

# אוניברסיטה בעם.

הידע מגיע לכולם

## 2022-23

תשפ"ג

## Annual 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 ציוני  
TZIVONI FOUNDATION

קרן תומכת העם  
FOR THE PEOPLE OF ISRAEL

המועצה  
לגבוהה  
ללימודים  
העליונים  
COUNCIL FOR HIGHER EDUCATION  
המועצה לתכנון ולחקר

דיסקונט

משרד המשפטים  
MINISTRY OF JUSTICE | وزارة العدل

משרד הרווחה  
והביטחון החברתי

משרד  
הבריאות  
לחיים בריאים יותר



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# 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

- |   |   |  |
|---|---|--|
| <b>1</b><br><br><b>To bridge social disparities and promote equal opportunity</b> by narrowing knowledge and education gaps | <b>2</b><br><br><b>To invoke meaningful change</b> by creating meaningful encounters of respect and reciprocal learning between disadvantaged populations and one of society's most influential forces – academia | <b>3</b><br><br><b>To promote meaningful citizenship</b> 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



“This is a wonderful program that helped me develop my outlook on life as a private person and member of society, and gives me strength to notice possibilities and a wider perspective. Thanks to the program, academia doesn’t seem so distant, and I am currently considering enrolling in the near future. I thank everyone participating in the program, as well as its organizers and backers. I am very happy to be a small part of a great program with immense value.”

