**DIPLOMA SUPPLEMENT**

**Higher Education System in Israel**

***Degrees***

Higher education in Israel is a three-tiered system offering Bachelor’s (BA), Master’s (MA) and Doctoral (PhD) degree programs. Programs granting Bachelor’s degrees (e.g., BA, BSc, BEd, BDes, BFA, BDance, BMus, LLB) usually last three or four years, and five years for some disciplines. Completion of this first degree qualifies students for admission to subsequent degree programs. Master's degree programs generally last two years and offer research and non-research tracks. Students who complete a Master's degree with a research track are eligible for admission to Doctorate programs. Additional admissions requirements are determined by each university. Doctorate programs generally last four to six years and are offered in a range of disciplines. For some programs, students may take a direct track after completion of their Bachelor’s degree to a doctoral degree program.

***Access to Higher Education***

Israeli institutes of higher education generally require a matriculation diploma and a standardized psychometric examination. The exact requirements vary depending on the institution and field of study. Programs may have additional requirements such as entrance interviews, examinations, or artistic portfolios. Admission requirements for all programs are determined on a competitive basis by the institution, and are approved by Israel’s Council for Higher Education (CHE).

***Types of Higher Education Institutions***

Israel has 61 academic institutions: nine universities (including the Open University), and 31 academic colleges that award Bachelor's and Master's degrees (generally non-research track). Currently, only research universities offer research PhD degrees. The academic degrees recognized in the Israeli system of higher education are Bachelor’s, Master’s and Doctoral degrees.

***Government Agencies***

The Council for Higher Education (CHE), established in accordance with the Council for Higher Education Act 1958 (5718), is the regulatory body responsible for the academic aspects of all institutions of higher education in Israel. According to the Council for Higher Education Act, higher education institutions are accredited by the Quality Assessment Division of the CHE at the study program level in universities and colleges.

**Ruppin Academic Center**

With 5,000 students, Ruppin Academic Center (RAC) is one of the largest public colleges in Israel. It was established in 1949 by Israel’s first prime minister, David Ben Gurion, as a training and management institute for the country’s agricultural settlements (*kibbutzim* and *moshavim*). It was named after Dr. Ruppin, a renowned Zionist leader.

It has come a long way since then; today, RAC is a leading academic college, awarding 18 undergraduate degrees (BA, BSc) and graduate degrees (MA, MBA, MSc) in Marine Sciences, Engineering, Social Sciences (including Gerontological Clinical Psychology), Management, and Economics. RAC offers innovative study programs committed to developing knowledge and professional knowledge that addresses Israel’s most vital social and economic challenges.

In addition to providing students with high-quality academic and professional training, RAC exposes students to a wide range of activities and events relating to social entrepreneurship and engagement, tutoring projects, and environmental conservation initiatives. Students are introduced to special curricula that provide them with varied employment opportunities and inculcate them with the social values that are vital for the prosperity of civil society.

Ruppin Academic Center embraces and nurtures its students and alumni. It has been consistently awarded top ratings in satisfaction surveys conducted among Israel's higher education student population.

The Ruppin Academic Center operates four faculties:

**The Faculty of Economics and Business Administration,** which awards BA degrees in Economics and Accounting, Economics and Management, Business Administration, and a Global Master’s in Business Administration (MBA).

**The Faculty of Social and Community Sciences,** which awards Bachelor’s degrees in Behavioral Sciences, Nursing (BSN), and Social Work (BSW); and Master’s degrees in Immigration and Social Integration, Organizational Psychology, Clinical Psychology, and Clinical Psychology of Adulthood and Aging.

**The Faculty of Engineering,** which awards BSc degrees in Industrial Engineering and Management, Computer Engineering, Electrical Engineering and Electronics, Computer and Information Sciences, and MA degrees in Logistics and Global Supply Chain.

**The Faculty of Marine Sciences**, which awards BSc degrees in Marine Environmental Sciences and Marine Biotechnology, and MA degrees in Marine Resource Management and MSc degrees in Marine Sciences.

**The Faculty of Economics and Business Administration** at the Ruppin Academic Center has been awarding CHE-accredited academic degrees since 1979. The Faculty currently offers three undergraduate programs with CHE accreditation: BA degrees in Economics and Management, Economics and Accounting, and Business Administration, an MA degree program, and a Master’s degree in Business Administration (MBA). Students in these undergraduate and graduate degree programs acquire not only basic concepts in management and economics but also advanced analytical and thinking tools that enable them to move into challenging and diverse roles in Israel’s business and public sector. The academic programs at the Faculty of Economics and Business Administration combine theory, research, and practice along with a wide range of specializations including: Finance, Accounting, Marketing, Human Resource Management, Organizational Development and Consulting, Information Systems Management, and Business Innovation.

