



## **DIPLOMA SUPPLEMENT**

### **Higher Education System in Israel**

#### ***Degrees***

Higher education in Israel is a three-tiered system offering Bachelor's, Master's and Doctoral degree programs. Programs granting Bachelor's degrees (e.g., BA, BSc, BSN, BSW) usually last three or four years. Completion of this first degree qualifies students for admission to subsequent degree programs. Master's degree programs generally last two years and offer a thesis or non-thesis tracks. Students who complete a Master's degree with a research track are eligible for admission to Doctorate programs. Each university determines additional admission requirements. Doctorate programs generally last four to six years and are offered in various disciplines.

#### ***Access to Higher Education***

Israeli institutes of higher education generally require a matriculation diploma and a standardized psychometric examination. The exact requirements vary depending on the institution and field of study. Programs may have additional requirements such as entrance interviews, examinations, or artistic portfolios. Admission requirements for all programs are determined on a competitive basis by the institution and are approved by Israel's Council for Higher Education (CHE).

#### ***Types of Higher Education Institutions***

Israel has 61 academic institutions: nine universities (including the Open University) and 31 academic colleges that award Bachelor's and Master's degrees. Currently, only research universities offer research PhD degrees.

#### ***Government Agencies***

The Council for Higher Education (CHE), established according to the Council for Higher Education Act 1958, is the regulatory body responsible for the academic aspects of all institutions of higher education in Israel. According to the Council for Higher Education Act, higher education institutions are accredited by the Quality Assessment Division of the CHE at the study program level in universities and colleges.



## Ruppin Academic Center

With 5000 students, Ruppin Academic Center (RAC) is one of the largest public colleges in Israel. It was established in 1949 by Israel's first Prime Minister, David Ben Gurion.

Today, RAC awards 21 undergraduate (BA, BSc, BSN, BSW) and graduate degrees (MA, MBA, MSc) in Marine Sciences, Engineering, Social and Community Sciences, Economics and Management. RAC offers innovative study programs committed to developing knowledge and professional competencies that address Israel's most vital social and economic challenges.

Ruppin Academic Center has been consistently awarded top ratings in satisfaction surveys conducted among Israel's higher education student population.

The Ruppin Academic Center has four faculties:

***The Faculty of Economics and Business Administration*** awards BA degrees in Economics and Accounting, Economics and Management, Business Administration, and a Global Master's in Business Administration (MBA).

***The Faculty of Social and Community Sciences*** awards Bachelor's degrees in Behavioral Sciences (BA), Nursing Sciences (BSN), and Social Work (BSW) and Master's degrees in Immigration and Social Integration, Organizational Psychology, Clinical Psychology (with thesis), and Clinical Psychology of Adulthood and Aging.

***The Faculty of Engineering*** awards BSc degrees in Industrial Engineering and Management, Computer Engineering, Electrical and Electronics Engineering, Computer and Information Sciences, and MA degrees in Logistics and Global Supply Chain.

***The Faculty of Marine Sciences*** awards BSc degrees in Marine Environmental Sciences and Marine Biotechnology, Master's degrees in Marine Resource Management and MSc degree in Marine Sciences (with thesis).



**The Faculty of Social & Community Sciences** provides a broad learning experience, equipping students with professional and academic tools for the job market or subsequent studies. All the Faculty's programs strive to promote and develop four main aspects: a multidisciplinary approach, sensitivity and social involvement, academic excellence, and academic research.

The Faculty has seven academic programs, three in undergraduate and four for Master's degrees. The Behavioral Sciences Department gives students a broad education in psychology, sociology, and anthropology. The department offers the Alonim Honors Program for outstanding students. The Nursing Sciences Department trains students to work in nursing, fosters systematic and critical thinking principles and maintaining personal and professional responsibility for the quality of the healthcare provided. The Social Work Department is based on the core values of the social work profession and the regulations of professional ethics in intervention, treatment, and research, including social justice, human rights, social responsibility, reciprocity, respect for diversity, and equality.

The Master's degree programs include Clinical Psychology with thesis, Clinical Psychology of Adulthood and Aging, Organizational Psychology, and Immigration and Social Integration. The Clinical Psychology Program trains students to diagnose patients based on dynamic diagnostic processes and formulate a treatment plan tailored to patients and their circumstances by using a variety of evidence-based therapeutic approaches and considering cultural and social factors. The Clinical Psychology of Adulthood and Aging Program provides clinical psychology training with an additional specialization in the "late adulthood". The Organizational Psychology Program develops students' organizational skills, preparing them to work as organizational consultants, evaluators, researchers, training, and organizational development personnel. The Immigration and Social Integration Program introduces the complexity of Israeli society and its various immigrant groups and provides students with the skills to work in different multicultural environments, mastering cultural competence skills.



## **Graduates (M.A) in Clinical Psychology of Adulthood and Aging – Profile**

Graduates of the Master's Degree Program in Clinical Psychology of Adulthood and Aging will be able to work as clinical psychologists for adults, specializing in the psychology of aging. They will be able to perform various professional tasks related to the emotional and mental functioning of adults and of older adults in particular.

Their skills include the following:

- Conducting semi-structured intake interviews with patients of various ages with a wide range of mental health issues and formulating a treatment plan adapted to the patient and his/her circumstances;
- Applying their broad knowledge of emotional and mental functions across the adult lifespan, and of changes related to aging and neurodegenerative diseases, to bettering the psychological status of their patients;
- The ability to serve as therapists guided by humanistic values, putting patient wellbeing at the forefront of their clinical practice;
- Familiarity with the diagnostic methods common in Western practice and the ability to offer psychological diagnoses and evaluations to patients, including neuropsychological assessment of age-related difficulties;
- Knowledge of various methods for treating mental problems across the adult lifespan, particularly regarding dynamic, cognitive-behavioral, and third-wave behavioral therapies;
- Acting in accordance with the regulations of professional ethics in terms of treatment and research, and with modesty and curiosity;
- An understanding of existing institutional mental healthcare structures, the ability to communicate, interact, and work within these structures, and knowing which institutional resources to access and when;
- Basic knowledge of geriatric medicine and psychiatry and the ability to offer patients counseling regarding their mental healthcare needs.