

**International Program**  
**Department of Maritime Civilizations**  
**Master's Degree in Maritime Civilizations (MA)**

Head of International Program:  
**Prof. Ruth Shahack-Gross**

<http://marsci.haifa.ac.il/en/academics/-/international-program>

**Program Objectives**

1. To provide students with an integrative 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 interrelationship of humans with the Mediterranean Sea;
4. To offer an excellent academic program that combines classroom study with hands-on field and scientific exploration.

**Program Structure**

**The program is multi-disciplinary, integrative and incorporates the following areas of study:**

Marine and coastal archaeology; Micro- and geo-archaeology; Maritime history; Ancient ship construction; Coastal and marine geomorphology; marine ecology

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

1. core (required) courses
2. elective courses
3. seminars
4. A weekly departmental 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.

## **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 or BSc 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 from an academic
- ◆ Student statement of intent (500-750 words)

## **Study Tracks**

The program offers two study tracks.

Track A involves preparation of a research thesis\* and consists of 32 credits, including core courses, a coastal field trip, two seminars, 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 core courses, a coastal field trip, three seminars, elective credits, a summer project and a final exam.

### **Research Thesis\***

A thesis (dissertation) proposal will be prepared in accordance with the Office of 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**

Classes, core and elective courses and seminars	55%
Thesis	45%

### **Calculation of Grades in Track B**

Classes, core and elective courses and seminars	70%
Final exam	30%

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

- ◆ coastal field trips
- ◆ 4 days of maritime coastal research
- ◆ summer project

### **Coastal and Underwater Excavation Certificate**

- ◆ Students on both the A and B study tracks will be eligible to receive a coastal and underwater excavation certificate upon completing:
- ◆ Required theoretical core courses (that are integrated in the study program)
- ◆ Required field activities (that are integrated in the study program)
- ◆ Upon completion of the MA degree, a student who successfully completed the required courses and field activities will receive the excavation license by the Israel Antiquities Authority.