



Bar-Ilan
University



Bar-Ilan Law

The International Program

Bar-Ilan University Faculty of Law



Welcome to *Bar-Ilan Law*



The Faculty of Law at Bar-Ilan University offers a unique, semester-long international program in English, between mid-October and late December. Visiting students enroll in a combination of core curriculum courses taught by Bar-Ilan faculty and a selection of courses taught by a stellar array of visiting faculty, and have the option of participating in clinical work as well. They get to interact with local students and faculty (and are invited to sit in on Hebrew-language courses, fluency permitting), encounter the diversity of Israeli culture and history, and study about the challenges of law in a multicultural and technologized society.

Bar-Ilan Law was founded in 1970 and is today one of Israel's leading law schools, with around 1,500 students in its LL.B., LL.M., M.A., and Ph.D. programs. Classes are supplemented by a wide variety of seminars, workshops, and a large selection of legal clinics, in which students engage in legal aid and public lawyering on diverse topics, from non-discrimination to environmental regulation. Reflecting its drive to academic excellence, commitment to public service, and pluralist and embracing community, Bar-Ilan Law graduates regularly achieve positions of prominence in both public and private sectors, including among the ranks of government ministers, Knesset members, the judicial bench, and Israel's largest law firms, in-house practices, and business leaderships.

Studying law in Israel is a unique opportunity to experience how a young society grapples with the combination of liberal-democratic values, human rights, national and religious attachments, and the complex coexistence of majority and minority groups in the midst of conflict.

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.



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Course Offerings for Visiting Students

Bar-Ilan Law has a unique combination of academic concentrations that is of special pertinence to international students seeking to broaden the horizons of their legal education: we have the largest and most diverse groups of scholars nationwide in the fields of public law; religion, culture and community; international and global law; and the nexus of law, regulation and technology. With the most diverse student body in Israel, *Bar-Ilan Law* is also a living laboratory in difference and disagreement, and in the legal possibilities of conciliation and cooperation among groups and individuals.

The academic program offered to visiting students is intended to expose them both to cutting-edge knowledge in those concentrations, as well as to the diverse groups and communities within Israeli society through direct engagement with Israeli students in classes and social events. You will study with some of the leading scholars in the fields taught, from both Israel and abroad.

The course offerings consist of three central blocks:

1) **Core Curriculum: Perspectives on Law in the 21st Century**

3 courses, taught by *Bar-Ilan Law* faculty, encompassing the school's main concentrations. International students will be enrolled in all three classes by default.

a. **Pluralism and Multiculturalism**

How do, and how should, democracies cope with the 'fact of pluralism'—the co-existence of multiple groups with significantly divergent systems of value, culture, or belief? The course will review central theoretical and normative formulations of the challenge and its possible resolutions, with applications to the case of Israel.

Instructors: *Prof. Michal Alberstein, Dr. Ori Aronson, Dr. Shai Stern, Dr. Manal Totry-Jubran*

b. **International Law, Global Law**

What is the meaning and significance of law in a globalized economy, in which people, capital, information, and governance regularly cross or transcend territorial borders? The course will review and evaluate central developments in international, transnational, and global legal orders, with applications to several test cases.

Instructors: *Prof. Avraham Bell, Dr. Ziv Bohrer, Prof. Tsilly Dagan, Prof. Oren Perez, Prof. Arie Reich, Dr. Sivan Shlomo-Agon*



Dr. Ori Aronson,
Director of International Programs

c. Law and Technology

How will technological developments reshape legal concepts, legal practices, and legal possibilities; and how should law regulate new technologies? The course will review both novel technological applications in commercial practices, litigation, and governance, as well as explore the ethical dilemmas that access to vast amounts of data present to contemporary legal orders.

Instructors: *Prof. Ady Ayal, Dr. Ayelet Sela, Dr. Miriam Marcowitz-Bitton*

2) Optional clinical component: hands-on experience in local legal work

visiting students will have the option of doing for-credit work (in English) in conjunction with one of the legal clinics operating at Bar-Ilan Law on diverse topics, including: social-economic rights, disability rights, women's rights in family disputes, environmental regulation, advancement of equality, and rights of Holocaust survivors and the elderly.

