UNIVERSITY OF HAIFA
International School

2026– 2027 FACT SHEET FOR EXCHANGE STUDENTS

GENERAL INFORMATION:

University of Haifa – International School, Study Abroad

Website for International Students: www.uhaifa.org

Number of students: University-wide = 18,000+

Contact person:

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ACADEMIC CALENDAR:

Fall Semester: 3 Months*
Spring Semester: 3.5 months**
*Fall semester students may enroll in a Winter language program for an additional cost, and extend their Fall Semester to approx. 5 months.
** Spring semester students may enroll in a Summer language program for an additional cost, and extend their Fall Semester to approx. 5 months.

Fall Semester 2026	
Arrival and Dormitory Check-in (Study Abroad)	October 5, 2026 (Sunday)
Study Abroad Semester	October 11, 2026–January 10, 2027
Study Abroad Opening Event (Orientation)	October 6, 2026
Language Studies Semester	October 12, 2026–January 4, 2027
Dormitory Check-out (Study Abroad)	January 10, 2027
Rabin Memorial Ceremony on campus - No classes 12-14	October 22, 2026 (Thursday)
Hanukah Vacation - University Closed	December 6, 2026 (Sunday)
Christmas Vacation - University Closed	December 25, 2026 (Friday)
Winter 2027	
Online Intensive Hebrew Ulpan	January 25 – February 25, 2027
Spring Semester 2027	
Arrival and Dormitory Check-in (Study Abroad)	February 28, 2027 (Sunday)
Study Abroad Semester	March 1–June 17, 2027
Study Abroad Opening Event (Orientation)	Study Abroad Opening Event (Orientation) March 1, 2027
Language Studies Semester	March 1, 2027-June 10
Dormitory Check-out (Study Abroad)	June 17, 2027
Purim Holiday – University Closed	March 23, 2027 (Tuesday)
Passover Vacation – University Closed	Closed April 18–28, 2027
Yom HaShoah Ceremony on campus– No classes 10-12	May 4, 2027 (Tuesday)
Memorial Day Ceremony on campus – No classes 12-14	May 10, 2027 (Monday)
Memorial Day and Independence Day - University Closed	May 11–May 12, 2027 (Tuesday–Wednesday)
Shavuot Holiday - University Closed	June 10–11, 2027 (Thursday–Friday)
Summer Semester 2027	
Hebrew Language Program Arrival and Dormitory Check-in	July 4, 2027 (Sunday)
Hebrew Language Program July	July 5–July 29, 2027
Hebrew Language Program Dormitory Check-Out	July 29, 2027 (Thursday)
Hebrew Language Program Arrival and Dormitory Check-in	August 1, 2027 (Sunday)
Hebrew Language Program August	August August 2–26, 2027

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APPLICATION DEADLINES:

Academic Year Programs	Application Deadline
Full Year and Fall Semester	September 1, 2026
Intensive Winter Hebrew Course	December 15, 2026
Study Abroad Spring Semester	January 15, 2027
Intensive Summer Language Course	June 1, 2027

NOMINATION DEADLINES: Rolling admission

Click here to Study Abroad Program of the International School's **course catalog**.

ADMISSIONS PROCESS

1. Student nominations must be received by the International School at the University of Haifa, on behalf of the student from his/her home institution.
2. Once nomination has been received, student may begin application process. Please click here to begin the online application.
3. For all of our semester and year programs, the International School welcomes applications from students in good academic standing demonstrated by a consistent academic record. Eligibility of students for semester and year programs varies according to the following:
    - Year / Semester Program - for current BA students: students who have completed at least one year of university studies at home university
    - Cumulative Grade Point Average of **3.0**
    - Official Transcript. If your transcripts are not from a college or university in the United States, then you must:
    - **Have your transcript translated into English by your home institution**
    - **Have your grades and their average calculated according to the US Credit System. This translation and calculation must be submitted as an official document from your home university.**
    - **A copy of the original (untranslated) official transcript should accompany the translated one.**
    - Must provide University of Haifa with foreign academic degrees (if applicable)
    - English Fluency Exam- minimum score of 89 on TOEFL (equivalent in IELTS) or official documentation of minimum level B2 in Erasmus system (For non-native English speakers/ Institutions)
    - 2 letters of recommendation
    - Study abroad approval forms
    - Essay

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- Medical forms signed by a doctor, vouching for participant's health and ability to participate in study abroad program
- University of Haifa mandatory health insurance form

PRE-ARRIVAL INFORMATION:

For all Pre-Arrival Information: please click here
Please note: There is no Airport pickup for arrival to the University of Haifa (arrivals details in link above)

VISA INFORMATION:

All students must receive their Student Visa before coming to Israel.

Israeli visa requirements vary based on your country of citizenship. It is your responsibility to verify with the Israeli Embassy closest to you what the specific requirements are for a person with your citizenship.

For all Visa Information: please click here

HOUSING:

Information for On-Campus Housing:

- On-campus housing is strongly recommended for those who are eligible
- The on-campus dorms are within walking distance to all classes and the International School
- On-Campus Housing costs and more information: **Please see under "OPTIONAL FEES."**

- *Please note - Meal plans **are not** available at the University of Haifa
- Information for **Off-Campus housing** in Haifa: https://uhaifa.org/university-housing/
- under **"Off-Campus Housing Options."**

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COURSE REGISTRATION:

Full-time undergraduate students in the Study Abroad Program of the International School must take a minimum of 12 credits per semester to be regarded as a full time student. Each credit represents one academic hour (45 min) of classroom instruction however the normal course load per semester for international students is between 15-16 credits. Students are responsible for fulfilling the minimum requirements of their home universities. **1 credit = 1.5 ECTS**.

