

אוניברסיטה בעם.

הידע מגיע לכולם

2022-23

Mid-Year Report



האוניברסיטה העברית בירושלים
THE HEBREW UNIVERSITY OF JERUSALEM



אוניברסיטת בן-גוריון בנגב
Ben-Gurion University of the Negev



אוניברסיטת חיפה
University of Haifa
جامعة حيفا

אוניברסיטת תל אביב
TEL AVIV UNIVERSITY

בעידוד ותמיכת
קרן מתנאל

MIATANEL
FOUNDATION
GRANTED TO GIVE

Israëlactie

קרן צבעוני
TZIVONI FOUNDATION

קרן היסוד
KEREN HAYESOD
FOR THE PEOPLE OF ISRAEL

המועצה
למשקלה
גבוהה
מجلس
الاعلي
COUNCIL FOR HIGHER EDUCATION
הוועדה לתכנון ולתקצוב

דיסקונט

משרד המשפטים
MINISTRY OF JUSTICE | وزارة العدل



משרד הרווחה
והביטחון החברתי



משרד
הבריאות
לחיים בריאים יותר





Table of contents

- 06 About the program
- 08 Activity map
- 10 About our participants
- 12 Study tracks
- 14 What's new in our branches this year?
- 20 Our Collaborations - Joint initiatives
- 22 About our student-instructors
- 24 Tel Aviv University
- 26 Ben-Gurion University of the Negev
- 28 The Hebrew University of Jerusalem
- 30 University of Haifa
- 32 Thanks and summary



About the program

Our vision

Access for All strives towards an equal society that enables each individual to live up to their potential, and contribute meaningfully to themselves and society at large. We do this by creating encounters between the university and disadvantaged populations.



Program goals

- | | | |
|---|---|--|
| 1

To bridge social disparities and promote equal opportunity by narrowing knowledge and education gaps | 2

To invoke meaningful change by creating meaningful encounters of respect and reciprocal learning between disadvantaged populations and one of society's most influential forces – academia | 3

To promote meaningful citizenship by encouraging participants to become impactful citizens, who take responsibility for their own lives, and act out of conscious understanding and reflection, for themselves and others |
|---|---|--|

How do we do this?

By **harnessing accumulated academic knowledge** for social activism, after 'standard' academic activity is done

By providing an **empowering learning** experience using innovative methods that reinforce personal aptitudes, develop curiosity, and provide the drive and practical tools to continue learning and developing

By **lowering emotional defenses** through cultivating personal connections, and facilitating organized transport services and refreshments

By providing **professional and academic guidance** for student-instructors, and promoting understanding of social and educational disparities.

By utilizing a **"lean" cost structure** which allows for high social returns relative to the required budgetary needs

We teach psychology, business administration, medicine and law, at Tel Aviv University, Ben-Gurion University of the Negev, University of Haifa, and the Hebrew University of Jerusalem, to pupils from 50 municipal districts all over the country.

Approximately 25,000 participants have graduated the program and are less dependent on social services. About 800 student-instructors have taught in the program, gaining an intimate look at themselves and Israeli society. To our amazement, even during the past Covid year, activity has been successful, and even especially so, showing some novel results.

Activity map



“My university experience has been very good: the teachers’ attitude and approach, the team’s concern for our attendance and success, and the balance of personal and group aspects, are all great. This experience makes me believe that I can master things that seem difficult or complicated, which gives me the confidence to continue to learn and explore an interesting field. This program proves that disadvantaged people are capable of learning how to program, which inspires me to open up to a whole host of new ideas.”

Chen Cohen
First year programming and information systems track learner
University of Haifa



