הרשות ללימודים מתקדמים
בי"ס ללימודים מתקדמים ע"ש בלום
Graduate Studies Authority
Bloom Graduate School

אוניברסיטת חיפה
University of Haifa
جامعة حيفا

THE BLOOM GRADUATE SCHOOL

Welcome to the 2023-2024 University of Haifa Research Development Program offered by the Bloom School for Graduate Studies

We invite you to explore the wide range of professional development workshops we provide for our research students

Bloom School for Graduate Studies

בית ספר ללימודים מתקדמים ע"ש בלום

Photography by: Roi Hermoni

For details and registration please contact:
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About The University of Haifa

The University of Haifa is the most diverse research institution of higher education in Israel. Our unique location – on the **mountain**, in the **city**, and by the **sea** – inspires innovative ideas and solutions that address pressing global issues, including climate change, inequality, aging, and the future of humans and technology.

The University an academic home to more than 17,000 students and faculty members from different ethnic, religious, and socioeconomic backgrounds. Here, Jews, Muslims, Christians, Druze, IDF officers, and security personnel come together to study, research and learn.

We are committed to:
• Promoting a more sustainable future
• Thinking locally, acting globally
• Creating an inclusive and diverse student body
• Building a new Israeli middle class
• Strengthening society by expanding academic opportunities for all
• Serving as a model of tolerance and coexistence in Israel and the entire region

President's Message:

Dear Research Students and Members of the Bloom Graduate School Community,

On behalf of the University of Haifa's Leadership, I wish to welcome you to the Bloom Graduate School and congratulate you for the path you have chosen to take at this stage of your lives - a path of exploration, discovery, and hopefully profound future impact over your surroundings. It is a path that will guarantee great satisfaction, but will require perhaps the greatest efforts you have known thus far in your studies.

Your primary task in the next several years will be to "think locally and act globally"; to identify the challenges occupying your own communities, and propose solutions that can be globally applicable. Being part of an ever-seeking, ever-curious community begins with a state-of-the-art, structured educational program, that includes all the basic know-hows you will need in order to become influential scholars. With these tools, your journey towards finding the unknown solutions of tomorrow, will become most meaningful and worthwhile.

As the University of Haifa recently marked its 50th year since establishment and is now beginning its first steps into the next Jubilee, today marks a new beginning with new opportunities for both the University, and you. The idea behind the Bloom Graduate School's program, is to provide a bundle of limitless possibilities for you to intellectually grow and develop. Aligned with our broader mission to make higher education more accessible to students from the full spectrum of Israeli society, the Bloom School for Graduate Studies aspires to be home to the best and brightest students from all over Israel, and play key role in cultivating the next generation of an inclusive academic leadership. Together with the tools and facilities we will provide you, comes the responsibility to move the mission we have set, a few steps forward. The unique learning experience being offered, includes a wide range of training sessions, workshops, and activities to help you gain the skills needed to carry out research professionally and effectively. Training available through the Bloom Graduate School offers a broad program applicable across subject boundaries. This training is open to all doctoral and post-doctoral researchers and sits alongside the subject-specific training based in your own Department/School. We believe that this is where the future of academia lays - in an ongoing interdisciplinary discourse on the major problems troubling humanity, and with the best minds coming together regardless of their respective faculties, joining hands in this mission.

I would like to address a few words regarding the Iron Swords War. Since the 7th of October, our lives have changed and might never be the same again. We all share the pain and mourning of the bereaved families, and we are praying for our soldiers and for the hostages to return home safely. Together we stand united during these challenging times and, together, we will forge a path towards a better future for our students and our nation.

May you find your experience at the Bloom School for Graduate Studies enriching and fruitful, and may you make every day and every new discovery, count. In you all, we trust.

Sincerely,

Prof. Ron Robin
President

Rector's Message:

The University of Haifa strives to be a symbol of excellence in teaching and interdisciplinary research in Israel and worldwide with an academic agenda focusing on social and environmental issues as part of its efforts to improve human welfare and Israeli society. Its public engagement will play a key role in Israeli culture, geography, and community life and as such, we will serve as a catalyst for change, promoting and developing leadership in public and business sectors, and encouraging everyday coexistence within Israel between members of various religious groups.

The University of Haifa has made a strong commitment to social and environmental sustainability in accordance with the goals set by the United Nations for sustainable development (UN's Sustainable Development Goals; SDGs). The 17 goals, which were adopted by all UN member states, are a 'roadmap' for humanity. The University of Haifa is advancing these goals through research, teaching, public engagement, and the institution's ongoing operations.

Our unique geographical location – Mountain (our main campus located in the Carmel Forest); City (the Downtown Campus); and Sea (laboratories located along the Mediterranean coastline) – serves as a "living laboratory" for research on man, society, and the environment. Our researchers have established a network of international connections that contribute to sustainability research. And, while the insights emerging from this research shed light on local issues, their impact is global.

An important step we took to advance research and sustainability is the establishment of the Bloom School of Graduate Studies. The Bloom School marks a fundamental change in how research students, especially postgraduate students, study for their doctoral degrees. Instead of doctoral students focusing exclusively on their field of research, Bloom School research students will also take general sessions that deal with global issues that are not necessarily related to their fields of research, such as immigration, NGOs, or personal, social, environmental, and personal well-being.

The October 7, 2023 attacks and the Iron Swords War have brought immense challenges and uncertainties into our lives. We acknowledge your resilience and strength in the face of fear, anxiety, stress and collective mourning. While we know it is not always easy to continue pursuing your education and research during such events, please remember that we stand with you and that you are invited to reach the Haifa academic community for support.

Working together, the University of Haifa family- our dedicated community - can change lives and our world for the better. I encourage us all to think locally and act globally. Doing so will bring us closer to our goals.

Prof. Gur Alroey,

Gur Alroey

Rector

Dean's Message:

Dear Students,

We are facing difficult times since the events of the terrible massacre on October 7, 2023, and the ongoing war. Our hearts are with the bereaved families, and we are hoping for the return of the kidnapped and our soldiers safely home.

The terrible personal and collective pain will not quickly subside, but we hope for better days that will come.

Returning to campus and normal life is not easy. In an effort to get back to normality, we present The Bloom Graduate School **Researcher Development Program** for the academic year 2023-2024.

The program offers you a wide range of training sessions, workshops, and activities to help you gain the skills you need to carry out research professionally and effectively and to support your ongoing career. Engaging with training throughout your doctorate is an important part of your journey towards being able to undertake high-quality, independent research.

Training available through the Bloom Graduate School offers a broad program applicable across subject boundaries. This training is open to all post-doctoral and doctoral researchers (years 1-4 in the regular track, years 1-5 in the direct track) and sits alongside the subject-specific training based in your own Department/School.

Undertaking training outside your discipline provides opportunities to meet other doctoral researchers, explore ideas, be challenged outside your immediate circle of colleagues and peers, and receive input from a wider range of expert faculty staff.

This catalog contains details of the sessions for the academic year 2023-2024.
All sessions are held in English. We are looking forward to welcoming you to the program.

I hope you make the most of the opportunities offered by this program to enhance your research and personal skills as well as meet with and learn from your peers in other disciplines.

I wish you every success with your research endeavors and look forward to seeing you at some of our sessions.

We hope for a better and quieter year.

Prof. Irit Akirav

Dean, Bloom School for Graduate Studies

The Bloom Graduate School Researcher Development Program

The curriculum of the Bloom Graduate School consists of four clusters organized around modules. Three clusters focus on academic content areas, specifically around cross-disciplinary, socio-scientific encounters, research efficiency and productivity, and methodology.

The fourth cluster, led by the Haifa Grad Team seeks to create rich and stimulating learning spaces to foster professional and social collaboration and networking among students and with the larger community.

This cluster offers thematic encounters that are intellectually challenging and encourage critical thinking and theorizing around local and global societal issues.

Each thematic encounter consists of two-five sessions which will be conducted through bottom-up, self-generated learning communities and mediated by faculty members.

