**DIPLOMA SUPPLEMENT**

**Higher Education System in Israel**

***Degrees:***

Higher education in Israel is a three tiered cycle: Bachelor, Master and Doctoral (Doctor) programs. Bachelor programs usually last 3-4 and in few disciplines even 5 years and culminate in Bachelor's Degree (e.g. B.A., B.Sc., B.Ed., B.Des., BFA, B.Dance, B.Mus., LL.B). Completion of the first cycle degree qualifies students for admission to second cycle degrees. Master's degrees generally last 2 years and are offered in research and non-research tracks. Students who complete a Master's degree in the research track are eligible for admission to Doctorate programs. Further admissions requirements can be determined by the universities. Doctoral programs generally last 4-6 years and are offered in a range of disciplines. Students may take a direct track after the completion of their Bachelor degree to a doctoral program.

***Access to Higher Education:***

Access to higher education in Israel generally requires a matriculation diploma and a standardized psychometric examination. The exact requirements vary depending on institution and field of study. Programs may also have additional requirements such as entrance interviews, examinations or artistic portfolios. Admissions for all programs is determined on a competitive basis according to the institution's admissions requirements approved by the Council for Higher Education.

***Types of Higher Education Institutions:***

Israel boasts 61 academic institutions: 9 Universities (including the Open University), 31 academic colleges award Bachelor's and Maste's Degrees (generally non-research track); currently only the research universities also offer research PhDs. The structure of the academic degrees recognized in Isreal is BA, MA and PhD degrees.

***Government Agencies:***

The Council for Higher Education (CHE), established in accordance with the Council for Higher Education Act 5718-1958, 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 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 has come a long way since its establishment in 1949 by Mr. David Ben Gurion, the first Israeli Prime Minister as a training and management center for Israel's agricultural settlements, kibbutzim and moshavim. It was named after Dr. Ruppin, a renowned Zionist leader. Today, the Center is a leading college awarding 18 undergraduates (B.A, B.Sc.) and graduate (M.A, M.B.A, M.Sc.) degrees in Marine Sciences, Engineering, Social Sciences (including Gerontological Clinical Psychology), Management and Economics. RAC offers innovative study programs that are committed to developing knowledge and professional know-how that can serve the country's most vital social and economic challenges.

Beyond providing the best academic/professional training in the course of their studies, our students are exposed to a range of activities and events relating to social entrepreneurship and engagement, tutoring projects and environmental conservation initiatives. They are also introduced to unique curricula which provides them with varied employment opportunities and inculcate the social values which are vital for the prosperity of a civil society.

Ruppin Academic Center embraces and nurtures its students and alumni and is consistently awarded the top rating in satisfaction surveys carried out among Israel's general student population.

The Ruppin Academic Center operates four faculties:

The Faculty of Economics and Business Administration awarding B.A. degrees in Economics and Accounting, Economics and Management, Business Administration, Global M.B.A.

The Faculty of Social and Community Sciences awarding B.A. degrees in Behavioral Sciences, Nursing (B.S.N.), Social Work (B.S.W.); M.A. degrees in Immigration and Social Integration, Organizational Psychology, Clinical Psychology and Gerontological Clinical Psychology.

The Faculty of Engineering awarding B.Sc. degrees in Industrial Engineering, Computer Engineering, Electrical and Electronic Engineering, Computer and Information Sciences and M.A. degree in Logistics and Maritime Systems.

The Faculty of Marine Sciences awarding B.Sc. degrees in Marine Environmental Sciences and Marine Biotechnology, M.A. degree in Marine Resource Management and M.Sc. degree in Marine Sciences.

**The Faculty of Economics and Business Administration** at the Ruppin Academic Center has been awarding academic degrees with the Israeli Council for Higher Education’s recognition since 1979.

The Faculty offers three undergraduate programs with CHE accreditation: B.A in economics and management, B.A in economics and accounting, B.A in business administration and one graduate program with CHE accreditation Master in Business Administration (M.B.A).  Undergraduate and master’s degree students of the faculty acquire not only basic concepts in management and economics but also advanced analytical and thinking tools to move onward to challenging and diverse roles in Israel’s business and public sector. The academic programs that the Faculty of Economics and Business Administration offers combine theory, research and practice and in 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:

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

**Economics and Accounting Department** - Placed nationally in the top five academic institutions on the Israeli Accountants Council’s qualifying exams. In the past five years, more than 90% of the program’s alumni have passed the qualification exams. Many of our graduates are recruited by the leading accounting firms: PWC, Deloitte, EY, KPMG, BDO.

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

**MBA program-** The program was established in 2007. Over the years, more than 1,000 graduates have successfully integrated into senior management positions in Israeli and global industries. The program educates executives and endows them with in-depth strategic thinking based on research along with hard and soft management skills, and includes global aspects. 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** at the Ruppin Academic Center offers a variety of programs and majors tailored to the current and future needs of the high-tech industry. The faculty is positioned at the forefront of Israel’s leading colleges.

In addition to the fundamental studies in engineering and sciences, the faculty offers distinctive content and majors that open the door for students to a variety of employment opportunities in engineering in general and in the area of the major in particular. As part of the undergraduate programs, students can leverage 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 undergraduate programs with Council of Higher Education (CHE) accreditation: B.Sc. in Electrical and Electronics Engineering, B.Sc. in Computer Engineering, B.Sc. in Computer and information sciences, B.Sc. in Industrial Engineering and Management and One graduate program with CHE accreditation: M.A in Logistics and Global Supply Chain.

**The Faculty of Marine Sciences** at the Ruppin Academic Center was founded in 1997 and originally known as the Marine College of Israel. It operated under the academic auspices of the Hebrew University of Jerusalem and its alumni received an undergraduate degree from Hebrew University until 2001.

In 2003, the Marine College became the “Faculty of Marine Sciences”, the third faculty at the Ruppin Academic Center. It became an integral part of this public college, approved by the Israeli Council for Higher Education’s (CHE), and budgeted by the Planning and Budget Committee (PBC). The Faculty of Marine Sciences at the Ruppin Academic Center is the only institution in Israel that grants a BSc in marine sciences. The faculty offers two undergraduate programs with CHE accreditation: BSc in Marine Sciences and Marine Environment, and BSc in Marine Biotechnology. The Faculty also have two graduate programs accredited by the CHE: MSc in Marine Sciences, and 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 residing on its shores as well as its role as a source of food, 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, provide them with a wide-ranging and inspiring learning experience, and equip them with professional and academic tools that will serve them well in the job market or in their subsequent studies. All the faculty’s programs strive to advance and develop four main aspects: *Multidisciplinary Approach, Sensitivity and Social Involvement, Academic Distinction, 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 offers sound acquaintance with the disciplines of psychology, sociology, and anthropology. The department’s 'Alonim Honors Program' is designed for outstanding students. The Nursing Sciences Department train people to the nursing profession, using principles of systematic and critical thinking, while keeping personal and professional responsibility for the quality of the health care 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, which include 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 train students to diagnose patients according to dynamic diagnoses, to formulate a treatment plan tailored to the patient and circumstances, using a variety of evidence-based therapeutic approaches, and weighting cultural and social factors. The Clinical Psychology of Adulthood and Aging program provides clinical psychology training, with additional specialization in the third age. The Organizational Psychology program develop students’ ability for organizational diagnosis, intervention, and evaluation, and 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.