

MATANEL FOUNDATION
DONATION FORM

Program: Summer University for Youth

Year: 2022

1. Name of the program: Summer Youth University

Year of activity: 2022

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Function of the report's writer: Coordinator of Summer Youth University

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Number of active participants in the program: 51

Provide status of the program:

In the summer of 2022, the 21st class of the Summer University program was held. Outstanding students who had completed 10th grade came from social and geographical peripheries around the country. Forty-five students were accepted, as well as six youth counselors, graduates of the previous course who also participated in the academic courses. The program was intensive and activities were held daily from morning to evening, including participation and studies in two academic courses alongside classes in academic skills, studies in small groups, and social and cultural activities that primarily were held in the evenings in the Green Village and in Tel Aviv.

This year, the students participated in two academic courses, given by leading lecturers from the Social Sciences faculty:

Introduction to Political Thought Dr. Golan Lahat.

Introduction to Psychology Thought Dr. Dida Fleisig.

In addition, for ongoing review and deep study of the material, academics from the field accompanied them throughout the program, working closely with them, reviewing the material with them, and helping them practice the skills required for

academic studies, including reading articles, summarizing lectures, writing and reading academically, learning the highlights for the exam, and more.

The teaching assistant of Introduction to Political Thought was Adi Grady.

The teaching assistant of Introduction to Psychology was Bar Shvalbo.

The changes that we have all undergone over the past year and a half also led to transitioning the program's format this summer, combining studies from both home and dormitory residence, while hybrid instruction combined in-class and online studies. The university's academic courses today also incorporate a lot of hybrid learning, and the introductory course in psychology includes built-in on line study chapters.

The following team helped the program succeed this year:

- Program coordinator
- Lecturers (from the Social Sciences faculty) for academic courses
- Supplements to accompany the learning process
- Counselors
- Youth Counselors - Continuing the tradition that includes young counselors, graduates of the previous course, who assist in facilitating and teaching materials to small groups while simultaneously integrating into academic courses.

It is worth noting that in addition to the youth counselors, two of the older counselors is a past graduate of the program. Alex Zibirov, a graduate of the 11th grade, currently studies electrical engineering for the Technion's transfer program. And Shatah Nujeidat, a graduate of the 19th grade, start this academic year BA in Computer Science in the Technion.

At the end of the summer program, academic exams were held. In addition to academic credit, students are entitled to five units in social sciences ("high school academics") towards their matriculation requirements (bagrut).

The main achievements over the last year:

Academics - Participants in the program for peripheral students, the first generation to attend institutions of higher education, have successfully integrated into the academic

studies, and we believe the experience will give them the confidence and desire to invest in higher education in their future. In addition, the great emphasis on academic skills throughout the program not only provides skills required for this specific program, but also gives the students a portfolio of tools and values for life, which they also applied in their studies at the school.

Grades:

Course Name	Average Grade
Introduction to Psychology	82
Introduction to Political Thought	85

*Based on the first Exam. Re-exams (retakes) will take place in September and we assume the average will be higher.

Social - The Summer University for Youth community consists of students from across Israel: Ashkelon, Arad, Kiryat Gat, Kiryat Shmona, Shlomi, Nof Hagalil, Nahaf, Daliyat Al-Karmel, Acco, and others. The students come from different cultures, religions, and sectors. Due to the great diversity of this year's student population, they received additional value of learning to 'accept each other' by exploring Tel Aviv together. They took part in a graffiti tour that told the story of southern Tel Aviv, attended a theater show about tolerance between different populations, and worked in diverse groups to learn the similarities and differences they had. Through all these activities, the students learned about deep friendship and respect for others, while being shaped to be youth activists, active citizen ambassadors, and positive leaders for those around them.

Other Activities - Each week we combined enrichment lectures from a variety of areas, using key lecturers and leaders in their fields. Among the lectures:

- Meeting with Prof. Itai Sened, Dean of Social Sciences.
- Meeting with Gil Shwed, Founder and CEO of Checkpoint and Prof. Yossi Klafter, Chairman of the Academic Committee at Tel Aviv University and former president of Tel Aviv University.
- Educational session with Prof. Galit Yoval, Head of the Department of Psychology at Tel Aviv University.

Social and Cultural Activities - Some of these activities conducted included:

- Outing to the Check Point hi-tech organization
- Interactive trivia activity in Sarona Market.
- Mediation Presentation on Gaps and Acceptance of Others: "Renovations", at the Beit Lessin Theater
- Social gathering in Dizengoff Square, in the heart of Tel Aviv
- Special youth-conference on learning sustainability in the Green Garden on behalf of Matanel Foudation in Naftali building. Conference speakers included Professor Hadas Maman, lecturing on the topic of water worldwide; Dr. Ram Friedman, an expert on sustainable development; and Dr. Alon Shepon, talking on environment and nutrition.

Evaluation and Results:

1. Grades and Academic Studies - All students participated in the complete program and successfully passed the academic course, intermediate assignments, academic skills course, and final exams.
2. The average grades on the academic tests were: 82 in Introduction to Psychology and 85 in Introduction to Political Thought.
3. Second year of hybrid structure to the program, which combined in-class and online learning, was conducted successfully; there was an investment and perseverance by the students throughout the program and a high grade average similar to previous years, despite the change in the curriculum; the feedback by the students at the start, middle, and end of the program appraised the instructors and gave a high level of enjoyment and satisfaction with the program (See Appendix 1).
4. The online study model allows students in the periphery to continue contact with the university even in the academic year. Approximately 25% of the program's participants will already continue in the coming semester to attend additional academic courses through Tel Aviv Youth University, which indicates high motivation, their belief in their ability to succeed in the academic world, and an aspiration to deepen university familiarity among the students.

Summary for Future Actions:

1. We are weighing whether to continue in the coming years with the implementation of the hybrid model of studies that gives students an important part in diligence and personal investment both in the university and home settings while also enabling a continuing relationship with the university.
2. We will continue to emphasize socio-cultural and values-driven activities for students for the benefit of creating a leading and caring community of active citizens.

Timetable for Next Year:

1. Publicizing the program and the opening of registration for the program - March 2023
2. Task - first selection (household chore) - Early April 2023
3. Selection day that includes an exam, personal interview, and group dynamics – End of April 2023
4. Orientation Day for accepted students and their parents – May 2023
5. Program starts – End of June 2023

Photos for the Summer University – 22th Class

https://drive.google.com/file/d/10hZqfWntvdpF6sa39a7Ny_L_M5SMnuej/view?usp=sharing

Video of the Summer University- <https://youtu.be/3sQJ83bgIFM>