Gender and Sexuality

First meeting: Gender and Sexual Diversity
Prof. Tomer Shechner, School of Psychological Sciences

The class will focus on gender and sexual diversity across the lifespan. Historical context will be discussed by examining the gender-related changes in psychiatry and psychology, specifically, the evolution from the diagnosis of gender identity disorder to Gender Dysphoria. This change indicates a shift from pathologizing any gender identity that is not congruent with the assigned sex to emphasizing gender-related subjective stress. Recent community-based studies estimate that roughly 12% of adults in the US identify as LGBT. Moreover, 1–2.7% (or even more in some studies) of adolescents identify as transgender or gender diverse (TGD). These data are supported by studies showing an increase in referrals to gender clinics in the past 10 years (UK, Scandinavia, Israel etc.). Nonetheless, despite the increase in LGBT identities and the social gender revolution discussed in the previous class, LGBT individuals of all ages commonly experience stigmatization, prejudice, and discrimination, resulting in minority stress. This term refers to the unique stress LGBT individuals experience in addition to the general stressors experienced by all. The last part of the class will discuss ways of building resilience in LGBT individuals, by helping families, schools, and workplaces to be more inclusive and supportive of sexual and gender minorities.

Bio: Prof. Tomer Shechner is a clinical psychologist and a faculty member in the School of Psychological Sciences. His main research focuses on the development of anxiety disorders in children and adolescents. By using a multiple-level analysis approach, his lab studies the biological, cognitive, behavioral and environmental factors that contribute to the etiology and maintenance of anxiety disorders. Over the past ten years, he has been focusing on information processing and more specifically, on attention to threat and fear learning. Research on these two mechanisms provides unique opportunities for improving early detection and generating novel treatments for anxiety disorders. Another line of research in his lab focuses on gender development. By using age-appropriate and culturally adapted measurements, the lab examines typical and atypical gender development across the lifespan. Prof. Shechner received his Ph.D. from Tel-Aviv University (clinical psychology) and completed a post-doc at the National Institute of Mental Health (NIMH) in the Section on Development and Affective Neuroscience. He started his position at the University of Haifa on March 2013.

Second meeting: Israel's Abortion Law and the Paradox of a Rightless Access to Pregnancy Terminations
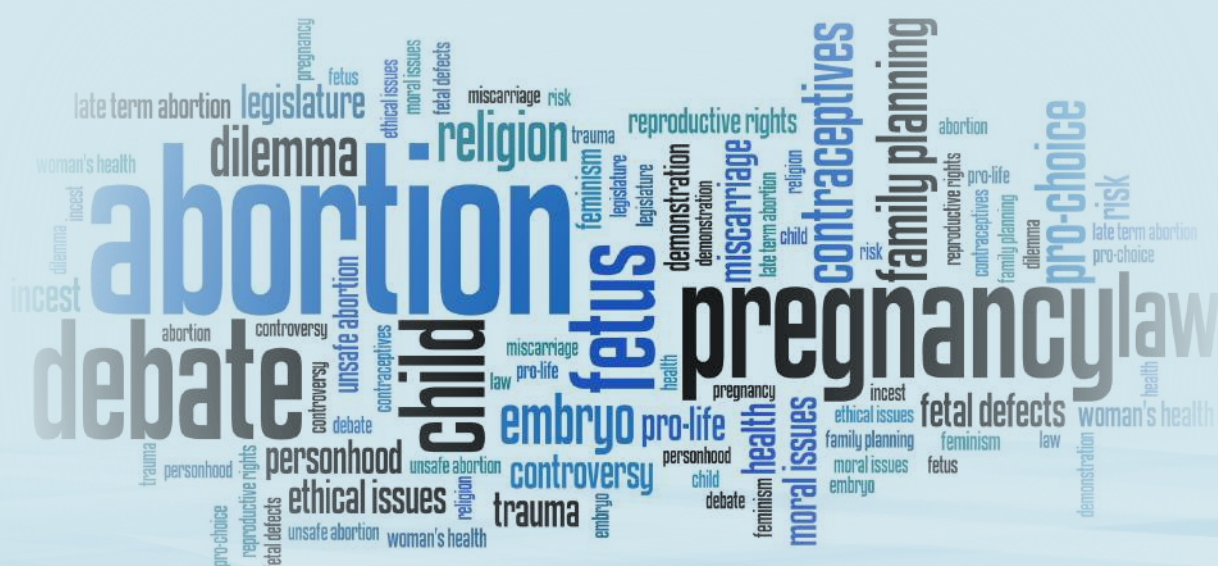## Prof. Noya Rimalt, Faculty of Law

This lecture will map the forces that shaped Israel's abortion law and uncover the central role of race and religion in this context. It will draw a link between the historical and political circumstances that contributed to the enactment of this law in 1977 and its contemporary complexity from a gender perspective.

The main argument is that the unique Israeli context that gave birth to its abortion law contributed to the formation of an unusual law that is restrictive and permissive at the same time. It is also a law that cannot be strictly enforced because it is detached from the real needs of women who are seeking to terminate an unwanted pregnancy. This complexity encourages processes of transition from a model of enforcement to a model of circumvention, which means that many abortions are not carried out according to the black letter of the law and women are offered a rightless access to abortion.

Bio: Noya Rimalt is a Professor of Law. She is the founding co-director of the Forum for Gender Law and Policy and the chair of the MA program in legal studies for non-lawyers. Prof. Rimalt specializes in gender studies, feminist legal theory and criminal law. Her work analyzes the intersections of gender, law and feminism in both legal theory and practice.

In recent years Professor Rimalt was a visiting scholar at Hadassah Brandeis Institute and at the University of Toronto Centre for Ethics. She was also a visiting professor at Georgetown Law Center and at the Washington College of Law at American University.

She has written articles on numerous issues such as female offenders, sexual harassment, women in the military, female conscientious objectors, parental rights in the workplace, abortions, criminalizing the client in prostitution, sex segregation for religious reasons, pay equity and affirmative action. She has published extensively in leading law journals. Her book Legal Feminism from Theory to Practice: The Struggle for Gender Equality in Israel and the United States was published in 2010.

Food Security

First meeting: Food Security: Interdisciplinary Perspective
Prof. Roni Strier, School of Social Work

The field of food security is directly related to many of the UN's goals for sustainable development, and especially to the prevention of hunger, the reduction of poverty, good health and well-being, the reduction of inequality and dealing with climate change. This introductory class will deal with the problem of food insecurity from an interdisciplinary perspective. The phenomenon of food insecurity is a clear manifestation of poverty and inequality and a violation of basic human rights. This phenomenon is reflected in the partial or continuous lack of availability of food, and in the inability to obtain food in acceptable ways for a basic, healthy, and balanced diet. Food insecurity causes significant damage to both physical and mental health of people. In addition, studies indicate an impairment of the social ability to create social and family relationships, and difficulties in integrating in social frameworks, including harming participation in the labor market. According to various studies, the coronavirus epidemic, the climate crisis, the Ukraine war and the rise of global food prices caused an increase in global food insecurity. The latest survey by the Israeli National Insurance Institute found 16.8 % of the adult population in Israel suffer from food insecurity, and about a quarter of the child population, twice the rate of OECD countries. Among the groups most affected by the lack of food security are communities belonging to Arab and ultra-Orthodox societies, welfare recipients and single families. This class will discuss the different solutions to this critical problem.

Bio: Prof. Roni Strier (Ph.D. Social Work. Hebrew University, Jerusalem, 2002).
Professor (Emeritus) at the School of Social Work and presently the Chair of the Israel National Council of Food Security. His areas of research are social exclusion and poverty. He is the founder of the Interdisciplinary Center for the Study of Poverty and Social Exclusion at Haifa University. Prof. Strier has published multiple articles in leading journals. He was awarded the Lifetime Achievement Award of Espanet (European Social Policy Association Network) for this contribution to the research and development of social policy.

Second meeting: Food Insecurity: The Health Tole
Prof. Ronit Endevelt, School of Public Health

The lecture will describe the strong linkage between food and nutrition insecurity and disease-related malnutrition. The food system in the new Era is targeted differently to poor and rich people and the result is a big gap in health and chronic disease between different socioeconomic status populations.

Bio: Prof. Ronit Endevelt is a Nutritionists the head of the nutrition division at the Ministry of Health for the last 9 years. At her job she promoted some laws to change the nutritional built environment: 1. Healthy food at schools 2. Health food at Kiosks at schools 3. Front of pack labeling 4. Tax over Beverages. Before she established the nutritional services of Maccabi Health Medical Services. At the same time, she finished her Ph.D. in health management and for the last 20 years she has been teaching at the faculty of social welfare and health at the school of public health. Prof. Endevelt is mentoring many students for Master thesis and Ph.D.'s and doing research mainly concerning nutrition policy.

