

# SPECIAL PROGRAMS DIVISION

## Hebrew Studies

### *Hebrew Placement Examination*

See details in General Information (page 25) and Entrance Examinations (colored pages) of this booklet. Examination results are graded as fail, level aleph, level bet, level gimel and exempt.

Any candidate who has not written the exam, or who has not achieved a minimum of "Level Aleph" will not be admitted to the University even if all other University and departmental requirements have been fulfilled. Any student who does not receive an "exempt" on the placement exam must complete the requirement of reaching "Bet" level till the end of the first semester of studies and of being "exempt" until the end of his 3<sup>rd</sup> semester at the University.

Values for the Hebrew levels:<sup>1</sup>

Fail	- grades 1-58
Level "Aleph"	- grades 59-83
Level "Bet"	- grades 84-106
Level "Gimel"	- grades 107-131
Ptor (exemption)	- grade 132+

For examination dates and registration information see the Entrance Examinations (colored pages).

### *Exemption from the Exam*

Candidates may be exempted from the Hebrew Placement Exam if they can provide documentation certifying:

1. Israeli Matriculation – Bagrut.
2. The Psychometric Entrance Exam taken in the Hebrew language.
3. A degree from an Israeli university, or a recognized college in Israel.
4. Exemption in Hebrew from other universities in Israel.
5. Completion of three years of study in an Israeli school of nursing.
6. Successful completion of the Jerusalem examination (upon submitting an official Diploma).
7. Ten consecutive years of study in Israeli schools in which the language of instruction was Hebrew.

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<sup>1</sup> The scaling system of this exam was changed in 2003.

8. Graduates of Shazar Institute for Education and Jewry in Argentina.

### ***Courses during the academic year***

The university doesn't offer Hebrew courses, as part of the compulsory studies towards a degree. It is the student's decision where he prefers to study Hebrew.

One of the options is courses given by "The Center of Hebrew Studies" (Registered society), to which the university has given permission to teach in its premises. Tuition fees for the courses have to be paid directly by the student to the Center. (The cost of the courses will be published in the tuition fee booklet).

Different "Ulpanim" also offer Hebrew courses.

### ***Intensive Summer Course***

The Center of Hebrew Studies (Registered Society) offers an intensive summer course (during August and September) in all levels. Students have to pay for this course. (Cost of the course will be published in May)

Students that are eligible for tuition funding by "Minhal Hastudentim" and haven't studied in the Preparatory Program, their tuition fee for the course will be paid by Minhal Hastudentim.

Students are asked to check, their eligibility for tuition funding, with Minhal Hastudentim at their office, 6 Esther Hamalka st, Tel Aviv.

Registration for the summer course will start in June and will be held in the University office of the "Center of Hebrew Studies" (Registered Society).

The University does not oblige students to participate in this course. The course is designed for candidates and students that haven't reached "level Aleph" in the "Yael Test", or for those who need to study towards "exemption" before the beginning of the academic year.

The office of the "Center of Hebrew Studies" (Registered Society) at Tel Aviv University is at the Students Dormitories, building B, entrance 4.

Tel: 03-6408947, Fax: 03-6407426

Email: [merkazhebrew@walla.co.il](mailto:merkazhebrew@walla.co.il)

Reception: Sunday-Thursday, 08:30-13:00

## **Preparatory Program for Olim (Mechina)**

Tel: 03- 6408052, 03-6406681/2, Fax: 03-6409783

E-mail: [steind@post.tau.ac.il](mailto:steind@post.tau.ac.il)

Web Site: [www.tau.ac.il/mechina](http://www.tau.ac.il/mechina)

The mechina is a one-year program designed for newcomers and foreign students, high school graduates, who are not eligible for direct registration to Tel Aviv University.

Studies commence in August and end in July.

### ***Goals of the Mechina***

- To attain the level of knowledge required for university admission for those students whose high school diploma is not equivalent to the Israeli Matriculation Certificate.
- To provide students with intensive preparation for academic studies.

Since Hebrew is the language of instruction at the University, one of the main objectives of this program is to enable students to comprehend Hebrew lectures on a university level and to write term papers in Hebrew.

- To provide a basic knowledge and understanding of the country and the people of Israel and the history of the Jewish people and to instruct general introductory courses which will assist the student in his future academic studies.
- To expose students to the possibilities of future studies at Tel Aviv University, according to their special interests and abilities.

### ***Academic Program***

The program of study in the Mechina is a full-day program – mornings and afternoons. Full participation in the lessons is required – according to a fixed time-table. There is no possibility of studying part of the time-table or a few subjects (like Hebrew etc.)

The Mechina offers four tracks of study:

- Exact Sciences
- Life Sciences
- Social Sciences
- Humanities

The candidates choose the track of study in accordance with the Faculty in which they intend to study at the

University, and on condition that they pass the Mathematics Entrance Examination.

### ***Admission Requirements***

- High School Diploma or Matriculation Certificate recognized by institutes of higher education in the country in which they were issued. Registration to the Mechina is also possible for candidates who have studied no more than one academic year at a university abroad. The certificates have to be evaluated by the Registration office of the University.
- Mathematics Entrance Examination.
- Hebrew Ulpan (Aleph) is recommended for all students but is not obligatory for non-resident applicants who live abroad until the beginning of the Ulpan.

It is strongly suggested that students learn Hebrew prior to their arrival for studies in Israel.

### ***Mathematics Entrance Examination***

All candidates must pass the Mathematics Entrance Examination in order to be admitted to the Mechina. Relevant information and materials will be given or sent upon registration.

