NYU Tel Aviv: Trivia

- Who is the current prime minister of Israel?
  - Binyamin Netanyahu

Sourced 4/11/12 http://www.jewishvirtuallibrary.org/jsource/biography/netanyahu.html
NYU Tel Aviv: Trivia

- On what date was the state of Israel declared?
- May 14, 1948
How many seas does Israel touch?

Four

- Sea of Galilee, Dead Sea, Red Sea, Mediterranean Sea
NYU Tel Aviv: Trivia

- How many religions is Jerusalem a home to?
- Three
  - Judaism, Christianity, Islam

Sources:
What is the most popular food in Israel?

**Hummus!** Ok, that may be debatable, especially considering all the options (largely due to the huge melting pot of culture and immigrants from, yes, 120 different countries)! But there is certainly no shortage of amazing hummus. Also don’t miss out on Falafel, Shwarma, Jachnun, and Shakshooka.
What is NYU Tel Aviv?

- NYU Tel Aviv is one of NYU’s twelve academic centers
- Students attend for one semester or full academic year
- Courses are taught in NYU’s own academic facilities by locally hired faculty who speak English.
- Classroom learning is supplemented by field trips, excursions, internships, and community service.
- A full-time staff provides high quality student support services
- NYU Upperclassmen from ALL schools; all majors/minors and grade levels (sophomore – senior)
- Visiting Students from other colleges and universities across the US
- Tel Aviv program has about 20 – 40 students per semester
Who is NYU Tel Aviv?

Dr. Gal Levy  
*Director*

Inbal Unger-Cavari  
*Assistant Director*

Tahlia Berger  
*Program Coordinator*

Dana Mileguir  
*RA*
**What are the dates of the program?**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date Range</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>January 27</td>
<td>Student arrival</td>
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<tr>
<td>January 31-February 3</td>
<td>Group Trip (Jerusalem &amp; Negev Trip)</td>
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<tr>
<td>February 4</td>
<td>Classes begin</td>
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<tr>
<td>March 17</td>
<td>Make-up day for Monday (April 1)</td>
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<td>March 22-24</td>
<td>Group trip</td>
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<td>March 25-April 1</td>
<td>Passover/Spring Break</td>
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<td>April 2</td>
<td>Classes resume</td>
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<tr>
<td>April 14</td>
<td>Make-up day for Monday (April 15)</td>
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<tr>
<td>April 15-16</td>
<td>Yom HaZikaron/Yom HaAtzmaut holidays</td>
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<tr>
<td>May 5</td>
<td>Make-up day for Tuesday (April 16)</td>
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<td>May 16</td>
<td>Last day of class</td>
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<td>May 17</td>
<td>Reading day</td>
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<tr>
<td>May 19-22</td>
<td>Final exams</td>
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<tr>
<td>May 23</td>
<td>Students depart</td>
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What courses do I take?

- Faculty includes scholars, statesmen, artists, and public intellectuals
- Courses are designed to enable you to engage, learn, experience and personalize your time in Israel
  - Broad perspective on Israeli society and on the Middle East
    - Is there one Israeli society, or several?
    - How are societies and cultures constituted in general?
- You must take 12-18 credits while abroad.
- Required courses:
  - Hebrew or Arabic Language course
    (Languages cannot be pass/fail)
Can I do an Internship?

- NYU Tel Aviv gives credit for internships based on 8-10 weekly hours, and 12 weekly hours for journalism students.
- Many students also participate in non-credit internship arrange with help of Tel Aviv staff.
- Internship requires:
  - Regular reports to the director of Career Services
  - Completion of internship review for future interns to read
  - Mid-semester employer performance evaluation
- Past Internships Include:
  - Israel Trauma Center for Victims of Terror and War (NATAL)
  - Physicians for Human Rights-Israel
  - A.S.A.F (the protection of refugees and asylum seekers in Israel)
  - The Arab-Hebrew Theater of Yafo
  - StarTAU - Tel Aviv University Entrepreneurship Center
Will my tuition bill be different?

- **E-bills ONLY**, sent to NYU email address
- Must be registered for 12 – 18 credits
- Spring 2013 bills generated in **December**
- You can authorize a parent or other individual to have access to your e-Bill
- Payment made directly to Bursar
- Housing Charge will be posted on e-Bill and must be paid in full prior to arrival
- Questions? visit [NYU Bursar Web-site](#) for details
- All students will be charged for language course books directly to your e-bill
How do I get my visa?

