The Weiss-Livnat International MA Program in Holocaust Studies
Faculty of Humanities
Israel University of Haifa
BET LOHAME HACHEMAT
For Holocaust Research
in the International MA Program
The Weiss-Livnat
Welcome to the University of Haifa

Situated at the top of the Carmel Mountain, amidst the Carmel National Forest, with breathtaking views of the Mediterranean Sea and the Galilee, the University of Haifa provides the perfect setting for your international graduate studies.

The University of Haifa is one of Israel’s seven research universities, the largest in the north. It is a microcosm of Israeli society dedicated to academic excellence and social responsibility. An exciting and inspiring cultural mosaic, the university has a diverse population of 18,000 students made up of secular and religious Jews, Christian and Muslim Arabs, Druze and Bedouin, new immigrants and native Israelis and a growing number of students from around the world. We invite you to become one of them.

The University of Haifa’s Faculty of Humanities, in collaboration with the Strochlitz Institute for Holocaust Research, launched the International Master’s Program in Holocaust Studies in 2012.

The program is taught by a multidisciplinary team of scholars who have made it their mission to prepare the next generation of Holocaust researchers.
The Program

Holocaust studies has emerged as a central field of scholarship in the humanities and social sciences as Holocaust memory has become a global phenomenon. Many questions in Holocaust studies still remain unanswered. In light of the opening of archives in Eastern Europe, documents recently revealed await a new generation of scholars to shed light on the events and meanings of the Holocaust period. As a scholarly field, Holocaust studies offers students the opportunity to research one of the world’s most formative modern historical events from a multidisciplinary perspective.

The Weiss-Livnat International Master’s Program in Holocaust Studies at the University of Haifa is dedicated to creating and nurturing the next generation of Holocaust researchers. Its aim is to provide students with a well-rounded curriculum from a wide range of disciplines and research methodologies. The program offers courses in social history; political history; psychological aspects of the Holocaust; anthropology of memory, trauma, and commemoration; international law and genocide; visual culture and literature of the Holocaust, and more. Students participate in workshops and seminars that teach research methods such as techniques for conducting in-depth interviews, examining personal testimonies, and analyzing photographic, video, and archival documents.

The program is offered in collaboration with the Strochlitz Institute for Holocaust Studies at the University of Haifa. The program is directed by Professor Arieh J. Kochavi, Head of the Strochlitz Institute, and a prolific and prominent scholar of World War II, diplomatic history of the 20th century, refugees and displaced persons in Europe, refugee organizations, prisoners of war, the Holocaust, and antisemitism.

For more information about the institute, please visit: http://holocaust-center.haifa.ac.il
Program Objectives

• To offer scholars from various countries a multidisciplinary education in the field of Holocaust studies
• To provide students with marketable skills in order to develop a career in Holocaust education, museums, libraries, and archives
• To train students in a variety of research methods, including guided work in archives located in Israel and Europe and the study of relevant languages for facilitating research

Cooperation with Leading Historical Archives and Museums

The program is held in full partnership with two major memorial institutions and historical archives in Israel: Yad Vashem and the Ghetto Fighters’ House. At these institutions, students participate in workshops where they meet with curators and researchers managing the institutions and study the archive collections and museum exhibits in order to understand the educational concepts behind them.

Collaboration also exists with institutions around the world, such as the United States Holocaust Memorial in Washington D.C., the Center for Research on Antisemitism at the Technical University in Berlin, the Polish Academy in Warsaw, and the Center for Holocaust Studies at the Jagiellonian University in Kraków, Poland.
The Program

Internship Program
The internship program prepares students for actual employment and includes: Ghetto Fighters' House Museum Archives, Yad Vashem Museum, Atlit Detention Camp, "Mashmout" Center, and local schools. Students participate in internships for the duration of the program and gain experience in curatorship, conducting interviews, guiding tours, writing curricula, and more.

