After reading through this orientation, you should:

Know Your Resources

Know Your Responsibilities

Know How to Make the Most of Your Experience
What does Culture Mean to You?

- How do you define culture?

- How do you define your own cultural identity?

This is one definition:

“Culture is the way we perceive the world; it is how we behave according to the values, attitudes, and beliefs that we have learned. It is the glasses through which we see the world.”

It’s important to spend some time thinking about where you learned your cultural values before you leave for Tel Aviv. The Cultural Iceberg image helps us visualize what we see on the surface, and everything beneath that we may not see so easily. What are your own values and beliefs? Where do they come from? How have these molded you?

Everyone has their own cultural iceberg. All of these aspects of our cultural iceberg impact how we interact with others, and also how others interact with us. By exploring our own cultural iceberg, we can understand our own positions, but also be open to knowing that others are coming from their own positions. This may be something you’ve experienced at NYU, at home, and you may experience this while studying in Tel Aviv.
A city that epitomizes a culture that is both ancient and modern in unique and complex ways

Ranks third in cities with the most news agencies (after Tokyo and Paris)

World-class museums and galleries

Vibrant intellectual scene

Site of cutting-edge theatre and dance

Largest number of bio-tech start-ups per capita

Second largest concentration of high tech first (after Silicon Valley)

A city of unique architecture: Ottoman, Levantine, Bauhaus, and Modern designs

LGBTQ-friendly city
Transportation

- **Walking**
  - one of the best ways to get around
  - a small city, and incredibly flat

- **Biking**
  - rent a bike, or buy a used one
  - bike-friendly streets and parks
  - have Tel-o-Fun, a city bikeshare program

- **Bus**
  - Rav-Kav Bus Card allows you to ride any bus within the city

- **Taxi**
  - They exist, but are more expensive
Mandatory Arrival: January 25th
  - Housing is only available for the dates of the program (January 25-May 23, 2016)
  - If you arrive earlier or depart later than the program dates, you must find your own accommodations during those periods

Airport Pick-up During the Day
  - Transportation is provided from Ben-Gurion Airport to Bnei Dan (your Tel Aviv home) on arrival day
  - Watch the blog and your email for details
  - An Arrival Cheat Sheet will be provided closer to departure

Mandatory Student Orientation: January 26-31

Classes Start: February 1st

Student Departure: May 23rd
Who is NYU Tel Aviv?

Benjamin Hary
Site Director

Edan Raviv
Assistant Director of Academics

Ben Kzaael
CRA

Student Life & Housing Coordinator
• 12-18 Credits - required
• One Language Course Required (cannot be taken pass/fail)
  • Hebrew
  • Arabic
  • Languages of Israel
• Students will also participate in the Global Orientations Program, creating a shared understanding of the historical, political, and social background of the place
• Faculty includes scholars, statesmen, artists, and public intellectuals
• Courses are designed to enable you to engage, learn, experience and personalize your time in Israel
• Library & Writing Resources on site
• Opportunities to take select classes at Tel Aviv University
Getting Involved & Meeting People

• Participate in Student life activities
  • Excursions & day trips
  • Homestay Shabbat and holiday dinners
  • Film screenings, music events, etc.
  • Local cooking workshops

• Participate in community service

• Intern as part of the course or for non-credit

• Pursue your hobbies – ask staff!

• TAU Classes
Internships & Volunteering

• NYU Tel Aviv gives credit for internships based on 10 weekly hours
• Many students also participate in non-credit internship arrange with help of Tel Aviv staff
• Internship requirements:
  • Attendance in the Internship Course (non-credit will have to attend some, too)
  • Completion of internship review for future interns
  • Mid-semester employer performance evaluation
• Biology Research Opportunity (only for Biology students)
• If you take prescriptions regularly, bring a full supply – DO NOT SHIP ANY MEDICATIONS

• Arrange ongoing counseling in advance through the Wellness Exchange (212-443-9999, wellness.exchange@nyu.edu)

• There is counseling available in Tel Aviv, if needed

• For other medical needs, contact the NYU Tel Aviv staff

• All students are enrolled in HTH, an international health coverage plan

• Crisis Response Available

• Safety: Don’t leave your street smarts at home!