- Full instructions and documentation available on the What’s Next blog.
- **Things to Remember:**
  - Passport MUST be valid through November 2013
  - Deadline to submit documents to NYU Global Programs is **November 30th**
  - MUST use the visa application form on our website
  - Make copies of ALL documents you submit, INCLUDING YOUR PASSPORT!
  - The consulate accepts cash only, no **checks**!
  - Issuance of visas and additional documentation are at the sole discretion of the Israeli consulates
What happens when I get there?

- All students must arrive by arrival day
- Housing is only available for dates of the program
- If you arrive earlier or depart later than program dates you must find your own accommodations. **No exceptions!**

- **At the Airport**
  - Follow all immigration procedures closely and carefully. Do not pack or bring any illegal items.
  - Transportation is provided from Ben-Gurion Airport to Bnei Dan (your Tel Aviv home) on arrival day. We will communicate the pick up time with you later this semester.

- **First few days**
  - Mandatory Orientation includes all topics pertinent to everyday life in Tel Aviv like banking, obtaining a cell phone, academic questions.
  - Welcome Reception for all students and staff
What’s it going to be like?

- Be prepared to have strangers interested in you and your life out of genuine concern and curiosity.
- Israel is a country with no boundaries, straightforward, “nosy” and abrasive, but very warm and hospitable.
- Tel Aviv is a mixture of cultures and peoples. It possesses a mix and contradiction of western, Mediterranean, north African and Arab cultures.
- Tel Aviv has a great café culture and is a great location for foodies.
Where will I live?

- All students live in Bnei Dan Guest House
- Across the street from Yarkon Park and within walking distance of the beach
- All rooms have private bathroom, mini-fridge, TV, air-conditioning, and wireless access
- All rooms are doubles
- Students may be housed within one floor of building or on shared floor with non-NYU Tel Aviv participants staying at Bnei Dan
- Roommates will only be students attending the NYU Tel Aviv program
- Roommate selection is based on the information you provide in the online forms
- Meal Plan of breakfast and dinner is included in the Housing charges. Food is Kosher and under the supervision of the Tel Aviv Rabanut
- Private lounge space available with TV, computers, printer, couches, and books
How will I meet people?

The site arranges a variety of activities for all students, including Welcome Reception during orientation.

- Participate in Student life activities:
  - Subsidized Excursions and day trip
  - Homestay Shabbat and holiday dinners
  - Visits to Arab and Bedouin villages
  - Film Screenings, Drama and Musical Events
  - Overnight Trip
  - Local food cooking workshops
  - Subsidized sporting events
- Attend the Cultural Immersion opportunities set up by the Tel Aviv staff
- NYU-TAU Buddies System
- Participate in community service
- Intern as part of the course or for non-credit
How will I get around the city?

- **Walking** is one of the best ways to get around Tel Aviv, since the city is small and incredibly flat.
- **Renting a bike** is a great way to get around the cities bike friendly streets and parks.
- **Taxis** are everywhere and can be hailed anywhere or ordered by phone. Make sure the driver starts the meter and be sure to take your receipt at the end.
- **Rav-Kav Bus Card** allows you to ride any bus within the city. The standard fare is NIS 5.60 ($1.40), with an additional half shekel to get to and from outlying areas.
  - Learn the Hebrew alphabet before you go - because many of the bus-stops have the routes written only in Hebrew.
How much money do I need?

Tel Aviv is an expensive city, so it’s important to create a realistic budget.

- Bus ride - 6,60 ILS
- Casual dinner – 60 ILS
- Sandwich – 30 ILS (Falafel is only 17 ILS!)
- Taxi to city center/nightlife - 50 ILS (also if you split it, that's great!)
- Beach chair rentals - 12 ILS
- Lounging in the sun at the beach - FREE!

**Tips:**

- Buy or rent a bike to get around
- Talk to your bank **before you leave** about international ATM withdrawal fees, and how to minimize them.
- Notify your bank about when you’ll be abroad, and where you will likely travel, so your account isn’t frozen due to fraud suspicion
- Set-up direct deposit with NYU so you can access any refunds that would normally be sent to you as a check (scholarships, grants, loans, etc.)
- Take food from breakfast and eat it for lunch!
**Will I feel safe?**

- NYU Tel Aviv’s center is monitored by security guards 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.
- There is ALWAYS an NYU Tel Aviv staff member on duty.
- You will be given a phone number to call in emergencies during on-site Orientation.
- To call for a local emergency number (911)
  - 101 for Ambulance
  - 102 for Fire
  - 100 for Police
- **Help us keep you safe. Follow all staff recommendations:**
  - Don’t invite strangers into the residence. Your guests should always be in your company.
  - Always lock your doors
  - Don’t ever hitchhike
  - **Don’t leave your street smarts in NYC!**
What if I get sick?

