the University as goodwill ambassadors for the University and for Israel.
Select Philanthropic Opportunities

Strategic Collaborations
Support is needed for institutional collaborations, such as University of Toronto Research & Training Alliance, the University of Illinois, the Humanities Graduate Exchange, and additional collaborations in North America, Europe, and Asia. Collaborations may include scholarships for joint degree programs, joint research grants, and more.

International Students and Programs
Scholarships enable international students to earn graduate degrees from the Hebrew University, building their capacity to become leaders in their home countries.

Short-Term Study Abroad Programs
Scholarships make it possible for Israeli students to spend a semester or a year at top universities abroad, contributing to their academic and professional development.

Doctoral and Postdoctoral Fellowships
The Hebrew University welcomes international doctoral and postdoctoral fellows, including from some of the most prestigious institutes worldwide. The availability of fellowships helps to draw these young scholars to Israel, helping to strengthen Hebrew University’s research community and its scientific contributions to the world.

Creating a Global Campus
The establishment of the International Office, creating English signage and websites, teaching more courses in English, and social and cultural activities will benefit international and Israeli students alike.

“I think that in the past I was a Mexican citizen, but after being part of the International School of Agricultural Sciences, I have become a citizen of the world.”

Armando Garcia, MSc in Plant Sciences 2016/7 (Mexico)
An Overview

#1 HU’S INTERNATIONALIZATION RANKING

8 STRATEGIC COLLABORATIONS WITH LEADING UNIVERSITIES WORLDWIDE

2,400 INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS EACH YEAR, FROM 80 COUNTRIES

OVER 800 HEBREW UNIVERSITY STUDENTS STUDY ABROAD EACH YEAR

OVER 1,000 ACADEMIC COURSES TAUGHT IN ENGLISH EACH YEAR

123 EXCHANGE AGREEMENTS WITH UNIVERSITIES WORLDWIDE

OVER 40 INTERNATIONAL PROGRAMS
Creating a Global Community

The Hebrew University enjoys a strong international reputation and ties with universities and research centers worldwide, and is leading Israeli universities in internationalization.

The 21st century has made internationalization a top priority. To this end, we seek support to increase and strengthen our strategic collaborations, to enable our students to gain international experience by studying abroad, and to welcome more international students and scholars to our campuses.

The University is asking you – our friends worldwide – to help us take the next steps towards creating a truly international campus community.

Photo Credit: Yoram Aschheim, Elad Brami, Dave Brown Ape Inc UK, Mahyan Gon, Hezi Hojesta, Rudolph Jonas, Darius Lee, Yonit Schiller, Ulpanei Rehovot