



TOURO COLLEGE LOS ANGELES **ISRAEL OPTION**

The Touro College Los Angeles Israel Option

Touro College Los Angeles (TCLA) recognizes the centrality of Israel in the historical and contemporary Jewish experience. Culturally, in many Jewish communities, the post-high school year in Israel is considered an important right of passage. Thousands of men and women from Jewish communities move to Israel for one year upon high school graduation, to attend intensive programs in Hebrew and Jewish Religion, learning more about their heritage and deepening their connection to each other as Jews and world citizens.

TCLA believes that study in Israel provides a milieu conducive to intensive Jewish learning, familiarizes students with the land and culture of Israel, and helps students develop Hebrew language skills. In addition, study abroad is the kind of intellectually and emotionally broadening experience which cannot be simulated in even the best of classrooms. For all these reasons, TCLA maintains a formal Study Abroad in Israel Option, the Touro College Los Angeles Israel Option (TCLAIO), in cooperation with leading Israeli Yeshivot and Seminaries. Students who successfully complete a year of full-time study in Israel can receive appropriate college credits. To earn credits, students must satisfy all course and examination requirements of TCLA. Individual courses are recorded on the TCLA permanent record. The grading system follows the American system (with letter grades A to F) for all courses with a written final examination. TCLA will assign grades of P (Passing) and F (Failing) for classes where only oral examinations are administered, as is the custom in many yeshivas. Courses credited are generally in the field of Judaic Studies. Grades earned in Israel are counted as part of the student's grade point average (GPA) at TCLA.

In summary, TCLAIO:

1. Enhances students' collegiate experience by enabling them to incorporate accredited study at Israeli institutions into their academic career at TCLA
2. Provides students with an opportunity to immerse themselves in the culture, history and land of Israel, as well as increasing their knowledge and fluency in the oral and written expression of Hebrew

Touro College Los Angeles

Touro College Los Angeles (TCLA) is a Jewish-sponsored independent institution of higher education. TCLA is accredited by the Western Association of Schools and Colleges.

TCLA enrolled its first class in Fall 2005. In keeping with the Touro College New York flagship model, it affords students the opportunity to combine Judaic studies with liberal arts and pre-professional courses in a supportive environment. Baccalaureate degree programs are offered in business management, psychology, and Judaic studies.

Students must apply separately to TCLA and the desired Israeli institution. Acceptance to the Israeli institution is NOT a guarantee of admission to TCLA.

APPLICANTS MUST MEET STANDARDS FOR TCLA FULL ADMISSION TO BACCALAUREATE DEGREE PROGRAMS.

Students seeking admission to the TCLA Israel Option follow these procedures:

1. Application Form -- A TCLA application is completed, together with a non-refundable fee of \$40 to the Office of Admissions
2. Academic Records -- Students must forward an official high school transcript to the Office of Admissions. Applications are not evaluated without high school transcripts.
3. Test Scores -- Students who have taken the Scholastic Assessment Test (SAT), or the American College Test (ACT), must send official test scores to TCLA.
4. Interviews & Placement Tests
 - a. Before making a decision, the admissions Committee may request that an applicant have an interview with an admissions officer. The interview report may be used to evaluate candidacy for admission.
 - b. All students must take English and Math Placement tests.
5. Financial Aid -- If a student wishes to receive financial aid while on the TCLAIO, we strongly recommend applying for all aid and grants prior to applying to the TCLAIO program.
6. TCLAIO Student Contract & Forms
 - a. Admitted students are sent a contract to participate.
 - b. This contract constitutes a pre-registration form, and is filled out prior to the student's departure for Israel.
 - c. Students must provide TCLA with their letter of acceptance to the Israeli institution that they will be attending
 - d. Students must provide TCLA with a notarized Limited Power of Attorney letter
 - e. Students must provide TCLA with all necessary checks, and financial clearance is obtained from the Office of the Bursar at TCLA
 - f. Students must pay the required \$2000 administrative fee for the Israel Option

Students who successfully complete a year of full-time study in Israel can receive appropriate college credits. To earn credits, students must satisfy all course and examination requirements of TCLA. Individual courses are recorded on the TCLA transcript. Grading follows the American system (with letter grades A to F) for all courses with a written final examination. TCLA will assign grades of P (Passing) and F (Failing) for classes where only oral examinations are administered, as is the custom in many yeshivas. Courses credited are generally in the field of Judaic Studies. Grades earned in Israel are counted as part of the student's grade point average (GPA) at TCLA. Full-time status requires the registration for the equivalent of at least 12 American credits each semester. **Please note:** "Credits" reported by Israeli institutions are often classroom periods, not American semester hours, and must be converted to American credits (often one half to two thirds of hours reported).

Credits, Grades, and Transcripts

Grades for the Fall semester are generally available in late Spring, and grades for Spring are usually available in the Summer. For year-long courses, no mid-year grades are available. TCLA reserves the right to determine the acceptability of credits for any particular course taken in Israel.

Transcripts can be issued only by the Office of the Registrar of Touro College.

Although many colleges grant transfer credit from TCLA, the College cannot guarantee that the credits earned while participating on the TCLAIO will be transferrable to another school.

Counseling and advisement services for students in Israel are coordinated by Dr. Chana Sosevsky, the Touro College Resident Director. The Israel Option Office is located at the Touro Israel Center, Lev HaGiva, 11 Beit Hadfus Street, Givat Shaul, Jerusalem 95483. The telephone number is 02-651-0900 ext. 3. The Touro Israel Option Office is open Sunday through Thursday and students are encouraged to visit.