• Questions about ongoing medical treatment or resources in Tel Aviv, contact me (miriam.halsey@nyu.edu)
• Students with accommodation needs--academic or otherwise--must contact the Moses Center prior to departure; resources and services may differ abroad www.nyu.edu/osl/csd

• Students with disabilities that affect courses or housing and require special arrangements should also inform staff

MOSES CENTER
The Henry and Lucy Moses Center for Students with Disabilities provides services for students with:
• Hearing and visual impairments
• Learning disabilities
• Mobility impairments
• Chronic illnesses
• Psychological impairments

Location
726 Broadway, 2nd Floor
Monday - Friday, 9:00 AM - 5:00 PM

Contact
www.nyu.edu/csd
(212) 998 - 4980

Register
• Students must register prior to classes in order to arrange appropriate accommodations
• Students must initiate this process and present documentation
Communication

• Skype/Facetime/Google Hangout
  • Great for talking with parents…they get to see your face

• Phone in Tel Aviv is Mandatory
  • Local basic cell phone provided with $25 credit
  • Unlock smartphone before leaving – get local SIM card with $25 credit provided
  • We will send out a survey to gather details in the near future
  • After $25 credit, students are responsible for keeping credit on their phone

• Look into international messaging Apps: WhatsApp, Magic Jack, etc.

• Create a realistic communication plan
  • Are you going to talk daily, weekly, or say see you next semester?
  • Home will be here when you get back!
• Most students use their credit and debit cards – exchange rates are favorable, but contact your bank about fees
  • Let your bank know you are traveling!
  • There are daily & weekly withdrawal limits

• Figure out how much money you will have
  • Working abroad may not be an option; how much can you save before going?

• Take advantage of NYU Tel Aviv trips & excursions!

• Consider ALL of your expenses
  • Airfare, food, toiletries, medicine, laundry, spring break trips, etc.

• Buy or rent a bike to get around…or walk!
• Choose times when you are SURE you don’t have academic obligations. **You cannot miss class for travel or guests.** (hint: you will not know your final schedule until arrival)

• Take advantage of NYU Tel Aviv trips  
  • Hikes through the Golan Heights  
  • Tours of the Old City of Jerusalem  
  • Trip to the Negev Desert

• Use the break to travel to farther destinations  
  • Turkey, Ruins of Petra in Jordan, Europe

• Do research  
  • Ask staff and friends

• Register with NYU Traveler

• Get to know your city and country
• All students must live in NYU Tel Aviv housing
• Newly-built housing, near Ha-Yarkon Park
• Walking distance to Tel Aviv Port
• Private bathroom, air-conditioning, and wireless
• Most rooms are doubles. Two single rooms.
• Two Community Resource Assistants
• Roommate selection is based on the information you provide in the online forms
• Kitchen equipped for both kosher and non-kosher food preparation (and for other dietary requirements) (**being considerate and working with peers and staff)
• If you have any food allergies, please tell the staff in Tel Aviv
• Communal space available with TV, computers, printer, and academic books
• Housing estimate is the same for all students & does not reflect final cost. Final housing bill will be sent after start of program.
My mom, dad, brother-in-law, sister, boyfriend, grandmother, step-grandfather, girlfriend, best friend, cousin, neighborhood is going to visit me ...

- Always check with roommate before inviting people to stay with you! (and remember that NYU Tel Aviv is conveniently connected to a hostel)
- **Keep in mind you cannot miss class because you have a visitor in town**
- A good time for guests is mid-way through the semester
- Overnight guests must register at front desk of Bnei Dan.
Remember Your NYU Resources at Home & Away

Questions about spiritual life abroad?
Email jal19@nyu.edu

Questions about LGBTQ life abroad?
Email mwh279@nyu.edu

Questions about diversity abroad? Email cmep@nyu.edu
NYU Office of Global Services
ogs.outbound@nyu.edu
+1-212-998-4242
How do you feel about these goals?

Know Your Resources

Know Your Responsibilities

Know How to Make the Most of Your Experience

Please reach out if you still have questions!
miriam.halsey@nyu.edu  |  +1-212-992-9962
Thank You!