About the Faculty of Law at Bar-Ilan University

The Faculty of Law of Bar-Ilan University offers a special international program in English where foreign students are invited to study in Israel for the fall semester. Courses are taught by Bar-Ilan’s own law professors, as well as visiting scholars from the world’s leading law schools. Students in the international program may also sit in on regular Hebrew-language courses, if their knowledge of Hebrew is sufficient.

Bar-Ilan University’s Faculty of Law was founded in 1970 and is today one of Israel’s leading law schools with over 2,000 students in its M.A. and Ph.D. programs. Classes are supplemented by a wide variety of seminars, workshops and legal clinics. The clinics provide free legal services to Israelis who cannot afford an excellent way for Israeli students to gain hands-on experience and develop social responsibility.

A warm community and supportive learning environment, Through its years in a role as the Faculty of Law graduates have ranked number one for three in Israel’s Bar Exams. Current head of of the Kadima party in the Israeli Knesset and former Foreign Minister Tzipi Livni as Israeli Knesset member, and Justice Minister Yaakov Neeman is one of its founding professors. With 24,000 students, Bar-Ilan University is one of Israel’s largest universities.

Studying law in Israel is a unique opportunity to watch a young society grapple with the nuances of democratic, universal rights, while at the same time acknowledging the rule of religious law over certain jurisdictions, such as marriage.

A semester at Bar-Ilan is not just about the classroom, though. Extracurricular activities at the University include cultural events that cover everything from Jewish and Israeli history, to the Arab-Israeli conflict and peace process. The student union organizes regular parties, events and excursions, and the Law Faculty arranges a memorable field trip to Jerusalem with a visit to Israel’s Supreme Court, the Knesset and the Old City.
Courses and teachers
at the Faculty of Law at Bar-Ilan

The teachers in the Bar-Ilan Faculty of Law international program are as international as its students. You’ll learn with professors from Italy, Israel, the U.S., Hong Kong, and many more nations from around the globe. All classes have a strong international or comparative component, and reading materials can be found on the course's website (so you don’t need to purchase any books).

The following are examples of courses taught in the last years:

- **American Patent Law**  
  Prof. Martin Adelman, George Washington University Law School

- **Legal Aspects of the Israeli-Arab Conflict**  
  Prof. Abraham Bell, Bar Ilan University

- **Seminar: The European Union: Integration through Law**  
  Prof. Arie Reich, Bar Ilan University

- **Jewish Law and American Legal Theory**  
  Prof. Suzanne Last Stone, Cardozo Law School

- **Constitutional Theory and Interpretation**  
  Prof. Michael Rappaport, University of San Diego

- **Copyright and Trademark: The Intersection of Creativity and U.S. Law**  
  Prof. Deborah Gerhardt, UNC School of Law

- **Constitutional Theory**  
  Prof. Michael Gerhardt, UNC School of Law

- **The legal statute of Islam in Europe**  
  Prof. Silvio Ferrari, University of Milano

- **The Economic Structure of Transactions and Contracts**  
  Prof. Michael S. Knoll, University of Pennsylvania Law school

- **Law and Religion**  
  Prof. Benny Tai Yui Ting, university of Hong Kong

- **Evidentiary Paradoxes**  
  Prof. Alex Stein, Cardozo school of law

- **Employment Discrimination**  
  Prof. Peter Siegelman, University of Connecticut

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The exact course program for the coming school year is usually published around April-May on our website: [http://law.biu.ac.il/en/StudentExchange](http://law.biu.ac.il/en/StudentExchange)
From left to right: Sivan Cohen (Israel), Lars Burshille (Germany), Ye'ela Serlin (Israel)
and having fun!

Bar-Ilan University is just minutes away from the heart of Tel Aviv – Israel’s cultural, financial and entertainment center – nicknamed “the city that never sleeps.” Whether you want to watch the sunset over the Mediterranean from the old city of Jaffa or visit one of Israel’s world-class art museums, attend a play or opera or enjoy an Israeli-international culinary fusion, Tel Aviv has it all.

