

האוניברסיטה הפתוחה
THE OPEN UNIVERSITY OF ISRAEL
الجامعة المفتوحة



The Open University
of Israel

The Open University of Israel (OUI) is a leading public academic institution dedicated to providing accessible, outstanding higher education to a diverse student population. Established in 1974 and accredited by the Israeli Council of Higher Education (CHE), the OUI follows an open-admissions policy, allowing students from all backgrounds to pursue undergraduate and graduate degrees. With around 46,000 students, the OUI is the largest university in terms of enrollment. It offers a broad selection of programs across seven academic departments:

- **History, Philosophy and Jewish Studies**
- **Language, Literature, and the Arts**
- **Management and Economics**
- **Sociology, Political Science, and Communications**
- **Education and Psychology**
- **Mathematics and Computer Science**
- **Natural Sciences**

The OUI distinguishes itself through its flexible learning model, which enables students to study at their own pace while balancing work and personal commitments. The university employs advanced teaching methodologies, including digital learning platforms, interactive course materials, and online assessments. It maintains a robust network of regional study centers across Israel, where students can participate in in-person tutorials, exams, and academic support services. The OUI is committed to academic excellence, which is reflected in its distinguished faculty members, many of whom are leading researchers in science and applied technologies.



Innovation in Distance Learning

As a leader in digital and distance education, the OUI is dedicated to continuously developing new methodologies to enhance the learning experience. The university's pedagogical approach integrates cutting-edge technology with academic rigor, ensuring that students receive a high-quality education, no matter their distance from campus.

A key element of the OUI's commitment to innovation is the Shoham Center for Technology in Distance Education, established in 1995. The center plays a central role in integrating advanced digital tools into teaching and learning. It develops online learning environments, provides technological infrastructure for virtual classrooms, and produces digital learning materials such as interactive textbooks, recorded lectures, and AI-powered tutoring solutions. The Shoham



Center also supports faculty in implementing new pedagogical methods and continuously explores emerging technologies to enhance student engagement and learning outcomes.



Research at the OUI

Research is a core pillar of the OUI's academic mission, with over 110 senior faculty members driving innovation across multiple disciplines. The university is home to six distinctive research institutes and centers, fostering interdisciplinary collaboration and advancing knowledge in key fields:

1. **The Research Center for Innovation in Learning Technologies** – Focuses on developing and assessing new pedagogical tools, digital learning environments, and AI-driven education systems.
2. **The Institute for the Study of Civil-Military Relations** – Advances comprehensive and continuous research-based studies and contributes to the formulation of critical policies.
3. **The Astrophysics Research Center (ARCO)** – Engages in theoretical and observational research in astrophysics and space sciences.
4. **The Center for the Study of Relations between Jews, Christians, and Muslims** – Explores historical and contemporary interfaith relations with a focus on cultural and social dynamics.
5. **The Digital Humanities and Social Sciences Hub** – A center for cutting-edge research that houses a growing community of scientists exploring the frontiers of digital tools in the liberal arts.
6. **The Environment and Sustainability Research Center** – Conducts interdisciplinary research in the fields of environment and urban sustainability and promotes applied research that directly contributes to the adoption of quality environmental policies in Israel.

These six institutions and centers, along with 15 research labs in diverse disciplines, make significant contributions to academic and scientific advancements. Faculty members publish in top-tier journals and collaborate with scientists from national and international institutions. The OUI also supports research students and post-doctoral fellows, providing funding and mentorship opportunities for emerging scholars from Israel and abroad.



International Outreach

The OUI actively fosters international collaboration to strengthen its academic and research capabilities. Recognizing the importance of global partnerships, the OUI continuously seeks to expand its international footprint by building connections with universities, research institutions, and organizations worldwide.

OUI faculty members maintain active collaborations with colleagues from leading academic institutions, engaging in joint research projects, co-authoring publications, and participating in international conferences. The university regularly hosts visiting scholars, experts, and delegations from around the world, facilitating knowledge exchange and strengthening academic ties.

As part of its commitment to internationalization, the OUI has established the International Office to oversee and coordinate global initiatives. The office plays a key role in promoting student and faculty mobility, enhancing research collaborations, and integrating international perspectives into academic programs. One of its core initiatives is the expansion of English-taught courses, making the OUI's programs more accessible to international students and scholars. Additionally, efforts are underway to develop joint degree programs with foreign institutions.

The university is also developing strategic agreements with partner institutions to facilitate the exchange of students, faculty, and researchers, thereby broadening educational opportunities and fostering cross-cultural understanding.

By leveraging its expertise in distance learning, the OUI is uniquely positioned to offer innovative international programs, including virtual exchange courses and collaborative online learning experiences. These initiatives aim to enhance the global visibility of the OUI and equip students with the skills necessary to thrive in an increasingly interconnected world.

Through sustained efforts to expand its global reach, the OUI is committed to integrating international, intercultural, and global dimensions into its academic and research activities, ensuring its place as a key player in the global academic community.

Contact us



The International Office of the
Open University of Israel

Prof. Ofer Reany – Head
offerre@openu.ac.il

Ms. Alessia Levi – Coordinator
alessial@openu.ac.il
(+972) 09-7782078

