



מכון הערבה

Arava Institute

معهد وادي عربة

Nature knows no borders.

About the Arava Institute

The Arava Institute for Environmental Studies is the premier environmental education and research program in the Middle East, preparing future Arab and Jewish leaders to cooperatively solve the region's environmental challenges. Affiliated with Ben-Gurion University, AIES houses academic programs, research, and cross border initiatives on a range of environmental concerns and challenges.

Located in the south of Israel in the Arava desert, the Arava Institute offers you more than just an academic experience. It allows you to immerse yourself in life on a kibbutz, a traditional Israeli communal living environment.

About Our Students

Arriving from across the globe, our students bring diverse customs, beliefs, and experiences to the Arava Institute. Approximately one third of our student body is Jewish Israeli; one third is Arab Israeli, Palestinian, and Jordanian; and one third is from North America or around the world.

“I realize now that I gained confidence in my ability to be the change that I want to see in the world.” - Amelie, Spring 2012



Curriculum

Given today's global environmental challenges, students and practitioners within the environmental field need to understand the complex context within which environmental decision-making takes place. The Arava Institute offers an interdisciplinary program with a transboundary approach to the environmental challenges of the region and the world. The Institute provides a range of courses in environmental sciences, policy and ethics. You'll also have the opportunity to explore independent research in one of our four research centers focusing on:

- Sustainable Agriculture
- Renewable Energy and Energy Conservation
- Transboundary Water Management
- Long Term Socio-Ecological Research

Field studies and outdoor expeditions across the region complement the curriculum.

www.arava.org

Peace-building and Environmental Leadership Seminar (PELS)

PELS builds on the conviction that the social and political relationships within and between groups in the region have a significant influence on environmental practices. Through a series of weekly discussions, workshops, guest lectures, and field trips, you will engage in dialogue with one another, cultivating relationships necessary to foster justice, peace, and environmental sustainability in the broader society.



Academic Programs

Arava Program – This university level interdisciplinary program in environmental studies offers one or two semesters of study for undergraduate and graduate students pursuing degrees in environmental fields or social entrepreneurship.



Master's Program – An innovative partnership between Arava Institute and the Jacob Blaustein Institute for Desert Research at Ben-Gurion University offers masters degree students a remarkable opportunity to study at two leading environmental institutions. Upon completion of the program you will receive a Masters degree in Desert Studies awarded by Ben-Gurion University of the Negev.

Arava Internship Program –

Undergraduate and graduate interns work directly with Arava faculty, researchers, and administration to gain practical experience in transboundary environmental research and policy, and international nonprofit management.

Environmental Sustainability in the Middle East: Challenges in the Southern Arava

– This four-week summer course focuses on the distinctive aspects of the desert environment and its natural resources. This course is a program of the Dickinson College Sustainability Summer Program.

Academic Schedule



The Arava Institute runs two full semesters: Fall (September- January) and Spring (February – June), as well as a month-long summer semester. Internships are available from two months to a full year.



Here, the idea that nature knows no political borders is more than a belief. It is a fact, a curriculum, and a way of life.

To apply, please visit www.arava.org

In Israel

The Arava Institute for Environmental Studies

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