And yet, just an hour away, history mixes with the unique medley that can only be Jerusalem. Holy to 3 religions, asures sit side-by-side the thriving capital of the Middle East’s only Supreme Court building is not only the highest of it is also a truly stunning work of architecture, we
Farther away, the Dead Sea and Masada beckon. The harsh green of the desert, with its moonscape vistas, contrast with the Galilee hills, the home of Nazareth, Safed, and snow-capped Mount Hermon.

Israel is also a hi-tech hub – a real “start-up nation” logy and renewable Internet applications, electronics, agriculture, energy, the country affords ample opportunities edge legal theory.

Along the way, you’ll meet Israelis from every con. You’ll have the and a panoply of religious and political persuasive events behind the chance to delve more intimately into the real world news headlines. Indeed, a semester at Bar-Ilan is sroom: fascinating, buildings – the entire country of Israel is your cla complex and always rewarding.
What you need to know about studying at Bar-Ilan

The International Program runs from mid October until the end of December. It is made up of one mandatory 4-credit seminar meeting twice a week until the end of November, and several courses from which you may choose running at different intervals until the end of December.

The minimum course load is 8 credits, where each credit equals a weekly lecture of 45 minutes over a period of 3 months (usually 12-13 meetings) or the equivalent. In the seminar, you’ll write papers and have the opportunity to present your research in class. Since all courses are in English, a good command of the language is required. If your home school’s main language of instruction is not English, you must have a minimum score of 70 on the TOEFL Internet Based Test or the equivalent on other language tests.

To apply to the International Program, you’ll usually have at least two years of law studies behind you, and you must be in good academic standing at your home school. If your school has an exchange agreement with Bar-Ilan, your school will nominate you and you’ll pay your regular tuition to your own school. If not, you can apply directly to Bar-Ilan. If accepted, you’ll pay tuition as a foreign student.

Students can enter Israel on a tourist visa and then extend it once in the country.
Accommodation can be found in the vicinity of Bar-Ilan University. Many students are also looking for roommates in the greater Tel Aviv area. Our staff can assist you in the search for accommodation, but we cannot guarantee every student housing. We recommend, therefore, that you start your search at least a few months before your arrival to ensure that your room will be ready for you when you come.

For more information, please contact:
International Exchange Program,
Faculty of Law, Bar Ilan University
Ramat Gan 52900, ISRAEL
Email: Exchange.Law@mail.biu.ac.il
Telephone: +972-3-531-8415
Website:
http://law.biu.ac.il/en/StudentExchange
twice a week until the end of November.
For Vlad Etinger, a semester at Bar-Ilan University was an ideal way to more intimately experience how law is practiced outside the U.S., and to understand “how it applies to real people in day-to-day situations,” the energetic 25-year-old from the University of Colorado says.

Etinger came with no preconceptions. “I expected Israel to be all sand... really!” he jokes. What he found instead was a top university, located at the heart of the hi-tech pulse of the country, with exemplary teaching.

“I took a class in copyright law,” he says, “which is a very hot, developing topic. The professor brought in all kinds of YouTube videos and music clips to help us figure out what is infringement and what isn’t. His pedagogic style was great. The courses at Bar-Ilan are all very good.” Etinger says he enjoyed the small classes and informal style that mark the quintessential Israel educational experience.

Did he feel safe in Israel? “You hear all the time on CNN about the fighting,” Etinger says, “but here it’s not an issue. You don’t really worry about it.”

All told, Etinger was very satisfied to have participated in the International Exchange Program. “Bar-Ilan was an excellent choice,” he says. Beyond the books, Etinger particularly enjoyed getting to know the people of this vibrant country. “Israelis are quite welcoming. It’s really very comfortable.”

“The time I spent studying comparative law at Bar-Ilan was the highlight of my legal education. It has prepared me for an exciting career on the international scene. I gained tremendously from hearing the perspectives of teachers from all over the world who specialize and practice in so many different areas of the law. Thank you Bar-Ilan!”

Abraham Katzin
Cardozo Law School, U.S.A.
“A stay at Bar Ilan University is a perfect occasion to experience metropolitan Israel as well as a concentrated academic atmosphere deeply influenced by Jewish hospitality. The Bar-Ilan Faculty of Law provided a familial environment while a broad range of visiting professors guaranteed the international character of the program.”

Lars Burshille
Bucerius Law School, Germany

Vlad Etinger:
“Exemplary teaching, a welcoming environment.”
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