The Faculty departments:

**The Economics and Management Department** was the first academic department in economics established outside a university framework in Israel. Since 1978, the department has educated over 1,500 economists, who now fill key positions in Israel’s business and economic arena. The program has three optional specializations: Finance and Financial Consulting; Real Estate Economics and Appraisal, and Information Systems.

**The Economics and Accounting Department** placed as one of the top five academic institutions on the Israeli Accountants Council’s qualification exams. In the past five years, more than 90% of the program’s graduates have passed the qualification exams. Many graduates are recruited by leading accounting firms including: PwC, Deloitte, EY, KPMG, and BDO.

**The Business Administration Department** has a reputation for excellence in teaching and alumni success in the job market. The program offers three optional specializations: Marketing Management, Human Resource Management and Organizational Development, and Information Systems.

**The MBA program** was established in 2007 and since then, over 1,000 graduates have successfully integrated into senior management positions in Israeli and global industries. The program educates students to become executives by endowing them with in-depth strategic research-based thinking and hard and soft management skills. It addresses global issues. The program has five optional specializations: Marketing and Global Strategy, Organizational Consulting, Financial Management, Investments and Real Estate Financing, Technology and Digital Business, and Senior Management, Strategy and Leadership.

**The Faculty of Engineering**  offers a variety of programs and specializations tailored to the current and anticipated future needs of the high-tech industry. The Faculty is at the forefront of Israel’s colleges. In addition to basic studies in engineering and sciences, it offers distinctive content and majors that open the door to a wide range of employment opportunities in engineering in general and in the areas of specialization. As part of the undergraduate programs, students have access to advanced labs that cover the latest technologies and disciplines in electrical engineering and electronics, computer engineering, computer and information sciences, and industrial engineering and management.

The Faculty offers four CHE-accredited undergraduate programs: BSc degrees in Electrical Engineering and Electronics, Computer Engineering, Computer and Information Sciences, and Industrial Engineering and Management, and a CHE-accredited MA in Logistics and Global Supply Chain.

**The Faculty of Marine Sciences** at RAC was founded in 1997 under the auspices of the Hebrew University of Jerusalem and was originally known as the Marine College of Israel. Until 2001, its graduates received a degree from Hebrew University. In 2003, it became the Faculty of Marine Sciences, the third faculty at the Ruppin Academic Center, accredited by CHE and budgeted by the Planning and Budget Committee. The Faculty of Marine Sciences at RAC is the only institution in Israel that grants a BSc in Marine Sciences. The Faculty offers two undergraduate programs with CHE accreditation: a BSc in Marine Sciences and Marine Environment and a BSc in Marine Biotechnology. The Faculty also offers two CHE-accredited graduate programs: an MSc in Marine Sciences, and an MA in Marine Resource Management.

In addition to its educational and research activities, the Faculty of Marine Sciences strives to promote awareness throughout Israeli society regarding the Mediterranean Sea’s importance and impact on the wellbeing of those living along its shores and its role as a food source, an economic resource, the main trade route for imports and exports, an asset with research and diplomatic potential, a nature reserve, and a major recreational site for residents and tourists.

**The Faculty of Social & Community Sciences** aims to help its students realize their intellectual potential by providing them with a broad and inspiring learning experience, and equipping them with professional and academic tools that will serve them in the job market or in subsequent studies. All the Faculty’s programs strive to promote and develop four main aspects: a multidisciplinary approach, sensitivity and social involvement, academic distinction, and academic research.

The Faculty has seven academic programs, three for undergraduate degrees and four for master’s degrees. Some programs are aligned with scientific disciplines and others focus on academic-professional training. The Behavioral Sciences Department gives students a broad and sound education in psychology, sociology, and anthropology. This department offers the Alonim Honors Program for outstanding students. The Nursing Sciences Department trains students to work in the nursing profession, based on principles of systematic and critical thinking, and maintaining personal and professional responsibility for the quality of the healthcare provided.

The Social Work Department is based on the core values of the social work profession, and the rules of professional ethics in the processes of intervention, treatment, and research, including social justice, human rights, social responsibility, reciprocity, respect for diversity, and equality.

The Master’s degree programs include Clinical Psychology, Clinical Psychology of Adulthood and Aging, Organizational Psychology, and Immigration and Social Integration. The Clinical Psychology program trains students to diagnose patients according to dynamic diagnostic processes, formulate a treatment plan tailored to the patients and their circumstances, by using a variety of evidence-based therapeutic approaches and considering cultural and social factors. The Clinical Psychology of Adulthood and Aging program provides clinical psychology training, with an additional specialization in the “third age”. The Organizational Psychology program develops students’ abilities in organizational diagnosis, intervention, and evaluation. It prepares them to work as organizational consultants, evaluators, researchers, training and organizational development personnel. The Immigration and Social Integration program presents students with knowledge of the complexity of Israeli society and its various immigrant groups, and provides them with ability to function in different multicultural environments while mastering the skills of cultural competence.