- All students are enrolled in HTH, an international health coverage plan
  - Free of charge for students
  - No advance out-of-pocket payment for students to see a doctor or counselor
  - Credentialed, western trained, English-speaking health professionals posted on the HTH website and available to students
  - REMEMBER to register with HTH when you receive the email from them.

- Students should consult with NYU Tel Aviv site staff if they need help making a doctor’s appointment. We make your appointments for you

- DO NOT cancel your domestic health insurance while you are abroad!!!!!!

- If you anticipate wanting to be in on-going counseling while in Tel Aviv, call the NYU Wellness Exchange so they can help coordinate. It is covered by HTH!
How will I stay in touch with family and friends?

- Set-up a video chat account (and one for your parents)
  - You will have wireless access in your rooms
- Purchase a local cell phone
  - NYU Tel Aviv offers an arrangement with IsraelPhones providing special rates and services for our students.
  - Pre-order your IsraelPhone or meet the representatives during Orientation in Tel Aviv
- Or buy a SIM card for your smart phone, but make sure you **unlock your phone** before you leave the US
- Create a communication plan
  - Are you going to talk daily, weekly, or say see you next semester?
  - Remember the time difference between NYC and TA is 7 hours
Can I have guests?

- My mom, dad, brother-in-law, sister, boyfriend, grandmother, step-grandfather, girlfriend, best friend, cousin, neighborhood is going to visit me …
  - Guests are allowed in Bnei Dan but they will need to pay a fee
  - Always check with roommate before inviting people to stay with you!
  - We will post a recommended accommodation list in What’s Next
  - Keep your mind you cannot miss class because you have a visitor in town
  - A good time for guests is mid-way through the semester
Can I travel?

- Take advantage of planned excursions by NYU Tel Aviv staff:
  - Hikes through the Golan Heights
  - Tours of the Old City of Jerusalem
  - Trip to the Negev Desert including a bike tour.
- Use the break to travel to farther destinations:
  - Turkey
  - Ruins of Petra in Jordan
  - Egypt
- Students in the NYU Tel Aviv program may not enter the West Bank; students seeking an exception must petition in the NYU Tel Aviv Director.
- Do not make weekend travel plans until you have arrived, confirmed your schedule, and verified the make-up class schedules for your courses (Review calendar slide for details)
What should I pack?

- **Suggested items**
  - Adapters
  - Any medication you need (and copies of the prescription written in the generic term)
  - Check list of tips from previous students

- **Leave it home**
  - Linens
  - Small electronics (hair dryers, hair straighteners)
  - Books
    - NYU Tel Aviv has a small collection on site that holds most of the required reading
    - Students will have access to the Tel Aviv University Library
    - You have continued access to many electronic books, journals, and articles through the NYU Library.
    - Language books will be purchased on your behalf and handed out once in Tel Aviv (your bill will reflect the book charges)

- **Contact your airline before you pack to find out luggage restrictions.**
What do I need to do before I get there?

- Confirm your spot in the program ($500 reservation fee)
- Read all What’s Next Posts
- Obtain or renew your passport ASAP
- Notify NYU Housing in NYC (NYU Students only)
- Attend Pre-departure Orientation (NYU Students only)
- Register for courses abroad
- Book your flight – by November 30th
- Submit all required portions of Confirmation Portal – by November 30th
- Obtain a student visa (if applying through our office, submit by November 30th)
- Students with special needs, academic or otherwise **must** contact the Moses Center prior to departure
Preparing to Live in a New City

You might find yourself getting a bit anxious as you get closer to the date of your departure.

It’s natural to be nervous before moving to new surroundings.

Some steps you can take to prepare can be found at www.nyu.edu/global/culturaladjustment

1 -- View the “What is Culture” Webinar

2 -- Plan how you will Reflect on the Experience before arrival, during, and after you return
   - Blogging, Facebook, Personal Journal

3 – Research the culture you will experience by logging into GlobeSmart
   - GlobeSmart is a web-based cultural awareness training tool which provides quick and easy access to extensive knowledge on how to engage effectively with people from countries around the world.
Transition Tips

You’ll be a more effective learner if you transition into another culture with healthy expectations & tools for change & adaptation.

Remember:

• Study away is a process, not an event.
• Trust your experience
• Call on tools that have worked
• Stay curious
• You are not alone!

Welcome the whole journey, integrating pre-departure, in-country orientation & re-entry experiences.
Thank you!