Study Tours
As part of the experiential learning component, students participate in study tours to relevant museums and sites in Israel. Visits to sites such as Yad Vashem, the Ghetto Fighters' House Museum, and the Atlit detainee camp provide students with the opportunity to implement their academic knowledge into real life by seeing actual archives, historical records, and documentation.

One of the highlights of the program is the study tour to Poland, where students have the opportunity to visit archives, museums, and sites to research Jewish life before the Second World War. The visits include joint seminars with local students and leading scholars, as well as visits to ghettos, concentration camps, and museums.

The study tours are not covered by the cost of tuition and are an optional, but recommended, element of the program.

Volunteer Program with Holocaust Survivors
Students receiving scholarships are required to participate in the Holocaust Survivors Community Giving Project, in coordination with Haifa Hillel. Students volunteer in a number of ways and are required to record their activities in a journal or blog.
Program Structure and Scope

Program Subjects

- Political and diplomatic developments leading up to World War II
- Social history and history of everyday life during the Holocaust period
- Holocaust education to multicultural societies
- Social psychology of the Holocaust: victims, perpetrators, and bystanders, coping mechanisms, and intergenerational transmission of trauma from Holocaust survivors to their children
- Cultural expressions and interpretations of the Holocaust in literature and art
- Major debates in international law regarding genocide, war crimes, and crimes against humanity, all stemming from lessons learned after the Holocaust
- Research methods in history and social sciences
- Relevant languages for researching the Holocaust period

Study Tracks

Track A involves preparation of a research thesis and consists of 32 credits, including core courses, track-specific courses, a research forum, and elective courses. A thesis is required for those students planning to continue on to doctoral studies in Israel, and is normally completed in the year following the completion of coursework. Students who complete their thesis later than one year after the completion of their coursework may be expected to pay an additional fee as detailed by the Graduate Studies Authority.

Track B encompasses 38 credits (no thesis), including core courses, electives, and a final exam.

The language of instruction is English. Program coursework can be completed in one year of full-time study taught over three consecutive semesters from October until September. Students may choose to complete their coursework over two years as well. Students wishing to complete coursework within one year attend classes multiple days per week as full time students, while students wishing to complete coursework within two years attend classes one or two days per week as part time students.
## Curriculum*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Mandatory Courses</th>
<th>Credits</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>The Second World War</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>The Final Solution</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>Research Forum</td>
<td>4</td>
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<tr>
<td>Methods and Research Seminar for Holocaust Studies</td>
<td>2</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thesis Seminar (mandatory for Track A only)</td>
<td>2</td>
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<tr>
<td>Reflective Academic Writing</td>
<td>2</td>
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<tr>
<td>A Preparatory Tutorial for Interaction with Holocaust Survivors</td>
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<tr>
<th>Elective Courses</th>
<th>Credits</th>
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<tr>
<td>Jewish Migrants and Refugees in the Holocaust Era, 1933-1948</td>
<td>2</td>
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<tr>
<td>Visual Culture and the Holocaust</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Literature of the Holocaust</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Holocaust: Memory and Education</td>
<td>2</td>
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<tr>
<td>Anthropology of Memory and Trauma</td>
<td>4</td>
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<tr>
<td>Remembering the Holocaust: Psychological Aspects</td>
<td>4</td>
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<tr>
<td>Families, Women, and Children in the Holocaust</td>
<td>2</td>
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<tr>
<td>Nazi Germany</td>
<td>2</td>
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<tr>
<td>Holocaust Museums: Three Continents, Three Generations</td>
<td>2</td>
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<tr>
<td>The Holocaust in the Former Soviet Union</td>
<td>4</td>
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<tr>
<td>Polish Jewry During WWII</td>
<td>4</td>
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<tr>
<td>Genocide, War Crimes, and Crimes Against Humanity</td>
<td>2</td>
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*The curriculum is subject to change without notice. Please see program website for the most up-to-date curriculum.
*Students on Track A are required to take at least one foreign language. Students on Track B may take foreign language courses as electives.