Climate and Environment

First meeting: The Climate Crisis – Global Aspects
Prof. Shlomit Paz, School of Environmental Sciences

The climate crisis is considered as the greatest challenge of our time. This crisis affects all aspects of our lives – such as water and food availability, health and welfare, infrastructure, energy supply and economy. These issues cross all borders while those who suffer from the highest impacts are sensitive populations in developing countries. In the class, we will deal with key global aspects and fundamental questions regarding the impacts of the changing climate and their consequences for different countries and communities from different perspectives.

Bio: Prof. Shlomit Paz is a climate change researcher. Her scientific work is focused on the fundamental science of climate change as well as on its various impacts with a particular emphasis on human health, at the regional and global levels. Prof. Paz is involved in various European scientific projects, including studies for the European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control (ECDC). She is an Associate Deputy Editor of Climatic Change, Editorial Board Member of Scientific Report (Climate Change section), and a member of the International Advisory Board of The Lancet Global Health and The Lancet Regional Health – Europe. Prof. Paz is a member of the Steering Committee of the MedECC that includes about 650 scientists from 35 states in the Mediterranean and Europe. Currently, she is the head of the Climate and Environmental Sustainability Center of the university.

Second meeting: Social Media Data for Environment and Sustainability
Prof. Andrea Ghermandi, School of Environmental Sciences

Social media data are transforming sustainability science by enabling high-fidelity monitoring of social-ecological processes. Research, however, faces challenges from restrictions in data accessibility and ethical concerns regarding potential data misuse, which put the future of the field in question. In this lecture, I review the literature on the use of social media data in environmental and sustainability research. I argue that social media data can play a novel and irreplaceable role in achieving the UN Sustainable Development Goals by allowing a nuanced understanding of human-nature interactions at scale, observing social-ecological change, and investigating the co-construction of nature values. I highlight threats to data access, in the face of a quickly changing landscape of terms and conditions by social media companies and increasing public mistrust and regulation. I examine three key ethical principles for balancing trade-offs between research transparency and privacy protection, promoting inclusivity, and ensuring responsible data use for the common good. When measured against such principles, current research practices, despite striving to use data ethically, have not always been up to the challenge. By embracing high ethical standards and fostering trust and cooperation in virtue of the social benefits of their research, sustainability researchers may play a critical role in the establishment of a virtuous cycle that better recognizes the public good nature of social media data and realizes their potential for social good.

Bio: Andrea Ghermandi is an Associate Professor at the Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Management and director of the Natural Resources and Environmental Research Center. He is an associate editor for the journals Ecosystem Services and PeerJ. An environmental engineer by training, his research spans over a range of fields including the valuation and mapping of ecosystem services, the use of research synthesis techniques and crowdsourced digital data in environmental studies. He contributed to high-profile international initiatives such as TEEB-The Economics of Ecosystems and Biodiversity, the UNEP/GEF Project for Ecosystem Services (ProEcoServ), the Ocean Health Index, and the Ecosystem Service Partnership. His research on the use of social media in environmental research was awarded the 2021 Strage-BGU Award for Excellence in Environmental Sciences. He has (co-)authored more than 60 scientific papers in international, peer-reviewed journals in the fields of environmental sciences and environmental economics.

Third meeting: The Impact of Climate Change Impact on Public Health: What, How and Who are the Most Vulnerable?
Prof. Maya Negev, School of Public Health

Climate change is defined by the World Health Organization as the biggest threat to human health. In this workshop, we will explore how climate change already impacts the lives of millions through extreme events such as heatwaves, floods and draughts, a rise in infectious diseases and harm to mental health. We will study the projected exacerbation of harm to public health in the coming decades. We will ask who are the biggest climate polluters and the most vulnerable populations and explore climate justice at the international, national and local levels.

Fourth meeting; Climate Resilience: Adapting to a Changing Climate and Improving Public Health
Prof. Maya Negev, School of Public Health

Climate change is here and is expected to intensify. In this meeting, we will explore solutions and adaptation to climate change. Through the case study of urban design, we will focus on cities and what can be done to reduce the urban heat island and close the climate gap at the local level, with examples from Haifa, Shfaram, and Tel Aviv. We will also introduce the health co-benefits concept, and learn about the health implications of various climate policies.

Bio: Prof. Maya Negev is head of the Division of Health Systems Policy and Administration at the School of Public Health. Her research interests are in the science-policy interface of environmental health, with a particular interest in health aspects of adaptation to climate change. Her current work focuses on regional and urban resilience to climate change. These questions are examined through mixed methods and interdisciplinary research. She received her Ph.D. from Ben-Gurion University and her doctoral thesis focused on a multicultural approach to environmental policy, was a Fulbright visiting scholar at the School of Public Health, UC Berkeley, and conducted research on adaptation to climate change in the public health sector at the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine, during a Daniel Turnberg fellowship. Maya is a member of the Board of Directors of the Arava Institute of Environmental Studies.

Fifth meeting: How Climate Change Makes Tsunamis, Floods, and Storms More Dangerous (Or does it?)
Dr. Beverly N. Goodman-Tchernov, Department of Marine Geosciences

Climate change impacts us in many different ways, not all of which have clear relationships. The proposed trajectory of climate combined with human factors (coastal development, population, geopolitics, landscape change, etc.) results in a complicated mix. Risks associated with tsunamis have been estimated to increase with the increased sea level and temperature changes. How does this make any sense if tsunamis are an outcome of earthquakes, volcanoes, slumps, etc.; and floods are associated with rain, and storms wind?

Bio: Dr. Beverly N. Goodman-Tchernov is a faculty member in the Leon Charney School of Marine Sciences within the Department of Marine Geosciences. Her research blends archaeology, geology and anthropology to explore the complex ways nature and humans interact on coastlines. Her work concentrates on the causes and effects of ancient environmental events like tsunamis and floods in an attempt to better understand what risks are present today and how broader climate-linked trends, such as sea-level change and fluctuations in precipitation, can be recognized in the sedimentary record.

First meeting: Befriending GPT: From an Idea to a Published Article
Dr. Pavel Goldstein, School of Public Health

In this immersive session, we delve into the capabilities of GPT-3, a cutting-edge language model, to revolutionize your academic research and writing process. Throughout the workshop, participants will: Harness Creative Ideation: Discover how GPT-3 can serve as your brainstorming partner, assisting in the generation and refinement of research ideas. Refine Research Concepts: Learn techniques to employ GPT-3 for honing research hypotheses and developing structured research proposals. Overcome Writer's Hurdles: Conquer writer's block and other common writing challenges with strategies tailored to academic writing. Elevate Writing Excellence: Explore how GPT-3 can enhance the clarity, coherence, and overall quality of your academic papers. Maximize Productivity: Efficiently generate drafts, literature reviews, and other research-related content to boost research productivity.

Bio: Pavel Goldstein is the director of the Integrative Pain Laboratory (iPainlab) and head of the MPH Biostatistics track at the School of Public Health. His research is focused on developing a) an integrative understanding of dynamic pain mechanisms expressed in behavior and physiology in close-to-natural environments, b) chronic pain diagnostic tools, and c) therapeutic approaches for chronic pain and mental comorbidities, utilizing state-of-the-art neuroscience and clinical research and digital technological tools.

Second meeting: Deep Neural Networks, Artificial Intelligence –
The Challenge of Reliability
Dr. Shira Rotman, Department of Medical Imaging Sciences

Deep Neural Networks (DNNs) for Artificial Intelligence were initially proposed towards the midst of the 20th century, motivated by the neural structure and mechanism of the human brain. The basic idea was that multiple computational layers, where each layer consists of computational unit's dependent on the inputs of the preceding layer, could somehow mimic complex computational operations in the human brain. Although DNN systems have demonstrated unprecedented performance in terms of accuracy and speed, recent work has shown that such models may not be sufficiently robust during the inference process, which poses a significant challenge in terms of safety, security and reliability when applying these models in real-life applications: medical Computer Aided Diagnostics (CAD), autonomous driving and data security systems. In this lecture, we will survey the basic principles of DNNs, show examples for their wide span of applications, and discuss existing major challenges that need to be addressed to further incorporate such systems into daily clinical use in a reliable and responsible manner.