Support Services in Israel

An on-site orientation program is conducted by the Resident Director and the Dean of Students at the beginning of each academic year. Dr. Sosevsky and her staff are available to assist students with any problems or questions they may have, provide career guidance information, and help students plan their college program for the year following their stay in Israel.

Students are required to complete course registration in the Fall and Spring on

the dates designated by the Touro College Israel Office. These dates are posted in advance at participating school in Israel. Failure to register by the end of November (Fall) and the end of February (Spring) will jeopardize the awarding of credits. No financial aid will be disbursed until registration is confirmed each semester.

All Touro registrants are required to participate in the meetings and programs scheduled by TCLA. These include presentations by TCLA faculty and Dean Esther Lowy, geared to assist students in their academic planning. Students must also take placement exams.

Students in Israel

All tuition, financial aid funding, and any other monies are payable to TCLA. TCLA then pays the Israeli institution. If a student wishes to receive financial aid while on the TCLAIO, he/she should apply for all aid and grants prior to being accepted into the TCLAIO program.

Finances

All TCLAIO students must provide TCLA with a \$2000 administrative fee for the year, prior to departure for Israel. This fee is in addition to any tuition and fees charged by the host institution, to cover TCLA’s administrative and academic costs associated with the program. Payment arrangements for the administrative fee, as well as for any tuition balance, must be made in advance.

Financial Aid

Financial aid grants and loans are available for qualifying students participating in the Israel Option. Students may complete a FAFSA (at www.fafsa.ed.gov) to apply for a Federal Pell Grant or Federal Stafford Loan, and California state residents may apply for a Cal Grant (which requires an additional form). The Touro code for the FAFSA is 010142.

In accordance with established regulations, TCLA may request documentation such as Federal and State tax returns before approving a financial aid package. Failure to submit all requested documentation will result in the loss of financial aid. If you have any questions, please contact Rivka Weinberg at the Office of Financial Aid, (323) 822-9700, ext. 102.

For a variety of reasons, students may sometimes wish to transfer from one institution to another. In such cases, TCLA will not be responsible for any financial arrangement between the Israeli schools. Students may also jeopardize the awarding of college credits by transferring. Students should notify the Touro College Resident Director immediately if they plan to switch schools.

Withdrawal and Refund Policies

Students who have pre-registered by signing the Contract to Participate in the Israel Option may decide to withdraw from the program by informing the Touro Israel Office and completing a Withdrawal Form.

Request for withdrawal must be received by Nov. 30 (Fall) or March 15 (spring).

Semester to be withdrawn	Date Form Received by TCLA Israeli representative	Amount to be refunded
Fall 2009 semester	Prior to the start of class:	100% of fall tuition + all spring tuition
	During the 1 st week of class	90% of fall tuition + all spring tuition
	During the 2 nd week of class	75% of fall tuition + all spring tuition
	During the 3 rd week of class	50% of fall tuition + all spring tuition
	During the 4 th week of class	25% of fall tuition + all spring tuition
	After the 4 th week of class	Spring tuition only

Participating Schools

The following schools currently participate in the TCLA Israel Option. For up-to-date information regarding specific schools for the next academic year, please contact Samira Miller at the Office of Admissions, (323) 822-9700, ext. 106.

<u>MEN'S SCHOOLS</u>	<u>WOMEN'S SCHOOLS</u>
Or David	Afikei Torah Baer Miriam Chochmas Lev Darchei Bina

TCLA enables students to complete their baccalaureate degree studies in a supportive Jewish environment.

TCLA staff and faculty in Israel assist students in developing an appropriate degree plan. During the Spring, pre-registration is held for the following summer and Fall Semester, thus helping students map out their academic program.

After Israel

Students who return to the United States at any point during the year are encouraged to contact Dean Esther Lowy for guidance in planning their prospective careers (323-822-9700, ext. 100).

A variety of financial aid options are available for students upon their return to the TCLA campus. These include federal, state, and Touro grants and scholarships, the Federal Work Study Program and subsidized and unsubsidized loans. For detailed information, please consult with Rivka Weinberg at the TCLA Financial Aid Office at (323) 822-9700 ext. 102.

ACCREDITATION

Touro College Los Angeles is accredited by the Accrediting Commission for Senior Colleges and Universities of the Western Association of Schools and Colleges (WASC), 985 Atlantic Avenue, Alameda CA 94501 (Tel: 510-748-9001). Touro College Los Angeles opened in Fall 2005. Touro College was chartered by the Board of Regents of the state of New York in June of 1970, and is accredited by the Middle States Commission on Higher Education, 3624 Market Street, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19104 (Tel: 267-284-5000).

POLICY OF NON-DISCRIMINATION

Touro College Los Angeles is an equal opportunity institution. It admits students of any race, color, national origin, and age to all rights, privileges, programs, and activities generally accorded its students. In conformance with Title IX, 1972 Education Amendments, it does not discriminate on the basis of sex, race, color, handicap, national or ethnic origin or age in the administration of its educational policies, scholarships and loan programs, and other institutionally administered programs.

For additional information, applications of admission, or to schedule an interview, please contact:

TOURO COLLEGE LOS ANGELES

1317 N. Crescent Heights Blvd.

323-822-9700

Fax: 323-654-2086

Email: tourola.admissions@touro.edu