About our participants

Number of participant-pupils

1,473

Total

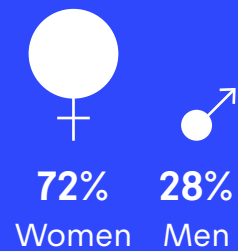
71

Left

95.2%

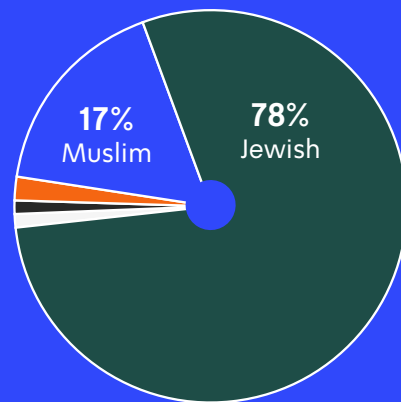
Finished
the first
semester

Gender



Religion

3% Druze
1% Christian
1% Other



44.5

Age
average

School years



Number of student-instructors

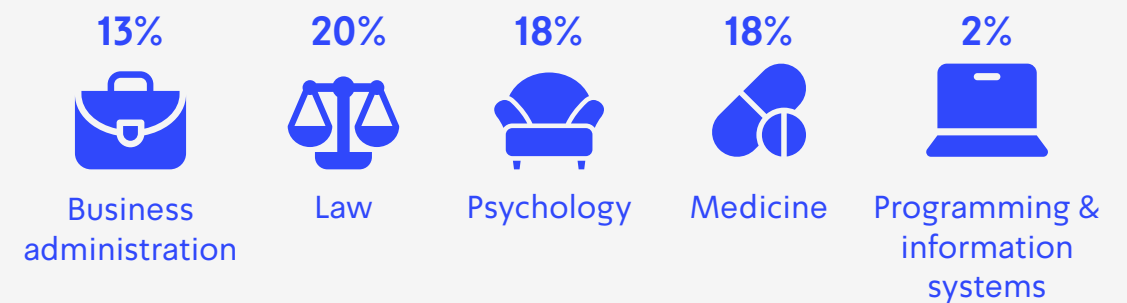


Access for All in numbers

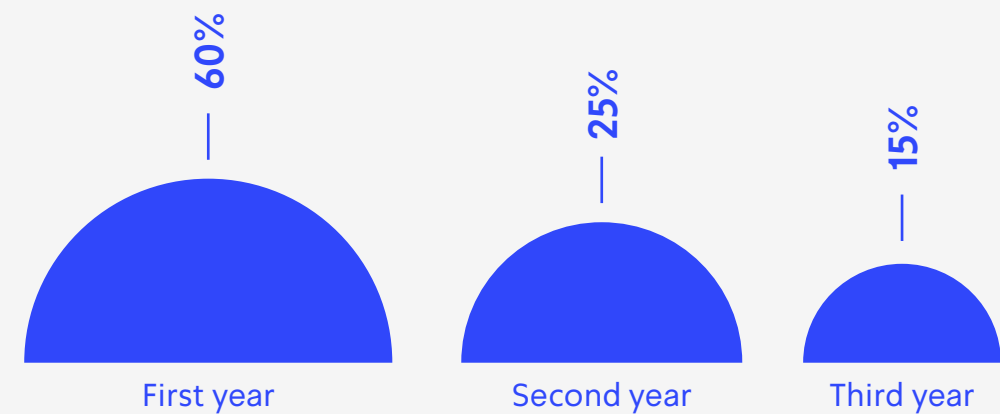
40% ongoing
participant-pupils

60% new
participant-pupils

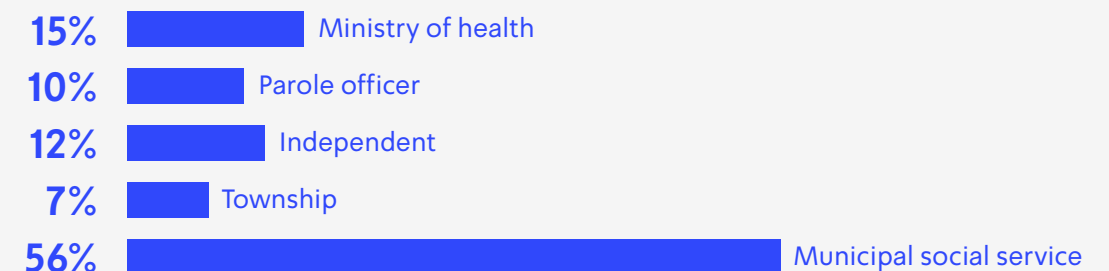
Division of participant-pupils by study track



Year of study



Statistical division based on referring institution



Study tracks

1

Law track

Participant-learners in the law track take the “introduction to law” course, which provides them with a basic understanding of the structure of the legal system, its various branches, the rights and duties of Israeli citizens, and preliminary knowledge in contract law, law of torts, criminal law, labor law, family law and more. The interactive study experience allows learners to analyze, evaluate and apply the material in their personal lives through examining cases, conducting debates and more.

2

Business administration track

Participant-pupils in the “introduction to business administration” course are introduced to the market mechanisms, and various components of, the Israeli market. The course deals with such subjects as savvy consumerism, consumer-bank relationships, balancing a family budget, and even small business establishment and management.



For me, Access for All is the first social structure that really makes me feel like I belong. Beyond the useful lessons and experience in the field of law, the program has also taught me invaluable social skills.”

Moshe Amos
First year law track learner
University of Haifa

Furthermore, the course provides participants with a basic understanding of economics, marketing, advertising, and business entrepreneurship, providing practical tools in a changing labor landscape.

we have built a unique work module in special cooperation with The Joint (JDC) that focuses on imparting skills and aptitudes relevant to labor, that is now an essential part of the curriculum. Moreover, the course introduces participants to the labor market, instructing them on how to find employment, how to write a resume, how and what to say in an interview, etc.

3

Psychology track

Participant-pupils in the psychology track take the “introduction to psychology” course, which deals with the question of what psychology is by introducing its various main branches: social, cognitive, behavioral, and physiological psychology. During the course, participants are acquainted with both classical and modern psychological theories, and the ways in which they can provide insight into different human behaviors. The course also focuses on practical aspects of psychology in various contexts, such as decision making, stress relief, group dynamics and conflict scenarios.



“I am so happy with the program. The fact that people our age are given the opportunity to broaden our horizons. I have improved my understanding of the law in our country, and even understand the news much better than before.”

