

Department of Maritime Civilizations

Masters Degree in Maritime Civilizations (MA)

Head of Program: Dr. Dror Angel

<http://marsci.haifa.ac.il/maritime/english/>

Program Objectives

1. To provide students with an understanding of the sea and maritime civilizations and to prepare them for research in their chosen areas of specialization;
2. To train a new generation of scholars, researchers, environmental activists and consultants, and educators;
3. To provide students with specialized knowledge of the effects of human interaction with the Mediterranean Sea;
4. To offer an excellent academic program that combines classroom study with hands-on scientific exploration.

Program Structure

The program includes 4 general areas of study:

1. Marine and coastal archaeology
2. Maritime history
3. Coastal and marine geology and geomorphology
4. Coastal and marine biology, ecology and natural resource management

The program exposes the students to the 4 areas of study by means of:

1. core (required) courses
2. elective courses
3. seminars
4. an interdisciplinary seminar
5. practical, hands-on training: survey-methods course, coastal field trips, cruises, participation in a research project at sea
6. summer projects

Field Work

Field activities are an integral part of the program. They expose students to hands-on applied science, a variety of research methods, a first-hand acquaintance with the sea and an introduction to the challenges of marine studies. The curriculum includes field trips as well as field-based courses and research. Students will also be required to participate in a summer internship program during which they will work on a field project under the guidance of a faculty mentor.

Summer project

The summer semester will be dedicated to acquiring hands-on experience in active research in coastal or underwater excavations, or in one of the University of Haifa laboratories. This guided research will include mastering advanced field techniques and completing the 'advanced field methods' course requirement.

Program duration

This is a one-year (3 semesters) master's program that is taught in English and is open to all students fulfilling the admissions requirements.

Admissions Requirements

- ◆ Accredited BA degree, diploma and transcript
- ◆ Preference will be given to backgrounds in history, archaeology, ecology, biology and geology
- ◆ 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

Study Tracks

The program offers two study tracks.

Track A involves preparation of a research thesis* and consists of 32 credits, including three introductory courses, a coastal field trip, two seminars, eight elective credits and a summer project. A thesis is required for those students planning to continue on to doctoral studies, which is normally completed in a year following the completion of coursework.

Track B encompasses 36 credits (no thesis), including three introductory courses, a coastal field trip, three seminars, eight elective credits, a summer project and a final exam.

Research Thesis*

A thesis (dissertation) proposal will be prepared in accordance with the Graduate Studies guidelines, provided the student has successfully completed all coursework in the 1st two semesters with an average grade of 80 or above. The thesis proposal must be signed by all advisors. Further information regarding the dissertation may be found at <http://graduate.haifa.ac.il/>.

Calculation of Grades in Track A

Seminars	20%
Classes, core and elective	35%
Thesis	45%

Calculation of Grades in Track B

Seminars	30%
Classes, core and elective	40%
Final exam	30%

All students, in both tracks will be required to participate in the following:

- ◆ survey-methods course
- ◆ coastal field trips
- ◆ cruise
- ◆ summer project