All of the semester and year Study Abroad courses in the International School are upper level undergraduate courses, even if they occasionally contain introductory subjects. They usually require weekly writing assignments, a mid-term, and a final exam or paper. To check if our courses can also be taken as MA courses and/or as seminars (for extra work and credit), please contact us and we will explore the possibility.

Click here to see the Study Abroad Program of the International School's **course catalog**.

Academic Advising: Students in the Study Abroad Program of the International School may request academic advising at any point of the semester for their academic uncertainties. The academic advisor is available to meet with each student individually at the beginning of the semester to go over the student's choice of courses to determine whether the courses are suitable for the student's academic needs. Throughout the semester, students are encouraged to meet with the advisor if they need any assistance with their academic programs.

Grading System:

The following is the grading system in the Study Abroad Program of the International School at the University of Haifa:

A+ = 97-100
A = 93-96
A- = 90-92
B+ = 87-89
B = 83-86
B- = 80-82
C+ = 77-79
C = 73-76
C- = 70-72
D+ = 67-69
D = 63-66
D- = 60-62
F = Below 60

There is no pass/fail option in the Study Abroad Program of the International School

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Withdrawal from a Course:

You may withdraw from a course within the first week of the fall or spring semester or within the first three days of a summer or intensive course, and the course will be erased from your registration and transcript. After final registration, no withdrawals are permitted, and all registered courses will appear on your transcript.

Incomplete Coursework, Late Submissions, Delayed Finals:

Students who have not completed all required assignments by the end of the designated grading period following the end of the semester, will receive a number grade which reflects the course work done up until that point.

The grade of "Incomplete" is not given in the Study Abroad Program of the International School. Late assignments will only be accepted with advance permission from the instructor and may result in a lower grade.

Students are not permitted to leave the program before the end of the semester/course.
All final exams will be given by the last day of the program, and your travel arrangements home should be made accordingly. For full-time students studying in the fall or spring semester only, if you have extenuating circumstances and must leave the program early, you must submit the Multiple Petition Form (available on line under 'Admissions' – 'Forms') to the Study Abroad Program of the International School within the first two weeks of the semester. The form will be reviewed by the Academic Adviser of the International School and, if approved, and if necessary, arrangements will be made for you to take your final exams at your home university with a proctor.

Transcripts:

Your official University of Haifa transcript is issued by the Study Abroad Program of the International School approximately one month after the end of the semester. While in Haifa, you will receive an email with a link to the Transcript Request Form. Here you will indicate the address or addresses to which you would like your transcripts to be sent. Before leaving the University, please make sure that you have indicated the precise address and mailing instructions. This will avoid unnecessary delays in the receipt of your transcript by your home university. You may also request that a copy of this transcript be sent to your home address.

Transcripts will not be issued unless all tuition, dormitory, activities, and gym fees as well as library fines have been paid and you have vacated your dormitory room in good order.

It is possible to order transcripts at a later date. There is a fee for these additional transcripts.

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HEALTHCARE:

The Study Abroad Program of the International School at the University of Haifa requires that all students be covered by an Israeli health insurance company. We work with the Harel Insurance Company and the health insurance covers all injuries or illnesses that occur while you are in Israel. The insurance provides coverage from the moment you leave your home country until the moment you return to your home country. The health insurance provided by Harel does NOT cover any preexisting conditions. Therefore, if you have any pre-existing conditions, we require that you also be covered by insurance from your home country that will be valid for treatment in Israel.

Harel-Yedidim Insurance policy

SOCIAL ACTIVITIES:

While we know that your reason for choosing the Study Abroad Program at the University of Haifa is the desire for a challenging academic experience, we also want to give you the opportunity to explore and understand Israel as much as possible. For this reason, we provide you with numerous social activities throughout your time here.

The International School employs full-time Madrichim (or "Social Activities Coordinators") who build and implement an exciting social activities program. The Madrichim live on campus, and it is their responsibility to assist you in immersing yourself in campus life as much as possible. We encourage you to take advantage of the social activities that range from movie nights, Haifa city tours, a night downtown, bowling outings, holiday celebrations, and more. Activities planned by outside providers, but advertised for you through us may have a charge. Whichever activities you choose to get involved in, you are guaranteed to have an amazing social, cultural and educational experience here at the International School in the University of Haifa!

You can take advantage of the opportunity to immerse yourselves in Israeli society in different and significant ways. Firstly there are several volunteer opportunities both on and off-campus that will expose you to day-to-day Israeli society. Secondly, we offer a student buddy program that matches international students with local Israeli students. On holidays and the Sabbath, you may request to join a local family for a festive meal, which has been proven to be rewarding for both the student and the families involved.

MANDATORY FEES (*fee amounts based on 2025-2026 academic year):

- **Application Fee- $100**
- **Israeli Health Insurance – Fall Semester $300, Spring Semester $360**
- **Supplemental Fee – $800**

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OPTIONAL FEES :

On-Campus Housing:

Single Room (Talia) - A single room in an apartment of 6 rooms. Each room has its own private bathroom and shower, desk, closet, bed, and a/c. Each apartment has a shared kitchen/living area for cooking and sitting.

Fall semester: $1,803
Spring semester: TBD