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<tr>
<th>Languages (mandatory only for Track A students)*</th>
<th>Credits</th>
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<tr>
<td>German</td>
<td>4</td>
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<tr>
<td>Yiddish for Beginners</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Advanced Yiddish</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>Other Relevant Languages (additional tuition may be required)</td>
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**Supplementary Course**

Introduction to the Holocaust
The Nazi Policy of Extermination and the Final Solution, 1941-1945
This course examines the Nazi policy and implementation of the "Final Solution" from a historiographical point of view and deals with the central aspects of Nazi decision making.

The Second World War: Military and Political Aspects
This course examines the causes of the outbreak of World War II, central events during the war, and focuses on the complex relationship between the three major allied forces. Emphasis is placed on the policy of the Allies toward the murder of European Jewry. The course is based on archival documents and on readings from secondary sources.

German or Yiddish Language for Research
This course provides students with knowledge and tools to learn all aspects of the language of choice: reading, writing, and spoken language. The course is intended for students with no previous knowledge of the German or Yiddish language.

Research Forum
During this course students meet lecturers from Israel and abroad including education experts, judicial system professionals, authors, artists, and others working for the commemoration of the Holocaust. During the course, students also have the opportunity to present their own research and receive feedback from senior faculty and their peers.

Genocide, War Crimes, and Crimes Against Humanity
This course discusses the definition of genocide including the classification of genocide, war crimes, and crimes against humanity. Questions that are addressed include: Is intent a criterion for the classification of genocide? What is the nature of the relationship between genocide and colonialism? In order for an event to be classified as genocide, is physical extermination of a group required or is forced assimilation of populations and destruction of their cultural treasures and traditions also considered genocide? Is genocide a modern phenomenon?

* For detailed descriptions please visit our website: http://holocaust-studies.haifa.ac.il
Nazi Germany

This course explores the history of the German-Jewish community, everyday life for non-Jews in Nazi Germany, and the effects of the war on the German population during the years 1933-1945. It also discusses the factors behind the Nazi rise to power, the historical development of Nazi policies against the Jews of Germany, and the diverse experiences and responses of the Jewish community.

Thesis Seminar

In this course students learn how to design an original research project in the field of Holocaust Studies. The aim is both practical—to guide students through the MA thesis-writing process, as well as conceptual—asking what makes a research project valuable and compelling. Students map out the different disciplines available in the program, defining their various approaches to the Holocaust. Thinking critically about how to move from primary sources to research questions, students complete the course ready to write an MA thesis proposal.

Polish Jewry During the Second World War and the Holocaust

This course deals with the history of East European Jewry in the period that preceded World War II and during the Holocaust. The course examines everyday life, culture, and politics in Jewish communities before and during the Nazi occupation.

Anthropology of Memory, Trauma, and Commemoration

This course critically evaluates a variety of forms of Holocaust testimony, representation and commemoration, and Holocaust trauma-related therapy, all of which sustain the presence of the past in everyday Israeli life. Cultural practices and sites of memory are explored including: Holocaust memory in the private sphere, monumental Holocaust commemorative sites and ceremonies, and cinematic representations of traumatic memory and the politics of genocide in Israel. This course also comparatively examines other case studies of global mass violence, trauma, and genocide commemoration.
Jewish Migrants and Refugees in the Holocaust Era, 1933-1945
The course examines how the migration policies’ changing conditions in various countries evolved and comparatively analyzes the profiles, strategies, routes taken, and fate of different groups of immigrants and refugees who escaped to survive.

Memory of the Holocaust: Psychological Aspects
The goal of this seminar is to help students understand the long-term psychological effects of the Holocaust on survivors and their families. As part of the course, students interview survivors and/or second or third generation individuals.

Holocaust Museums: Three Continents, Three Generations
Holocaust museums have become one of the most popular mediums of Holocaust commemoration over the past years. The course explores the history, exhibitions, and design of various Holocaust museums around the world and studies their social, cultural, and political agendas. This examination reveals their role and responsibility in Holocaust commemoration.