**Vagao Shlomo McKonnen**  
third year pupil  
psychology track  
Tel Aviv University



# About our participants

## Number of participant-pupils

1,445

Total

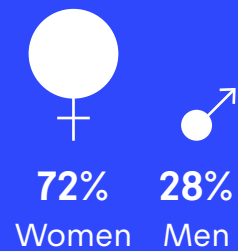
251

Left

82.6%

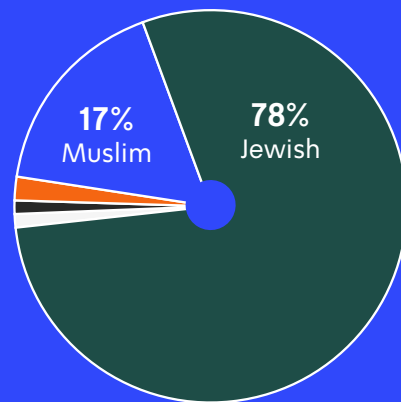
Finished  
the first  
semester

## Gender



## Religion

3% Druze  
1% Christian  
1% Other



44.5

Age  
average

## School years



## Number of student-instructors

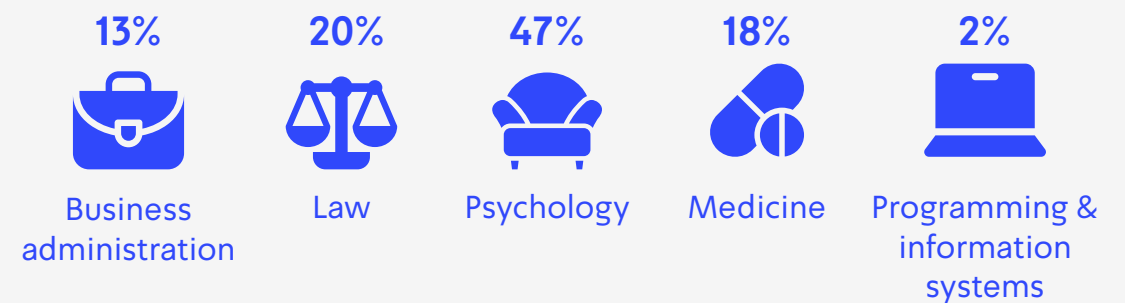


## Access for All in numbers

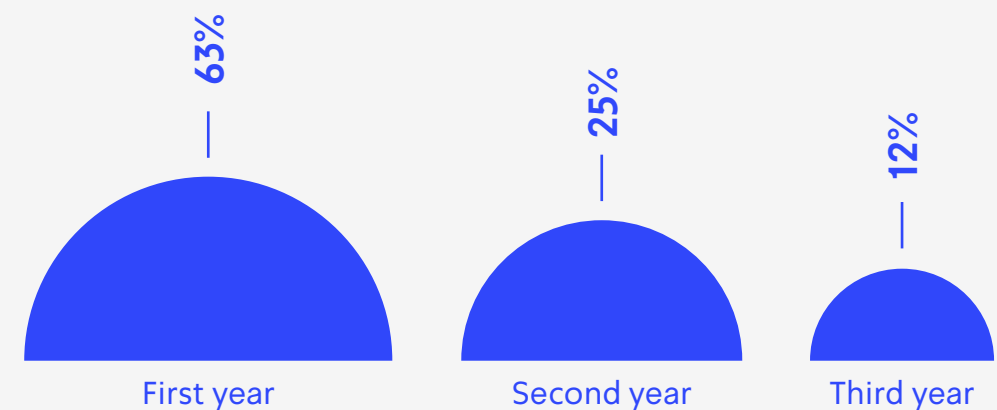
37% ongoing  
participant-pupils

63% new  
participant-pupils

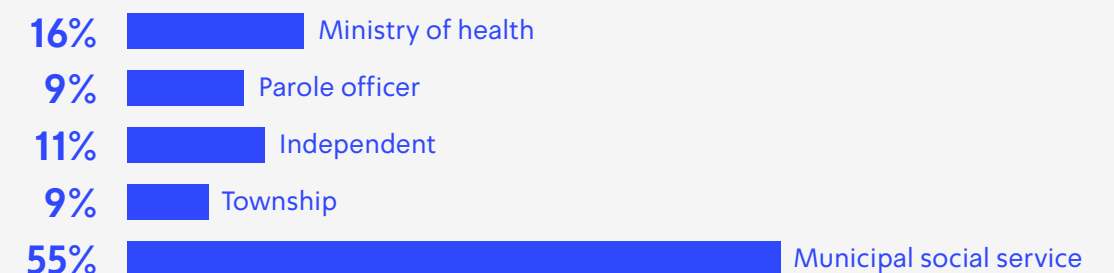
## Division of participant-pupils by study track



## 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 finally have the courage to stand up to the bank, and to request full explanations of specialized terms like “interest” and “index linked.” I have researched investment options, and invested money for the first time in my life!”**

**Angela Siboni**  
third year pupil  
business management,  
The Hebrew University

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.







## Ben Gurion University of the Negev:



### Decreasing Inequality in Access to Healthcare

This year, we continued to collaborate on a project with the Ministry of Health in order to decrease health-related disparities. Our branch at Ben Gurion University spearheaded the creation of content on healthy aging, and devised a lateral module on the subject of practical preventative health knowledge. The latter taught such skills as: data collection, knowledge of health rights, and health service comparison and attainment. We are thrilled to continue this collaboration, which contributes to all the medicine tracks in the program.

### Soroka Medical Center Collaboration

We are continually furthering our collaboration with diverse organizations. This year, an important institution was added to our list of collaborators: Soroka Medical Center.

Crossing the street from the hospital to the university on Mondays, auxiliary staff, orderlies and cleaning personnel come to learn what they witness in their workplace: introduction to medicine. Most of the participants have no higher education experience, and have been working in their field for many years. Many report with excitement how happy they are to work at an institution that encourages them to broaden their horizons, and how they appreciate the opportunity to learn lessons salient to their job. It is noteworthy that the hospital has shown amazing flexibility in allowing workers to choose shifts that are compatible with their studies, and is even attempting to reward them with training bonuses for participation in our in depth academic program.

This year's program is a pilot consisting of 30 participants from Soroka Hospital. Next year, we intend to double the number of participants.







### Jerusalem – Knesset Tour

At the height of a complicated political and social period, our Jerusalem branch went on a tour of the Israeli Knesset. About 40 Hebrew speaking and 20 Arabic speaking participants joined the tour, in which they walked the Knesset halls, learned about its history, the various stages of law-making, and the procedures that shape our state. They also visited committee board rooms, the parliamentary hall, and even watched Knesset members in action. The tour had a huge impact on participants, the wide majority of whom live in Jerusalem but have never been to the Knesset! They learned a lot, and gained a better and multifaceted understanding of the system.



### Jerusalem – Theater Group

In the second semester, we launched a community theater pilot program in association with the Hebrew University's theater department, led by lecturer Nira Mazor. The program accepted Access for All graduates, third year pupils, and Hebrew university students. Each week, about 15 Access for All graduates met for a shared workshop with roughly 15 students participating in courses that combine an element of social activity. Together, they practiced theater and became acquainted with one another. At the end of the year, the group will hold a graduation night, where they will present their work.

### Haifa – Excursions Outside the University

As we do every year, we took our Haifa-based pupils on excursions around the city to cultivate a stronger connection to their respective fields of study, and expand their horizons and their hearts!



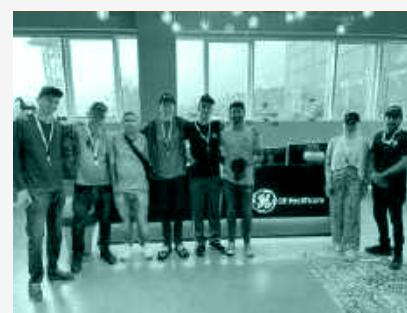
#### Magen David Adom – Medicine track:

The pupils of the medicine track visited Magen David Adom's Haifa Carmel Station. The tour included an explanation of MDA and its role in society, as well as that of the Carmel station. Participants were given a guided tour of an ambulance, studying its various components, and visited the call center where calls are addressed, which was fascinating and edifying!



#### Community theater – Psychology track:

The pupils of the psychology track were treated to a magical evening of community theater, in which they participated in theatrical exercises, and learned more about one another through the world of acting and roleplay. The evening was hosted gratis by the MATI center! Our pupils left smiling and feeling empowered.



#### GE company tour:

This past year we have been collaborating with GE on starting a new software development and data management track unique to the Haifa branch. The company has guided us through the initial steps of development, donated laptop computers to program pupils, and hosted the entire track for an event that included a fascinating tour of the company. The event showcased GE's operations, included a demonstration of one of the company's medical instruments, and was topped-off with pupils presenting their graduation projects to GE employees, who were deeply impressed by their work. The evening was incredibly emotional and satisfying!