Bio: Prior to being recruited by the University of Haifa. Dr. Shira Rotman was a research fellow at Faculty of Bio-Medical Engineering at the Technion and collaborated with Boston's Children's Hospital at the Harvard Medical School.

She received her doctoral degree from the Andrew and Erna Viterbi Faculty of Electrical and Computer Engineering at Technion - Israel Institute of Technology (2020). She holds a double first degree (Summa Cum Laude) in Electrical Engineering and Physics from Technion and she is an alumna of the Technion's Excellence Program.

Her research focuses on machine learning, artificial intelligence and computer vision for medical imaging, and specifically on advanced deep learning methods for Computer Aided Diagnostics (CAD). Her research

lies at the interface of two major technological revolutions, namely, advanced medical imaging devices and artificial intelligence, the combination of which has the potential to provide state-of-the-art automatic medical decision tools to assist radiologists in their daily clinical practice. Such automatic tools may revolutionize the radiological workflow and improve its reliability and accuracy, in a manner that will significantly improve quality and accessibility of medical services to patients, both in hospitals as well as in the community clinical settings.

Third meeting: AI for Studying Behavior and Affective States
Prof. Anna Zamansky, Department of Information Systems

Recent advances in AI and Computer Vision allow for real-time recognition of human emotions in real-time. Apps such as PainChek can recognize pain based on the facial expressions of infants and other non-verbal patients. These technologies are expanding to the world of nonhuman animals, holding great promise for studying animal behavior, emotions and pain and promoting animal welfare. We will review the fascinating world of affective computing for human and nonhuman animals, diving into some methodological issues of how to prepare and annotate datasets, or measure performance of AI in this domain.

Bio: Prof. Anna Zamansky is head of Tech4Animals Lab at the Information Systems Department. The lab develops AI and technologies for promoting animals' welfare, health and well-being. Prof. Zamansky has an MSc. and Ph.D. in Computer Science from the Technion and Tel Aviv University, and was a postdoctoral Marie Curie Fellow at the Technical University of Vienna prior to starting her lab in Haifa.

Religion and Spiritualism

First meeting: The Resurgence of Islam
Prof. Itzchak Weismann, Department of Middle Eastern and Islamic Studies

The Islamic resurgence began in the 1970s and continues to impact our world to this day. Everyone remembers its violent eruptions – from Khomeini's revolution in Iran and President Sadat's assassination in Egypt to al-Qaeda's 9/11 and ISIS's atrocities on the global arena. But it also encompasses more civil and peaceful manifestations such as the return to the mosque, veiling, and interfaith dialogue. The aim of this session is to explore the main forces and groups that took part in the Islamic resurgence in the past half century and suggest explanations to its occurrence. In the first part we will focus on the movement of the Muslim Brothers, Saudi Arabia and the Salafis, and Shi'ite Iran and Lebanon. Attention will also be given to the Islamic movement in Israel and the territories. In the second part we will employ an interdisciplinary approach that combines insights from the fields of Islamic studies, comparative religion, sociology and cultural studies, and theories of the public sphere, modernization and globalization.

Bio: Itzchak Weismann is an Associate Professor of Islamic studies and former Director of the Jewish-Arab Center at Haifa University. His research interests focus on modern Islamic movements and ideologies, including the Salafis, the Muslim Brothers and the Sufis, in the Middle East and South Asia. He is the author of Taste of Modernity: Sufism, Salafiyya, and Arabism in Late Ottoman Damascus; The Naqshbandiyya: Orthodoxy and Activism in a Worldwide Sufi Tradition; Abd al-Rahman al-Kawakibi: Islamic Reform and Arab Nationalism, and numerous articles. He is also the scientific editor of the Sahar (Crescent) series of translations to Hebrew of major modern Islamic texts.

Second meeting: Israeli Cinema in the Early Twenty-First Century: Contradictions in Traditional Sephardi-Mizrahi Religious Practice, Community Hierarchies, and Family Life
Prof. Yvonne Kozlovsky Golan, Interdisciplinary Program for Culture and Film Studies

This lecture will present an applicative study which incorporates two disciplines: research of sectarian tension in traditional (Masorati) Israeli society (Sephardi-Mizrahi) and its representation in Israeli cinema in the decade from the 2010s to the present. It will present a historical review of the rise of the Shas religious party and the influence of the Ashkenazi leader Rabbi Shach on the life of traditional Sephardi-Mizrahi Israelis, who joined or supported the party, led by Rabbi Ovadia Yosef and his representatives in Israeli politics, especially Aryeh Deri. During the decades when the party and its leaders were effecting dramatic changes in the DNA of parts of Sephardi-Mizrahi society, a change also occurred in the culture and arts scene of "secular-leaning" traditional Sephardi-Mizrahi Jews, characterized by their affinity for mild Israeli secularism. They chose to refrain from adopting a new religious lifestyle and worked as professionals in the arts. Their productions, particularly Israeli films and television series, began to react against the ultra-Orthodox dogma of Shas' rabbinical and political leadership. This opposition, which was expressed in two waves of films: the first from 2000 to 2012 and the second from 2013 to 2019, primarily reflected psychological and familial changes

experienced by Sephardi-Mizrahi protagonists. The lecture will present an overview of second-wave films that depict everyday situations, events, and celebrations of traditional Sephardi-Mizrahi Jews, such as God's Neighbors (2012), Encirclements (2014), The Women's Balcony (2016), and The Unorthodox (2018). Through these works, I argue that developments in traditional Israeli society have led to substantial changes in the narrative medium, and demonstrate how filmmakers have voiced opposition to and criticism of the patriarchal establishment, in order to counter the political and religious establishment's attempt to control their lifestyles and traditions and promote a return to the traditional and simple origins of their ancestors.

Bio: Prof. Yvonne Kozlovsky-Golan, is the head and founder of the MA Interdisciplinary Program for Culture and Film Studies, Faculty of Humanities. Her interdisciplinary research addresses the encounter between: 1. Film and History, American legal history and audio-visual representations of the Holocaust in the American, Israeli and the western world media clutter. 2. Media Culture, the history of Mizrahim and traditionalism in contemporary Israeli Memory. 3. Israeli History in Film, representations of the tensions in Israeli society, particularly between Ashkenazim- Mizrahim, Ethnicity -Traditionalism, in Israeli media culture. Professor Kozlovsky-Golan is the author of five books on media culture and history, three of which process American legal history and Holocaust, focusing on representations of law and order, ethics in diverse American media; and two books regarding the misrepresentation of the World War II experiences of North African Jewry in Israeli, Arab and European media culture. Prof. Golan has also written several articles on Mizrahim and the place of Mizrahi-Mizrahim and traditionalism in contemporary Israeli society and culture.

Third meeting: Speaking to the Gods: Understanding Ritual Shamanism in the Hindu Himalaya
Dr. Erik Moran, The Department of Asian Studies

Of the numerous gods inhabiting the Indian Himalaya, the goddesses residing at mountain tops are considered to be the most powerful. As the generators of creation, the goddesses are simultaneously feared and adored, as their blessings frequently risk turning into curses. This session shall introduce principal components from the Hindu shamanic traditions found in West Himalayan circles and the means for communicating with divine entities and goddesses. The session shall include a screening of the ethnographic film AVATARA (Harel and Moran 2020), which explores the dualistic conceptualization of the goddess as both punishing mother and viringal child.

Bio: Dr. Arik Moran holds a doctorate in History from the University of Oxford (2010) and is a member of the Department of Asian Studies (since 2011). He studies the oral and written histories of the Indian Himalaya, the links between ritual changes and cultural transformations, and long-term historical processes linking Himalayan societies with India and Asia.

This cluster covers the more practical fundamentals of advanced academic studies including topics related to personal and interpersonal skills, as well as career planning and time management required in graduate school and beyond. Instructional methods include face-to-face lectures and workshops.

Publication Aspects

Publish or Perish: What's Wrong with My Manuscript?
Prof. Shlomo Wagner, Sagol Department of Neurobiology

This lecture will explain how to write a scientific manuscript from the first draft to the final version, guide you through the submission and revision processes, warn you of common mistakes that may cause a rejection of your manuscript and share several tips that will save you time and heartbreaking.