3) Elective courses: cutting-edge legal knowledge from around the globe

visiting faculty from leading law schools around the world teach at Bar-Ilan during the fall semester, on diverse topics in all fields of law. Here are examples of some of the courses taught in the past few years:

- Advances in Patent Law
Prof. Martin Adelman, George Washington University Law School
- Jewish Law and American Legal Theory
Prof. Suzanne Last Stone, Cardozo Law School
- Comparative Constitutional Law
Prof. Lori A. Ringhand, University of Georgia School of Law
- Contract Governance: Sales and Procurement
Prof. Lisa Bernstein, University of Chicago Law School
- Courts and Politics
Dr. Niels Petersen, University of Münster
- The legal status 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
- European Migration, Asylum and Citizenship Law
Prof. Giannaria Milani, University of Siena
- Law and Religion
Prof. Benny Tai Yui Ting, University of Hong Kong



From left to right: Sivan Cohen (Israel), Lars Burshille (Germany), Ye'ela Serlin (Israel)

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Israel – an ideal location for advancing your studies...

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, visit an art museum, attend a play, dance performance, or opera, party at a club or a bar, or enjoy local-international culinary fusion, Tel Aviv has it all, 24/7.

And yet, just an hour away, history mixes with modernity and the spiritual meets the civic in a unique medley that can only be Jerusalem. Sacred to three religions, Jerusalem's holy sites, ancient alleyways, and archaeological treasures sit side-by-side Israel's branches of government. A city as diverse and as contested as the Middle East itself, Jerusalem is also a place of culture, memory, and law. The Israel Museum and the Holocaust Memorial Museum (Yad Vashem), both world-class, neighbor the Supreme Court building, a truly stunning work of architecture, well worth a visit.

Farther away, the Dead Sea and Masada beckon. The stark Negev desert, with its moonscape vistas, contrast with the lush green of the Galilee hills, the home of Nazareth, Safed, and further north, the snow-capped Mount Hermon.

Israel is also a hi-tech hub – a real “start-up nation.” Excelling in internet applications, electronics, agriculture, ecology, and renewable energy, the country affords ample opportunities to apply legal theory to cutting-edge issues in business and innovation.

Along the way, you'll meet Israelis from every corner of the world and a panoply of religious and political persuasions. You'll have the chance to delve more intimately into the real world events and locations behind the news headlines. Indeed, a semester at Bar-Ilan is much more than its course offerings – the entire country of Israel is your classroom: fascinating, complex, and always rewarding.



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What you need to know about studying at Bar-Ilan Law

The International Program runs from mid-October until late December. It is made up of three core curriculum classes taught by Bar-Ilan Law faculty, a selection of elective courses taught by leading scholars, and optional clinical work.

The minimum course load is 10 credits, where each credit equals 13 lectures of 45 minutes each, or the equivalent. Some of the classes are taught throughout the semester, some in condensed form over the course of a week or two. In most classes, students will submit a take-home exam or a paper after the conclusion of lectures. All study materials are made available through online course websites, so there is no need to purchase any books.

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 with your home school. If your school has an exchange program 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 visiting student.

Bar-Ilan offers several dorm units for international students. Beyond that, accommodation can be found in the vicinity of Bar-Ilan University, located in the eastern outskirts of the Tel Aviv metropolitan area, adjacent to the town of Giv'at Shmuel. Many students opt to stay in downtown Tel Aviv, sharing widely available short-term rentals. The commute from there to Bar-Ilan is between 25-35 minutes, depending on location, time of day, and mode of transportation. 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 on the *Bar-Ilan Law International Program*, please contact us at:

International Exchange Program
Faculty of Law, Bar-Ilan University
Ramat-Gan 5290002, ISRAEL
Email: exchange.law@biu.ac.il
Telephone: +972-3-531-8415
Website:

<https://law.biu.ac.il/en/StudentExchange>

For more information on the logistics of visiting Bar-Ilan, including visas, housing, and insurance, please consult the website of the Bar-Ilan International School:

<https://biuinternational.com/>



The International Program runs from mid-October until the end of December. It is made up of three core curriculum classes taught by Bar-Ilan Law faculty, and a selection of elective courses taught by leading scholars – local and visiting faculty.



Bar-Ilan International Program Profile

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 -25year-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.”



“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



"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.

Vlad Etinger:
**"Exemplary teaching,
a welcoming environment."**



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