

National Security Studies

Program Description

The program is designed for students and professionals who are interested in the field of national security in the broadest sense of the term. Students will examine the complex interrelationship between the social, political, ethical, diplomatic, economic, and military dimensions of national security to create a comprehensive picture of the state of the nation. The program aims to prepare graduates to deal effectively with critical national decisions. The program targets mid-career officials, policy makers, academics, and students from Israel and around the world, as well as retired and active members of defense establishments. Facing a long-standing challenge at the center of a mostly hostile regional environment, even decades before its establishment, Israel has a great deal of experience dealing with national security issues, and has developed a comprehensive approach in this field, combining academic theory with real-world constraints.

We introduce students to real-time dilemmas and choices of Israeli decision makers as well as high-ranking officials, in addition to examples of national security dilemmas from other national and regional conflicts.

In addition to gaining insight about national security, graduates of this program can expect to develop careers in governmental, security, and private organizations, that are interested in enhancing their ability to deal with strategic affairs, challenges, and opportunities.

The course curriculum has been developed by the University of Haifa faculty in cooperation with Israel's National Security College, the highest course of study in the Israel Defense Forces. The National Security College is an established institution that has been successfully teaching graduate studies in national security to military, intelligence, and government personnel from Europe, America, and Asia.

Additionally, the program will interface with the National Security Studies Center at the University of Haifa, where selected students can participate in the Center's advanced research.

The one-year program is taught in English over three consecutive semesters from October through September. Upon completion of the program, students will be awarded a Master of Arts in Political Science with a certificate of specialization in National Security Studies from the School of Political Sciences.

Highlighted Courses*

Legal and Ethical Aspects of National Security

The Evolution of War: The Information and Cyber Age

Intelligence and National Security

Managing the Democratic State: Dilemmas of Policy and Security

Management of Geopolitical Risks and Opportunities in a Global World

The National Security of Israel

* The curriculum is subject to change without notice.

Program Highlights

- Provide students with the methodological skills and competence required for the integration of a wide range of information and insights that make up the complex national security environment and eventually play a productive role in decision making processes in governmental and private sectors.
- Expose students to the unique role of Israel in the Middle East. Students can select from the Israeli experience, the misperceptions, mistakes, lessons, adjustments, and achievements, and apply them to what they believe to be relevant to their own country's environment.