The Holocaust in the Former Soviet Union
The course discusses various components of the Holocaust within the framework of the Soviet Union. Topics include the mobilization of Jews into the Red Army; Soviet policy in relation to the Holocaust; the role of the local population, both in the murder of the Jews and in saving them; and Nazi Policy and the participation of the Wehrmacht and German police units in the murder of the Jews.

Visual Culture and the Holocaust
Drawing from a wide variety of media and genres, the course focuses on some of the countless drawings, paintings, multimedia installations, graphic novels, video performances, sculptural monuments and conceptual counter-monuments, photography, and architecture used to represent the Holocaust.

* For detailed descriptions please visit our website: http://holocaust-studies.haifa.ac.il
Admission Requirements & Prerequisites

- Accredited BA degree in the humanities or social sciences, diploma and transcript
- Students who do not have a background in the study of history will be requested to take a relevant course in modern European history (during the first semester of the program). Each case will be considered in its own right. An additional fee may apply.
- A minimum of 3.0 GPA, 80%, or equivalent
- TOEFL scores (if native language is not English or candidates have not previously studied at an institution of higher education where the language of instruction is English). A minimum of 570 (paper-based test), 230 (computer-based test) or 89 (internet-based test)
- Two letters of recommendation (academic references preferred)
  - Curriculum Vitae/ Résumé
  - Personal statement
  - Copy of valid passport & six passport-sized photos
  - Medical forms
Tuition and Financial Aid
Please see program website for current tuition and fees. Merit-based scholarships may be available to students who have been accepted into the program. Additionally, there are numerous sources of financial aid available to students who choose to study at the University of Haifa. For a complete list of scholarship options please see the program website.

Application Procedure
Application forms can be found on the program website or by contacting the International School directly. Applications are processed on a rolling admissions basis; we review and accept applications as the complete application file is received.

Housing
All international students who are enrolled in a full-time program of study are eligible to live in the campus dormitories alongside other international and Israeli students. The University of Haifa offers apartments of three or six single rooms, each with its own bathroom, and a shared kitchen and living space. The dormitories provide many facilities for students’ use. Refer to the International School’s website for more details.

Campus Life
The manageable size of the campus exposes students to the events and activities taking place throughout the semesters. Students at the International School are strongly encouraged to participate in the variety of activities including concerts, fitness classes, salsa and Israeli folk dancing, lectures and conferences on various topics, and sports competitions. In the International School, we promote the diverse religious and ethnic self-expression of all of our students and help them find their own unique connection to Israel. The campus is a mix of secular and religious Jewish native Israelis, new immigrants from the former Soviet Union, Ethiopia, North and South America and Europe, and Israelis whose religious and ethnic backgrounds are Muslim, Christian, Druze, and Bedouin.
Social Activities
The University of Haifa International School offers a range of optional co-curricular activities for students participating in the various international programs. An experienced staff of student activity coordinators prepares an extensive itinerary of trips and tours which offers students an enlightening view of Israel, its people, natural beauty, and cultural sites. Visiting lecturers come to speak on various aspects of life in Israel, including politics, security, religion, culture, and other topics of interest to the students. Some activities may require additional fees.

Cultural Immersion
The International School makes every effort possible for students to become part of Israeli society. Israeli students will be enrolled in the program with international students, and international students will live alongside Israeli students in the campus dormitories. Students can take advantage of the volunteer opportunities both on and off campus. Students may request to join a local family for a festive meal on holidays and the Sabbath, which is rewarding for both the student and the families involved.

Security
The safety and security of all students are a primary concern of the University of Haifa. All campus and dormitory entrances are guarded and all off-campus activities are organized and run in consultation with the relevant security authorities. While enrolled in a program at the International School, all full-time students are required to rent a cell phone through a recognized supplier. It is important that we will be able to reach each and every student both with practical information and in case of emergency. Health insurance for all international students under the age of 65 and with no pre-existing conditions is included in the cost of the program. The University of Haifa has a crisis management and evacuation plan in place.