Bio: Prof. Shlomo Wagner is the Chair of the Sagol Department of Neurobiology and the head of the Laboratory for Neurobiology of Social Behavior. He investigates behavioral, neuronal and molecular processes which are involved in mammalian social behavior and memory. In addition, he explores brain mechanisms associated with autism spectrum disorder (ASD). To that end, he is using various animal models of ASD to reveal modified brain activity leading to impairments in social behavior and communication.

The Joy of Publishing: Tips from the Angle of an Editor
Prof. David Roe, Department of Community Mental Health

An academic career has often been referred to as an industry which boils down to "publish or perish". In this talk, the more "positive" sides will be emphasized and we will focus on how publishing is often also an exciting, creative and meaningful process. Concrete tips from Prof. Roe's experience as someone who attempts to publish, often reviews and serves as an editor will be shared.

Bio: David Roe, Ph.D. is a licensed clinical psychologist, Professor at the Department of Community Mental Health and affiliated Professor at Aalborg University, Denmark. After receiving a Bachelor of Arts degree (Magna Cum Laude) in psychology from Brown University he went on to Columbia University where he received his Master of Philosophy, Master of Science and Ph.D. in Clinical Psychology. His research focuses on the psychosocial processes of recovery from serious mental illness, stigma, Patient Reported Outcome Measures (PROMs) and the evaluation of interventions and services. His research has been funded by several local and international sources, including NIMH, Israeli Science foundation, The Israeli Ministry of Health, The Israel National Institute for Health Services Research and Health Policy, the Israeli National Insurance Institution and the Tauber and Rich foundations. Prof. Roe has published extensively and serves as an associate editor for the Psychiatric Rehabilitation Journal, Journal of Mental Health, BMC psychiatry and Israel Journal of Psychiatry and is on the editorial board of Psychiatry Research, Journal of Clinical Psychology, Psychiatry Research Communications, Stigma and Health, Journal of Clinical Psychology, Psychosis, American Journal of Psychiatric Rehabilitation and Social Welfare (Hebrew).

Peer Review: Purpose and Practice
Prof. Anat Prior, Department of Learning Disabilities

Academics are called upon to act as reviewers for manuscripts and grant proposals, as participating members in the scientific community. The proposed workshop presents the review process in full, and discusses our motivations for performing reviews. Workshop participants will consider how to decide whether to review a specific paper, and will receive step-by-step practical guidance on writing the review itself. The workshop includes concrete review examples, some exercises on common wording used in reviews, and a discussion of ethical principles in the review process.

Bio: Anat Prior is an Associate Professor in the Faculty of Education. She completed her Ph.D. studies at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem, and a Post-Doctoral fellowship at Carnegie Mellon University. Her research focuses on mechanisms leading to individual differences in language learning and processing. She is particularly interested in fostering the development of effective instruction and intervention programs in the domain of foreign language, as well as programs targeted at minority language students in mainstream education. She has published over 40 papers and chapters, mentored over 40 graduate students (12 Ph.D.), has reviewed for 35 different journals and 10 funding agencies, and was ranked in the 88th percentile for number of reviews completed annually.

Publishing in Legal Journals
Dr. Yahli Shereshevsky, Faculty of Law

The meeting will consist of two parts. The first part will discuss general issues regarding legal papers. It will address, inter alia, the desirability of publishing during the Ph.D., how to choose a topic for the article, and the conventional structure of a legal publication. The second part of the meeting will address the publication process and will focus on deciding where to publish including, inter alia, a discussion of journals' rankings and the choice between peer-reviewed and student-edited journals.

Bio: Dr. Yahli Shereshevsky is a Senior Lecturer at the Faculty of Law. He was previously a post-doctoral fellow at the Federmann Cyber Security Research Center, the Minerva Center for the Rule of Law under Extreme Conditions, and a Grotius Research Scholar at the University of Michigan Law School. Dr. Shereshevsky specializes in international law, focusing on international humanitarian law, international lawmaking, international legal theory, war and technology, and international criminal law. He received his Ph.D. from the Hebrew University of Jerusalem, where he was a Hans-Guth Dreyfus Fellow for Conflict Resolution and the Law and was enrolled in the Hoffman Leadership and Responsibility Fellowship Program. He holds an LLB in Law and the "Amirim" Interdisciplinary Honors Program for Outstanding Students (summa cum laude) from the Hebrew University. He clerked for the Honorable Deputy Chief Justice Eliezer Rivlin of the Supreme Court of Israel. Dr. Shereshevsky's work has been published in leading journals including the European Journal of International Law, the Virginia Journal of International Law, The Michigan Journal of International Law, and the Journal of International Criminal Justice.

How to Publish Your Research?
Prof. Simone Shamay-Tsoory, School of Psychological Sciences

Publishing your research in paper can tremendously enhance your resume and your profile as an applicant for a future academic career. In the lecture, we will discuss the importance of publishing papers. We will describe the complete process of how publishing starts from writing the paper to choosing a journal and submitting the paper. We will discuss the reviewing process and provide tips for scientific writing.

Bio: Simone Shamay-Tsoory is a Full Professor at the School of Psychological Sciences and the head of the Integrated Brain and Behavior Research Center. She established the Social and Affective Neuroscience Laboratory, where she studies the neural basis of social behavior. She published more than 100 papers and was also nominated to serve as a section editor in high-impact journals (e.g., NeuroImage) and she serves as an editorial board member of the high-ranking journal Biological Psychiatry.

Simple Formulas to Structure a Paper and Prepare a Talk
Dr. Roi Poranne, Department of Computer Sciences

Writing a paper and delivering a talk can often appear daunting and overwhelming. Many questions may arise: Where do I start? How can I effectively communicate my ideas? Do I start with the results, or the abstract? In this lecture, we will discuss simple yet powerful formulas to help you confidently structure your paper and deliver an engaging presentation. By following these guidelines, you will be equipped with the necessary tools to effectively convey your research findings and captivate your audience.

Bio: Dr. Roi Poranne is a Senior Lecturer in the Department of Computer Science. His research interests are mainly related to computer graphics and robotics. Develop interactive design tools for shapes, animation, art and architecture, using augmented reality devices. Also interested in computational fabrication, in developing new techniques for manufacturing large objects in the real world.

Publishing in the Humanities
Prof. Samuel Lebens, Department of Philosophy

In this talk we're going to break down the various obstacles that lie in wait for us, between having a good idea for a paper, and getting that paper published in a peer-reviewed journal. We'll talk about technical issues like the structure of a paper, and strategic issues such as the choice of a journal, and how to shepherd your paper through peer-review.

Bio: Prof. Samuel Lebens works in multiple areas of philosophy. He has published books on Bertrand Russell, the philosophy of fiction, and the philosophy of religion. He has also published numerous papers in journals such as Philosophical Studies, Syntheses, Philosophers' Imprint, Religious Studies, and Faith and Philosophy. He is on the editorial board of Oxford Studies in Philosophy of Religion, Religious Studies, and the Journal of Analytic Theology.

Academic Publishing: Everything You Wanted to Know,
but Were Embarrassed to Ask
Dr. Beverly N. Goodman-Tchernov, Department of Marine Geosciences

Publishing and disseminating our work are key aspects of research today. However, the process can be thoroughly mystifying and foreign, and sometimes intimidating. Many times, as graduate students. This short workshop aims at helping to better understand why we publish, the different forms of publishing used in academia today, when it is time to publish (and what is 'publishable'), and what to expect through the process for yourself, your colleagues, and your supervisor.

Skills and Competencies

How to Give a Successful Academic Presentation
Dr. Jennifer Lewin, Department of English Language & Literature

This lecture will teach participants how to give a successful presentation in English, from preparing the visual and oral components to coping with anxiety and managing interactions with the audience. In essence, it will offer helpful and engaging tips both on building one's confidence and professionalism and on communicating content clearly and effectively.

The Three-Minute Thesis Competition (4 sessions, 2 hours each)
Dr. Jennifer Lewin, Department of English Language & Literature

The Three-Minute Thesis Competition (3MT) is both a local and worldwide phenomenon, in which Ph.D. students prepare presentations on their thesis within a very short time limit. It started as a one-time event fifteen years ago; now it has grown to include more than 900 universities in over 85 countries. In this 3MT workshop, over four meetings, we will train together and hold our own local version of such an event. The experience will facilitate participants' skills in explaining their research in English while creating a supportive community of scholars from diverse disciplines able to build communication techniques together.

