Study Abroad at BGU

A Variety of Short Term Opportunities
Experience the Authentic Israel at BGU

“The OSP semester offers smaller class sizes than I’m accustomed to at my home university, and allowed for much more hands-on learning. In each of the courses I took, there was at least one class field trip where we were able to tangibly and physically see the subjects we were learning about sitting in the classroom.”

Alyssa Wolk, USA
Your Time in Israel

Take a semester, a summer, or the whole year for a once-in-a-lifetime experience at one of Israel's leading universities. Enjoy outstanding classes, innovative research and discover an amazing country.

With international students from countries all around the world, helpful staff and trips throughout Israel, a significant experience is awaiting you.

Organized social activities, field trips and tailor-made volunteering opportunities are what make our programs a memorable experience.

Campus Life

With a vibrant student life and an amazing sense of community, your time at BGU will be truly unforgettable. Campus life includes two movie theaters, a state-of-the-art sports center, pubs, restaurants, 24-hr computer labs, espresso bars and home-like dorms.

Enjoy a genuine campus experience, where multicultural and international students engage in over 30 extracurricular clubs. The very active student union initiates a variety of cultural and social events throughout the year, including parties and organized weekend getaways.
Dive deeper into your current area of study or explore a new field by joining the Ginsburg-Ingerman Overseas Student Program.

Explore Israel via trips throughout the country: Visits to Tel Aviv and Jerusalem, and hikes in the Negev desert and in the north.

Get to know Israelis: Participate in joint events, go to pub nights with the local crowd, discover Israelis’ point of view on current affairs and have the opportunity to celebrate holidays the Israeli way.

Enjoy BGU’s campus life: Join the student union’s festivities and events and experience the unique BGU social life.

Become close with your OSP group: Get to know people from all over the world, and make meaningful connections that can last a lifetime.

As a student, you will enjoy a variety of courses in small classes, which will provide you with hands-on learning, both in class and through fieldtrips. You can create your own study plan, by mixing and matching courses from different fields. Here’s a taste of some of the fields we offer:

### Middle Eastern Studies
Study Middle Eastern societies where it matters the most. There’s no better place to learn about and research the region, as its past and present become a vivid part of your everyday experience.

### Israel Studies
By attending Israel Studies classes, you’ll acquire a comprehensive understanding of the complexities of Israel’s origins and its development. You’ll learn how a country which emerged from the devastation and horrors of WW2, was able to create so much out of nothing.

### Sustainability
Our classes will provide you with a unique academic perspective on the human and built environments in arid regions. Combining expertise in desert architecture and urban planning and the social sciences (sociology, anthropology, economics and policy studies), faculty and students examine the contemporary challenges of sustainable development, situating local case studies within regional and global contexts.

### Global Health
A comprehensive learning experience that combines classes, professional field trips and practical training. The university’s unique location, among multicultural populations of the surrounding areas (Bedouin townships, Kibbutzim members and development towns) allows us to observe a microcosms of global health scenarios. That’s why you will not only hear about global health but also visit places and meet people that actually practice or demonstrate aspects of global public health in Israel.

### Entrepreneurship
The program focuses on the hi-tech ecosystem, providing insights into startups, the fundamentals of entrepreneurship, leadership, innovation and more. These classes provide practical tools, knowledge, and the opportunity to broaden your professional network.
BGU’s Summer programs, which bring together international and Israeli students each year, feature a combination of language learning, trips and excursions, volunteer opportunities, social activities, and lectures by highly regarded BGU professors. Summer programs last between 4 and 6 weeks.

Global Health
A comprehensive learning experience in this interdisciplinary field through a program that combines classes, professional field trips, and placement in clinics for hands-on practical training. Students are assigned to an Israeli institution or organization that applies Israeli innovation to global public health.

Sustainable Agricultural Solutions
The course provides students with fundamental and cutting-edge knowledge and technology, as well as an integrated academic perspective, related to agricultural practices for improving food and water use worldwide, particularly in view of global desertification.

Data Mining and Business Intelligence for Cyber Security Applications
The purpose of the Summer Program in Data Mining and Business Intelligence is to provide theoretical, practical knowledge and hands-on experience. The program is comprised of two academic courses where students learn the basic tools of data mining and the utilization of machine learning techniques for solving cyber security problems. In addition, students take part in professional fieldtrips to leading companies, in order to enhance their understanding of data mining and cyber security.

Intensive Hebrew Language Program (also available in winter)
Rapidly develop your Hebrew language skills in this fun and interactive program. The Ulpan combines reading, writing, and conversational exercises with field trips and popular media, such as Israeli music, newspapers, and movies. Many levels are available, from beginner to advanced.

Internationale Sommeruniversität
This program gives native German speakers an opportunity to participate in a Hebrew language course, along with a lecture series focused on Israel and Jewish studies given in both German and English.

Full-Time Research Internship Program
Earn credits and gain hands-on research experience working alongside a BGU faculty member during a three to twelve-month internship. We’ll help you find a project that matches your academic background and goals. Your responsibilities may involve reviewing literature, data collection and organization of documents, and participating in ongoing research projects. Internships can begin at any point during the year, provided the timing is suitable for both the intern and faculty member. Open to undergraduate and graduate students.
Student Life

Student Dormitories
As a student in a semester or year-long program at BGU, you’ll live in a student dormitory in shared apartments with private rooms, within walking distance of the main campus, the train station, and our state-of-the-art sports facility. With Israeli students as roommates, you can immediately experience the “real” Israel by forging friendships and building memories.

On-Campus Dining
In addition to preparing food in your dormitory kitchen, you can dine in a number of on-campus cafeterias, all of which are reasonably priced, kosher, and offer a variety of Mediterranean and international options.

Excursions & Activities
Among the highlights of studying or interning at BGU are the outstanding trips, tours and outdoor adventures. In any given semester, your group will travel to diverse sites throughout Israel. You can also take part in the rich variety of student clubs and community service opportunities, so your evenings may often require you to make a choice between one of several events on campus — or just hanging out with new friends.

Support Network
At BGU, you’ll be fully supported by our friendly staff members, who are available to ensure you have a safe and successful stay. You can always stop by the office or contact the social counselors if you have any questions. We are available 24/7 in case of emergency.

Scholarships
International students may be eligible for scholarships or other forms of financial aid.

“My six-week stay at BGU was the best decision I’ve made in a while. It extended my horizons and gave me an international network of smart, open-minded people.”

Thomas Dorner, Germany
About Ben-Gurion University of the Negev and Beer-Sheva

Ben-Gurion University of the Negev (BGU), ranked #39 in the 2017 QS ranking of global universities under the age of 50, has an international reputation for multidisciplinary research. It offers a modern campus and a dynamic population of 20,000 students from Israel and around the world, spread across three campuses. Students come to BGU for academic opportunities and for our vibrant campus atmosphere.

Students enjoy on-campus housing, a full calendar of activities and events, and a variety of clubs and organizations. Our location in Beer-Sheva, Israel, a multicultural city on the edge of the vast Negev Desert, is an ideal place for international students to advance their studies and experience Israel. It serves as a springboard to explore the rest of the country, with convenient transportation options to reach all areas of Israel.