Amal abu Salem
First year law track learner
University of Haifa

It also explores additional subjects such as psychopathology and mental disorders, sleeping and dreaming, perception and the senses, psychological research methodology, and more. In light of the pandemic, we have devoted time to giving participants practical tools with which to cope, such as how to spin a situation in our favor, how to adopt an optimistic outlook, and how to deal with crises and pressure.

4

Medicine track

Participant-pupils in the medical track take the “introduction to medicine” course, in which they learn basic concepts in the various fields of medicine: the human body, its various systems and functions, common diseases and their treatments, and the research that went into developing the latter. The course also includes instruction in preventative care, hygiene, nutrition and first aid. The course provides learners with practical knowledge, relevant to their daily lives, raising awareness to the effects that one's lifestyle can have on their individual health and that of their family.



What's new in our branches this year?



Tel Aviv:



Tel Aviv Youth University and Access for All - sponsored by the Matanel foundation

The Tel Aviv Youth University is one of the largest, most innovative, and exhaustive excellence centers in Israel promoting academic achievement in youths. This year, we started a new program in which grandchildren and other young relatives of our program's participants can join their family members in taxi services to the university, and attend the Tel Aviv Youth University's enrichment program.

Lead by Dorit Sasman-Bodenheimer, Tel Aviv Youth University director, the 'science and knowledge' program was adapted to Access for All in relation to time, content, and admission. This collaboration has several goals: to further our vision of narrowing knowledge gaps and increasing social mobility, to utilize existing infrastructure to expand Access for All's ties to the university, creating a shared experience for learner's and their families, and, finally, exposing the younger generation to academia.

The program will include 12 sessions, each of which will be dedicated to a different field of research, introduced by university lecturers. Sessions will include practical experience, experiments and tours designed to pique curiosity and encourage academic aspirations. Among the subjects featured in the curriculum are: the immune system, senses in the animal kingdom, DNA, planetarium appreciation, chemistry in the kitchen, and many more.

The program currently consists of two classes for children between fifth and seventh grade. The program is subsidized by the Matanel foundation, at a cost of 150 NIS per pupil.

Access for All and SIT

Thanks to our relationship with Dr. Iris Arbel, SIT CEO and lecturer at the Tel Aviv University entrepreneurship center, we are embarking on a collaborative project with SIT, a world leader in innovation consulting, active in roughly 75 countries globally. The project has several aims: promoting entrepreneurship and innovation as values capable of encouraging novel ideas in our participants; supplementing student-instructors' skill sets with practical innovation tools, useful both in and outside of the program; and increasing participants' sense of aptitude, as well as strengthening their ties to the university.

So far, we have held an innovation workshop for student-instructors (22 in total) at the innovation center. It started with busting myths and preconceptions about innovation and creativity, and then continued with SIT method exercises designed to apply to Access for All classes. We are currently planning the second phase of the project, in which an SIT representative will deliver national Zoom classes to all Access for All participants. The content will be adapted to focus on breaking patterns, and encouraging personal action in our personal lives.



The Hebrew University of Jerusalem:



Collaboration with "Hizdamnut Center"

As part of our collaboration with the Hizdamnut Jerusalem occupational center, we are holding three events throughout the year. During our student-instructors' training period, we briefed them on the occupational hurdles that our participants face. Nearing mid-year, we will deliver an introductory occupational workshop that will impart basic skills that will smoothen participants' assimilation into the work force. Nearing the end of the year, we will hold a "next step" fair, in which participants will receive various offers to develop their careers or studies in ways that build on what they have learned in the Access for All program.



Arabic speaking classes and language exchange project

The increasing number of participants from East Jerusalem in 2023 required that we open 4 Arabic speaking classes in the branch – two in psychology, one in law, and another in business management. To encourage our East Jerusalem students to get involved in the program, with Hebrew speakers, and in Jerusalem society in general, we have initiated a “language exchange” program between classes, led by the multiculturalism coordinator. For the moment, all the classes have heard about the project, and were allowed to sign up. We are happy to report that many have expressed interest! The next step will be to divide participants into groups of two – one Hebrew and one Arabic speaker – to engage in conversation between classes, and in their free time.

University of Haifa:

Computer programming and information systems track



This year, for the first time in Access for All history, we offer a computer programming and information systems track. The aim is to allow participants to access technological fields, explore them and deepen their understanding, and acquire the skills needed to learn how to write software code: e.g., procedural planning, critical thinking, problem solving, and perseverance. The track has the full cooperation of the information systems department at

the University of Haifa, that grants student-instructors two academic credits for their work in the program.

The track currently consists of one class of 25 participants, taught by a team of two student-instructors. The curriculum focuses on website development, use of the access information management software, and the Python coding language. Participants report that the learning process is challenging, cognitively intensive, and yet very rewarding, as they continue to explore and practice their lessons after class. The track collaborates with two hi-tech companies that provide guidance throughout the year:



WIX: The company lead a team of volunteers to lead an entire learning module.



GE: The company donated computers to every participant who didn't have access to a computer, and will also host participants at a company event.

We believe that this new Haifa branch track sets the stage for other future tracks to come, and will itself continue to develop.