Bio: Dr. Jennifer Lewin is a lecturer in the Department of English Language and Literature, where she has directed the Academic Writing Program since 2021 and won a teaching prize in 2023. She also is the academic director of the university's Center for Academic English and the English department's English Writing Skills Center. A researcher and teacher of early modern poetry as well as academic writing, she has published numerous articles, essays, book reviews, and an essay collection. She received her BA from Brandeis University and her Ph.D. from Yale University, taught at both institutions, and, prior to Haifa, at the University of Kentucky, Harvard University, Boston University, and Sewanee-University of the South.

An Ethical and Legal Framework for Research with Human Participants
Dr. Maya Peled-Raz, School of Public Health

In this lecture we will look at the Israeli regulatory scheme, and discuss the three main areas of concern in any research with human participants – Proportionality between possible harm and benefit, Voluntary and informed consent and Privacy, confidentiality, and data security.

Bio: Dr. Maya Peled Raz (LLB, MPH, Ph.D.) is a Senior Lecturer of law and ethics and head of the Division of Bioethics and Public Health, School of Public Health. She is the Chair of the Research Ethics Review Board (ERB) at the Faculty of Social Welfare and Health Sciences, a member of the Association of University Heads (VERA) working group on "Research Ethics Review Boards (ERB's) in the Israeli academia" and a Board Member for the International Center for Health, Law and Ethics, at the University of Haifa. Dr. Peled Raz also serves as a clinical ethicist and the chair of the Ethics Committees at Bnei Zion Medical Center in Haifa and as the head of the ethics committee at the Galilee Medical Center in Naharia, and as Deputy Chair of the IDF's Medical Corps Ethics Committee.

The Academic Network: Conferences and Societies
Prof. Maya Negev, School of Public Health

This workshop will present the idea and benefits of academic conferences and societies in Israel and internationally, and discuss how to select and participate in a network, and the benefits of belonging to the academic community.

Postdoc in the US: How to Make the Most Out of It
Prof. Ami Pedahzur, Maritime Policy & Strategy Research Center, Chaikin Chair for Geo-Strategy

I will discuss my journey from completing doctoral studies in Political Science at the University of Haifa to becoming a faculty member at the University of Texas at Austin. Drawing from personal experiences, I elaborate on post-doctoral fellowships in the US. The seminar emphasizes the most significant academic and practical steps to turn a postdoc into a successful venture.

Bio: prof. Ami Pedahzur began his academic career at the University of Haifa. Then, he moved to the University of Texas at Austin, where he taught for two decades. Most recently, he held the Ralph W Yarborough Centennial Professor of Liberal Arts at the University of Texas at Austin. He holds a Ph.D. in political science from the University of Haifa.

Selecting a Post-doctoral Position
Prof. Tomer Shechner, School of Psychological Sciences

Post-doctoral training is one of the most important steps in the long professional training of a scientist/researcher. A successful postdoc is an important final step before searching for a tenure-track position. This class will discuss important considerations for choosing a postdoc and for ensuring a meaningful experience. It will cover the following topics: Where should I start looking, funding, how to find the right lab for me, visiting different labs before making the final decision, setting goals for the postdoc (new research methods, writing, grants etc), PI-post doc relations, other postdocs in the lab, seeking for training opportunities during a post-doc and networking.

The Short Format Public Talk: Going from Nearly Dead to Ted
(Workshop 2 session, 2 hours each)
Dr. Beverly N. Goodman-Tchernov, Department of Marine Geosciences

The introduction of "TED talks" by Ted Waitt has altered the world of bridging the gap between the worlds of experts to the public. Learning how to create a talk using this short format and audience-friendly approach can improve a speaker's confidence, message clarity, and ability to communicate. During this lesson, students will learn some of the basic rules of creating a TED Talk-like presentation, and learn techniques that can add to the strength of their public speaking skills.

The Long and Winding Road – Metaphors
for the Mentor-Mentee Relationship
Dr. Bracha Nir, Department of Communication Disorders

Understanding the mentor-mentee relationship is essential for the mentees' personal development, and for the fruitful and enriching process of conducting a Ph.D. project, which culminates in writing a dissertation. Using the notion of cognitive metaphor as a device for conceptualization on the one hand and for reflective dialog on the other, the meeting(s) will bring to the forefront the different conceptions that mentors and mentees have of this relationship. During the meeting(s), the participants will explore their own experiences and attitudes with respect to the mentor-mentee relationship, discuss various social and ethical issues that emerge in the different phases of the Ph.D. project, and consider ways of overcoming hurdles related to the process.

Bio: Dr. Bracha Nir (Ph.D. in Linguistics, 2008; MA in Cognitive Studies of Language and Language Use; BA in Linguistics, Tel Aviv University, Israel) is a Senior Lecturer at the Department of Communication Sciences and Disorders. She is a functionalist linguist working in the frameworks of socio-cognitive discourse analysis and

text psycholinguistics, focusing on form–function relations in language, in extended discourse, and in dialogic interaction (both mundane and institutional). Her studies explore the role of context in shaping meaning and structure in the different domains of grammar (from morphology to syntax to text), in constraining language use from a developmental, cross-linguistic perspective, and in serving various functions of intersubjectivity.

Career Development and Soft Skills Workshops (2 sessions, 4 hours each)
Prof. Smadar Ben-Tabou de-Leon
and Prof. Daniel Sher, Department of Marine Biology

Soft Skills – Managing your Science. In this workshop, we will discuss various aspects of collaborating and networking, career options and how to work with your advisors and colleagues.

Soft Skills – Managing your Career. In this workshop we will discuss how to make the right career decisions, we will share tips on how to write a CV, how to manage job applications and interviews, and time and project management.

Bio: Daniel Sher is a Professor of Marine Biology at the Leon H. Charney School of Marine Sciences. He completed his undergraduate and Ph.D. studies at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem, followed by postdoctoral studies at MIT. His main research interest lies in Aquatic Chemical Ecology and Microbial Oceanography – understanding the way aquatic organisms communicate through chemistry, the chemicals that mediate these interactions, and the way these interactions and chemicals affect entire ecosystems. Most of the people in his lab currently study how Prochlorococcus, a tiny marine cyanobacterium and the most abundant photosynthetic organism on Earth, interacts with co-occurring marine bacteria. Other projects in the lab focus on understanding the causes for jellyfish blooms (including whether their associated bacteria are involved in bloom growth and decline), and on developing methods to use natural marine bacterial communities as biosensors for pollution. Prof. Sher is also a member of the steering committee of the University of Haifa Data Science Research Center, and of the outreach committee of the School of Marine Sciences. He is married, has three kids and a dog, and in his spare time loves hiking, cooking and photography.

Prof. Smadar Ben-Tabou de-Leon obtained her Ph.D. degree at the Racah Institute of Physics, at the Hebrew University in Jerusalem, on the optical properties of thin layers of semiconductors. She then did her first post-doctorate fellowship on the use of porous silicon surfaces for the detection of neural activity, under the supervision of Prof. Amir Sa'ar at the Hebrew University. In her second post-doctorate at the lab of Prof. Eric Davidson at Caltech, she made the transition to developmental and evolutionary biology and investigated the regulatory networks that drive the development of the sea urchin embryo. In 2012 she started her own laboratory at the University of Haifa, where she studies the biological regulation of biomineralization in the sea urchin larva. Her lab discovered that the molecular control of the sea urchin larval skeleton is similar to the regulation of blood vessel formations in vertebrates and humans. This illuminates how biomineralization evolved rapidly by co-opting ancestral developmental programs for organic scaffolds. Prof. Ben-Tabou de-Leon is currently the head of the Department of Marine Biology at the Charney School of Marine Sciences. She has published more than 30 peer-reviewed papers in theoretical and applied physics and biological sciences. Her work significantly contributed to the understanding of the genetic and cellular regulation of developmental processes and the evolution of biomineralization. She is an associate editor of Frontiers in Ecology and Evolution and Frontiers in Cell and Developmental Biology. She is married, has four kids, two cats and in her spare time she likes playing Pokemon Go, jogging and hiking.

Money, Money, Money: How to Write an Effective Grant Proposal
Prof. Shlomo Wagner, Sagol Department of Neurobiology

I will describe my experience with various proposal types, detail the distinct parts of a typical proposal and what they require, explain my writing strategy, and share tips for putting forward a focused and compelling proposal.

