

Maritime Civilizations

Program Description

The International MA Program in Maritime Civilizations offers students an exceptional opportunity to explore the history, archaeology, and fabric of maritime societies, as well as the natural environment in which they developed, and the anthropogenic environments in which they currently exist. During the program, students examine a variety of fields pertaining to maritime civilizations and the marine environment, including coastal and underwater archaeology, ancient ship construction, marine biology and ecology, maritime history, maritime geoarchaeology, and archaeozoology.

The interdisciplinary curriculum offers advanced knowledge and research training to students interested in exploring human interactions with the sea in a dynamic learning environment. Special emphasis is placed on harbors, ships, and seafaring as part of the maritime heritage of the Mediterranean. The program sheds light on the ecological and geomorphological dynamics in the eastern Mediterranean, and their influence on the interaction between human societies and the sea in ancient and modern times. This program is based on ongoing, active research carried out in the field and laboratories at the Department of Maritime Civilizations and the Leon Recanati Institute for Maritime Studies.

The one-year program is taught in English over three consecutive semesters from October through September. Students wishing to pursue the thesis track will need to submit a research thesis within one year of completing their coursework, which may require remaining at the university for one or two additional semesters. Upon completion of the program, students will be awarded a Master of Arts in Maritime Civilizations.

Highlighted Courses *

Mediterranean Maritime Civilizations: From Archaic Greece to the Ottoman Empire

Animals and Humans in Mediterranean Societies

Nautical History and Archaeology

Research Cruise – Ecological Survey

Advanced Field Methods in Coastal and Underwater Archaeology

Ship Construction

Coastal and Underwater Geoarchaeology

Maritime Law in Islamic Society

Summer Projects include Biology and Ecology, and Coastal and Underwater Archaeology

* The curriculum is subject to change without notice.

"I constantly get to participate in excavations – including underwater ones – and am taking classes with professors who are at the top of the field. The best part about studying archaeology in Israel is that you're living among the very sites you study." Nicole C., USA

Program Highlights

- Provide students with an understanding of the sea and maritime civilizations and to prepare them for research in their chosen areas of specialization.
- Train a new generation of maritime-oriented scholars, researchers, environmental activists and policy makers, consultants, and educators.
- Qualify and certify excavating coastal and underwater archaeologists.
- Provide students with specialized knowledge of the effects of human interaction with the Mediterranean Sea.
- Offer an excellent academic program that combines classroom study with hands-on scientific exploration in the field and laboratories.