The test will be held on two occasions: April or June 2006.

Candidates living abroad until the opening of the academic year will be tested during the Hebrew ulpan. If they pass the test, they will be accepted to the track in which they wish to study. In case of failure, they will have to take the Humanities track, where a lower level of mathematics is required.

### ***Placement Tests***

Hebrew and English placement tests are mandatory for Mechina students.

Candidates living abroad will take the tests upon arrival in Israel.

### ***Registration to the Mechina***

Registration will be held from February 2006 to June 2006, on Sunday and Wednesday, from 9:00 to 12:00 at the Mechina office – at the Student Dormitories, Building A, Einstein St., Ramat Aviv.

Candidates living abroad can apply directly to the Mechina office at the Student Dormitories, Building A, Tel Aviv University, Einstein St., Ramat Aviv, Tel Aviv, Israel 69978.

### ***Final Certificate***

In order to be eligible for the Mechina final certificate, students must pass all final examinations and fulfill all academic requirements of the program. The passing grade is 60.

The Final certificate is always valid for Tel Aviv University.

### ***Admission to B.A. Programs at Tel Aviv University***

The Mechina office arranges the collective registration for students who intend to study at Tel Aviv University. Achievements in the Mechina are taken into account by the University Admission Committees, but graduates must meet all regular requirements for admission, including Hebrew and English proficiency levels, the psychometric entrance examination, and any departmental requirements.

It is emphasized that the University is not obliged to admit Mechina students.

Mechina students may, of course, apply individually to any other institution of higher education.

The Mechina does not grant credits towards academic studies.

### ***Academic Advisory and Counseling Service***

Academic advisors are assigned to all students for personal assistance as well as academic guidance relating to the various tracks of study in the Mechina and future studies in Israel.

### ***Social Activities***

In order to provide a deeper knowledge and understanding of Israel and its people, the Mechina offers field trips, educational tours, and a range of other social and cultural activities.

### ***Medical Insurance***

All students should carry comprehensive medical insurance.

### ***Dormitories***

Only newcomers (alone in Israel) sponsored by the Student Authority are eligible for dormitories. In case of vacancies, requests will be dealt with on an individual basis.

Students living in the dorms are responsible for the regular monthly payment according to the rules and regulations of the dormitories.

## **The Lowy School for Overseas Students**

The Lowy School for Overseas Students provides qualified undergraduate and graduate students the opportunity to study at Tel Aviv University for a year, a semester, or summer as part of their home university studies. Each semester Tel Aviv University faculty members teach over forty courses.

The various sessions – one year, one semester and summer – are for students in their freshman, sophomore, junior or senior year. Courses are taught in English. Students fluent in Hebrew and who meet course requirements may choose courses from the regular studies framework.

An intensive Hebrew language program is offered prior to the start of each semester. Students live on-campus in dormitories. An extensive program of University-sponsored tours and extra-curricular activities is an integral part of the program.

The freshman year of the Lowy School for Overseas Students fulfills the University's preparatory year (Mechina) requirements (30 credits at least). Students completing this program may apply for admission to the regular departmental programs of the University.

### **Graduate Middle Eastern Studies Program**

The Dayan Center for Middle Eastern and African Studies and the Department of Middle Eastern and African History, in cooperation with the Lowy School for Overseas Students, offers graduate studies in Middle Eastern History as well as a one-year and single semester program granting graduate credit in this field.

The academic year starts in October and ends in June.

Candidates should apply to:

#### **1. ISRAEL**

The Lowy School for Overseas Students  
Carter Bldg., Room 108.

Tel Aviv University

Ramat Aviv 69978

Tel. 03-640-8639, 03-640-8118.

Fax. 03-640-9582.

E-mail: [osptau@post.tau.ac.il](mailto:osptau@post.tau.ac.il)

Web site: <http://www.tau.ac.il/overseas>

2. UNITED STATES

American Friends of Tel Aviv University  
Office of Academic Affairs  
39 Broadway, 15th Floor  
New York, NY 10006  
Tel. (212) 742-9030, (800) 665-9828  
Fax. (212) 742-9031  
E-mail: [quest@telavivuniv.org](mailto:quest@telavivuniv.org)  
Web site: <http://www.telavivuniv.org/>

3. CANADA

Canadian Friends of Tel Aviv University  
Overseas Student Program  
Lawrence Plaza  
3130 Bathurst Street, Suite 214  
Toronto, Ontario M6A 2A1  
Tel: (416) 787-5692 or 1-800-ONLY-TAU  
Fax: (416) 787-1762  
E-mail: [coptau@interlog.com](mailto:coptau@interlog.com)  
Web site: <http://www.tau.ac.il/overseas>

3. AUSTRALIA

Australian students should submit their **complete** application forms in two copies.  
One should go to:  
Rachel Bar-El, Director  
The Lowy School for Overseas Students  
Dormitories Bldg. B.  
Ramat Aviv, Israel 69978  
Fax: 03-6409582  
E-mail: [barel@post.tau.ac.il](mailto:barel@post.tau.ac.il)

The second should go to:

Australian Friends of Tel Aviv University  
Tok Corporate Centre  
Level I 459 Toorak Rd.  
Toorak Vic 3142, Australia  
Tel: 00-613-9296-2065  
Fax: 00-613-9262-2165  
E-mail: [aftau@alphalink.com.au](mailto:aftau@alphalink.com.au)

The committee in Israel will check the candidate's academic suitability. The committee in Melbourne will recommend a scholarship where needed.