From Academia to industry and back again
Dr. Itzik Klein, The Hatter Department of Marine Technologies

In this talk, I will present my personal experience and journey from academia to industry and back again. I will share some insights and different viewpoints of industry and academia as seen from each other's perspective. Also, we will discuss why your supervisor will play an important role in the next stage of your career.

Bio: Itzik Klein received the B.Sc. and M.Sc. degrees in Aerospace Engineering from the Technion - Israel Institute of Technology, in 2004 and 2007, respectively, and a Ph.D. degree in Geo-information Engineering from the Technion in 2011. He is currently heading the Autonomous Navigation and Sensor Fusion Lab, at the Hatter Department of Marine Technologies, School of Marine Sciences. There are 26 students under Itzik's supervision, 13 of whom are pursuing Ph.D.s. He is an IEEE Senior Member and member of the IEEE Journal of Indoor and Seamless Positioning and Navigation (J-ISPIN) Editorial Board. Prior to joining the University of Haifa, he worked at leading companies in Israel on navigation and positioning topics for more than 15 years. He has a wide range of experience in navigation systems and sensor fusion from both industry and academic perspectives. His research interests lie in the intersection of artificial intelligence, navigation, and inertial sensing.

To write? That is the question! Writer's Block among Young Academics
Dr. Bracha Nir, Department of Communication Disorders

"I have nothing to say"; "Someone else has already said this before"; "I don't know what I'm doing"; "This is just too difficult" – These and other statements are common among writers in general, but they have very particular causes and consequences when they come from young scholars who are developing their intellectual and academic skills. The participants in the meeting will consider the meaning of writing as a high-stakes activity, will discuss the various factors that contribute to writer's block – emotional, psychological, social, and even physiological, and will learn about different tools and techniques that could help them in moments when it seems like the next line will simply never be written.

Library

Journal Evaluation Tools
Ms. Ronit Marco, Library staff

This workshop will introduce tools and indices that are used to evaluate the impact and reliability of scientific journals. These tools will help you examine resources you wish to cite, or select journals to publish in. If you intend to publish, this workshop will demonstrate how to find the most suitable journal for your article. We will cover the Open Access publication model and the various options it entails. You will also learn about the new threat to academic publishing: "predatory" journals. You will learn how to identify and avoid these fake publishers.

Bio: Ms. Ronit Marco BSc MA – Library staff: is an expert reference librarian at the Younes and Soraya Nazarian Library and the library liaison for the School of Public Health.

Introduction to Reference Management Tools with an Emphasis on EndNote
Ms. Michal Carmon, Library staff

Reference management software helps researchers organize PDFs and notes and generate citations and bibliographies in a variety of publishing styles. This workshop previews EndNote as our major reference manager tool. You will learn how to install, set up, and use these tools for your research projects.

Bio: Ms. Michal Carmon, Senior Reference Librarian, B.A. in Education, Sociology & Anthropology, M.A. in Information & Knowledge Management.

Advanced Database Searching
Ms. Amy Lauran Shapira, Library staff

Database searching is an important skill for graduate students.

This workshop will teach you how to identify suitable databases for your research, develop a solid search strategy as well as introduce tips and tricks to efficiently search various resources such as Ebsco Discovery Service, Google Scholar and major subject databases.

In addition, the workshop will cover emerging AI tools that support scholars' needs and basic prompting skills for AI chatbot use (such as Chat GPT etc.).

Bio: Ms. Amy Lauran Shapira BPT MA is an expert reference librarian at the Younes and Soraya Nazarian Library and the library liaison for the following university departments: Physical Therapy, Occupational Therapy, Nursing, Community Mental Health, and Communication Sciences and Disorders.

Photography by: Jenny Carmel

Cluster Three:
Research Paradigms
and Methodologies

This cluster discusses and explains the data collection and analysis methods used in your research.

Workshop on Causal Inference
Dr. Yaniv Reingewertz, School of Political Sciences

This workshop will teach you how to think about causal inference. We will learn how to build and implement field experiments and how to identify causal relationships in the social sciences using econometric methods. We will learn three such methods. Finally, we will discuss several additional challenges to causal inference.

Bio: Dr. Yaniv Reingewertz is a Senior Lecturer at the Division of Public Administration and Policy at the School of Political Sciences. He finished his Ph.D. in Economics from the Hebrew University of Jerusalem in 2012. His main research areas are Political and Public Economics, Urban Economics and Environmental Economics. Dr. Reingewertz specializes in issues related to fiscal federalism, fiscal decentralization and municipal amalgamations.

Network Analysis: Concepts and Inter-Disciplinary Research Applications
Prof. Ilan Talmud, Department of Sociology

Network science is dramatically growing across disciplines. This conceptual and methodological introduction provides an overview of network analysis. It presents an analytical summary of the basic assumptions, concepts, goals, and explanatory mechanisms prevalent in the field. Modes of data gathering will be discussed how the field is moving from a static, cross-sectional design into a dynamic design. We will survey and demonstrate applications of network models to online networks, semantic networks, textual scripts, online and offline communities, archived and historical data, labor markets, business applications, international relations, political networks, and social capital.

Bio: Prof. Ilan Talmud (Ph.D. Columbia, 1992) is a sociologist, who applies network science in a variety of fields: online communities, youth social networks, inter-organizational transactions, international relations, labor markets, gender, politics, and corporate knowledge management.

His last book (co-authored with Prof. Gustavo Mesh) is Wired Youth: The Social World of Adolescence in the Information Age (2020, Routledge). He has been studying the social world of cryptocurrencies for several years.

Introduction to Data Analysis Using R (2 sessions, 3 hours each)
Dr. Yuval Nov, School of Public Health

The R programming language is today's unofficial computational language of the academic statistical world. It is a free, open-source language, and enjoys over 20,000 packages in a huge variety of research disciplines (finance, genetics, archaeology, and astronomy, to name a few). The workshop is intended for researchers who wish to make their first steps in R. The participants are assumed to have some background in programming (e.g., in Python, C/C++, Java, or Matlab) and to be familiar with basic statistics.

Bio: Dr. Yuval Nov is a biostatistician, and a faculty member at the School of Public Health. He has been teaching R courses and workshops for over 15 years.

Theoretical, Methodological and Practical Problems in Qualitative Research (Workshop 1 session, 3 hours)
Prof. Daniel Sperling, Department of Nursing

What is qualitative research? how is it related to reality? To knowledge? And to science? How do the answers to each of the previous questions dictate its approaches, design and data analysis? The workshop will include two sessions. In the first session, we will seek to address these questions by broadening our perspective on the qualitative investigation and our standing as qualitative researchers. We will discuss key concepts in philosophy, such as ontology, epistemology, truth, value and personhood to allow us a thorough introduction to qualitative research and to this series of talks. In the second session, we will justify the use of thematic analysis, which is the common method of data analysis in qualitative research, and discuss the rules as well as the choice that are imbedded in doing it. We will learn helpful techniques how to identify themes in text, discussing some examples and mistakes. We will finish this session by examining whether the common strategies for rigor and trustworthiness are "valid" in qualitative research and to what extent they successfully manage potential bias or strong subjectivity of the researcher. We will then inquire whether there could be other ways to do good qualitative research

Bio: Prof. Daniel Sperling is an Associate Professor of bioethics and Head of the Master's Program in Nursing in the Department of Nursing. He holds an LL.B and B.A. (Philosophy) from the Hebrew University of Jerusalem and LL.M (Collaborative program in bioethics) and S.J.D. from the University of Toronto. He teaches the core and advanced Qualitative Research Methods courses for Master's and Ph.D. students in Nursing.
Prof. Sperling is the author of three books: Suicide Tourism: Understanding the Legal, Philosophical and Socio-Political Dimensions (Oxford University Press: 2019); Posthumous Interests: Legal and Ethical Perspectives (Cambridge University Press: 2008), and Management of Post-Mortem Pregnancy: Legal and Philosophical Aspects (Ashgate: 2006) as well as other numerous articles and book chapters in the area of bioethics and end-of-life care.

Medical Imaging: A Main Tool for Diagnostics
Dr. Shira Rotman, Department of Medical Imaging Sciences

Medical imaging plays a pivotal role in many medical diagnostics tasks. In order to obtain an accurate diagnosis, both high-quality image acquisition and its analysis and interpretation are required. Acquisition technology has significantly improved over the past decades, with available scanners that enable higher resolution and shortened acquisition times. Furthermore, the image interpretation process has undergone major advancements during the last decade, thanks to deep learning methods and accessibility to high-performance computational resources. Deep learning and Artificial Intelligence have been shown to yield state-of-the-art performance in terms of accuracy and computational speed. The combination of these technological advancements thus has the potential to revolutionize medical imaging by playing a key role as a decision support tool in the radiological workflow. In this lecture, we will survey the main medical imaging modalities and discuss recent advancements in automatic and algorithmic tools that are utilized in computer aided medical diagnostics. We shall further discuss future challenges regarding the incorporation of these technologies into daily clinical use.

Tailoring Digital Humanities Solutions for Ph.D. Research
Dr. Moshe Lavee, Department of Jewish History

Digital Humanities is a vast field applying computational methods for the Humanities, from extensive initiatives for digital preservation and accessibility of cultural heritage to the tailoring and using of designated tools and pipelines for specific researchers. Many studies in the humanities and the social sciences may benefit from applying DH. DH methods and tools enable researchers and the research students to conceptualize and plan their research in a dialogue with digital processes: to identify elements in their research that may benefit from digital framing and tools; to analyze and model data and information flows involved in the research, to choose research tools or digital literacy needed for the research and to utilize them. The goal of the lecture/workshop on Digital Humanities is to present the field to the students, to familiarize the students with key concepts and types of tools that may be relevant to their research, and to open the gate for considering the methodological pros and cons for using DH in their research journey. It will also function as an opportunity to present the hands-on workshop that we plan to offer during the second semester and the DH services they can use in the eLijah-Lab. The lecture/workshop is mainly designed to the needs of students in the humanities, law and the social science but also students in exact sciences will benefit from it, and might help create an interdisciplinary discussion about the fruitful tension between quantitative and qualitative methods.

Bio: Dr. Moshe Lavee is a scholar of classical rabbinic literature, working on issues of gender and identity in the Talmud and Midrash in Late Antiquity and the reception of Midrash and Talmud in the shaping of the Jewish cultural horizon in later periods. In the Last two decades he expanded his work to the field of Digital Humanities, establishing a tuition program and the eLijah-Lab in the University of Haifa. The lab invests in a multifaceted pipeline for digitization of cultural heritage assets, utilizing image processing, data modeling, textual analysis, and geo-temporal mapping for Hebrew manuscripts and other Jewish cultural heritage artifacts. Since 2022 the lab also works as an incubator, supporting and collaborating with dozens of other researchers and heritage institutions in designing and applying DH solutions and initiatives, making the know-how of the first Israeli lab in the field available to others.

Mastering Data Analysis: Strategies for Ph.D. Success
Dr. Pavel Goldstein, School of Public Health

Strategic planning is the cornerstone of successful data analysis, and for Ph.D. students, it's a vital skill to acquire. However, the fear of statistics can be a formidable hurdle. My workshop is tailored to empower doctoral candidates with essential strategies for effective planning while addressing the common anxiety associated with statistical analysis. By the end of this workshop, participants will possess the skills and confidence necessary to strategically plan their data analysis processes, conquer the fear of statistics, and embark on successful research projects. Whether you're just beginning your Ph.D. journey or navigating the complexities of research, this workshop will equip you with the tools and mindset to approach data analysis with purpose and resilience.

Doubt and skepticism - The most important tools of a researcher
Prof. Gal Richter-Levin, School of Psychological Sciences and the Sagol Department of Neurobiology

Science is a methodology to acquire knowledge about the universe. This methodology requires careful observations, placing clear hypotheses, and then planning and conducting objective experiments to test those hypotheses. In theory, following the conclusion of an experiment, we should have another piece of knowledge. And over time, these pieces are expected to be put together and build an unbiased and unquestionable picture of how the universe works. In practice, science is far from being so precise or objective. Biased interpretations, fashion, conceptions, human ego, and methodological limitations lead to overreaching interpretations, and misconceptions, which sometimes hamper progress in acquiring knowledge. We will take examples from biology and brain research, to exemplify the problem, and discuss how, nevertheless science can progress. The main conclusion is that in order to be a good scientist, one needs to have a sufficient level of skepticism, even in own findings and results.
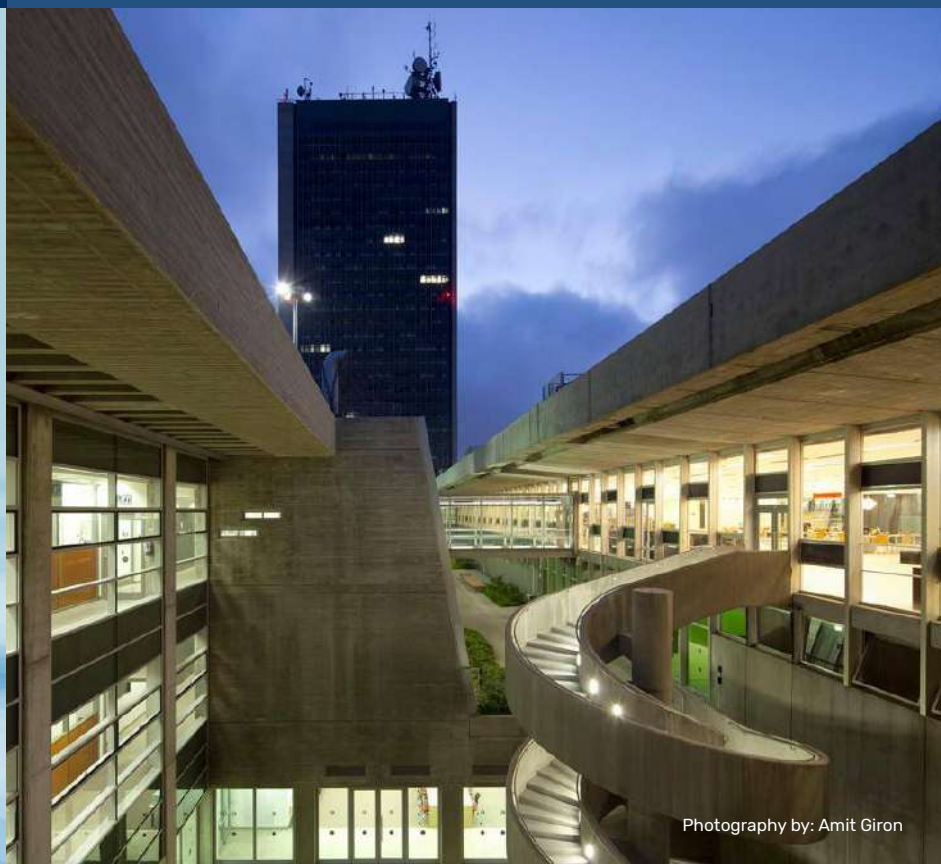
Bio: Prof. Gal Richter-Levin is a world-renowned expert of behavioral neuroscience. He served as Dean of the Faculty of Natural Sciences, University of Haifa (2009-2013), was the president of the Israeli Society for Biological Psychiatry (2006 – 2008) and then president of the Israel Society for Neuroscience (ISFN) (2015-2017). He was The Chinese Academy of Science (CAS) President's International distinguished scientists' fellow (2014, 2017, 2019). A member of the Scientific Board of the National Institute for Psychobiology, and of the British-Israeli Science Council. Currently, he is head of the School of Psychological Sciences at the University of Haifa. He was awarded many competitive research grants, and has published over 180 scientific papers (H-Index: 69). He supervised over 60 graduate students, many of whom have developed their independent careers. In 2013 he was awarded The Israeli Biological Psychiatry prize for a lifetime excellence in mentoring young researchers in basic science.

Cluster Four:
Outward-facing Research in a Collaborative Learning Space

Within the framework of this cluster, the Bloom Graduate School along with the Haifa Grad Team offer a variety of formal and informal opportunities for students to co-construct knowledge in the community, present their research, make it visible to both academic and non-academic audiences, and establish cross-disciplinary, social and academic interaction. **Activities within this cluster will be published by the Bloom Graduate School during the 2024-2025 spring semester.**

Photography by: Roi Hermoni

http://bit.ly/4ONLYW1

עיצוב גרפי: אוריה