



Northeastern University Dialogue of Civilizations

Center for Creative Ecology, Kibbutz Lotan & Arava Institute, Kibbutz Ketura

While in the USA before the course in Israel, these following sessions / lectures will take place:

Date / time	Session	Lecturer
Sun, April 10, 5pm/00:00	Presentation of the projects	
Sun, April 24, 1:30pm/20:30	History of Kibbutz life - video from Mark + presentation - 45 minutes facilitated by Becky	Moshe Falkoff + Mark Naveh
Sun, May 1, 18:00	Virtual meet-n-greet with Arava Institute alumni - 45 minute panel facilitated by Becky	
asynchronatic + Q&A Mon, May 9 2:15pm/21:15	World Energy and world related green gas emissions (intro session)	Tali Zohar
Mon, May 9, 1pm/20:00	Desert Ecology: Intro	Becky Rosengaus
Wed, May 11, 10am/17:00	Desert Ecology: Principles, Structure and Function	Elli Groner
Thurs, May 12, 8am/15:00	Agricultural Biomass and Bioenergy	Gabi Banet
Thurs, May 12, 1pm/20:00	Animal adaptations to a harsh desert environment	Becky Rosengaus
Mon, May 16, 8am/15:00	Reflections on the whole life cycle approach of the Arava Institute and the elements of sustainable desert ecology	Shmuel Brenner
Mon, May 16, 1pm/20:00	Plant adaptations to a harsh desert environment	Becky Rosengaus
Tues, May 17, 8am/15:00	Solar Thermal Energy	Tali Zohar
Wed, May 18, 8am/15:00	Plant adaptations to a harsh desert environment - continued	Becky Rosengaus
Thurs, May 19, 11:30am/18:30	Decomposition and Nutrient Cycling in Deserts	Mark Naveh

In Israel:

Date / time	Session	Lecturer
22-May		
9:55 AM	Arrival in Israel	
	Bus from airport to hotel	
	Free day in Tel Aviv	
Overnight	Abraham Hostel Tel Aviv	
23-May		
	Breakfast in hostel	
8:00 AM	Depart Tel Aviv	
12:00 PM	Stop at Har Ayit for an overview of the Arava on the way south	Mark Naveh
12:30 PM	Arrival in Ketura, drop bags off at guest house	
1:00 PM	Lunch	
2:00 PM	Welcome and logistics	
3:30 PM	Check into guest house	
4:00 PM	Intro to the Arava Institute	Cathie Granit
	Free time	
5:30 PM	Tour of Kibbutz Ketura	
6:45 PM	Dinner	
8:00 PM	Daily reflection	
24-May		
8:00 AM	Breakfast in the dining hall	
9:00 AM	Does nature know borders?	Rina Kedem
10:00 AM	Timna project - overview	Bill Slott
12:00 PM	Lunch	
1:00 PM	Solar energy and Photovoltaics	Tali Zohar
3:30 PM	Free time - pool open	
5:45 PM	Talking to "the other" - what we do at the Arava Institute	Michael Alexander
7:00 PM	Dinner	
8:00 PM	Musical performance at the pub	Ranot regional choir

25-May		
8:00 AM	Housekeeping in your rooms till 10:00	
6:30 AM	Depart to Eilat minibus	
	Bird sanctuary:	Noam Weiss
7:00 AM	Ringling birds	
8:30 AM	Packed breakfast	
9:15 AM	Explanation about migration in the region and migration conservation	
11:00 AM	Bird adaptations to desert life	
12:00 PM	Lunch at the bird sanctuary	
1:00 PM	Eilat Botanical Gardens tour	Yoram (gardens guide)
2:30 PM	Free time in Eilat	
5:00 PM	Return to Ketura	
6:00 PM	Dinner in the dining hall	
7:30 PM	Daily reflection	
26-May		
7:30 AM	Pilates workout (optional)	Meital Hazan
8:15 AM	Breakfast	
9:00 AM	Ecosystem services	Elli Groner
10:00 AM	Break	
11:00 AM	Conservation and ecosystem integrity	Elli Groner
12:00 PM	DPSIR	Elli Groner
1:00 PM	Lunch in the dining hall	
2:00 PM	Explanation about the Tracking project	Nitzan Segev
4:00 PM	Musical festival at the pool (Kibbutz event)	
6:30 PM	Dinner	
7:30 PM	Meet-n-greet with students - juggling workshop	Nadav Solowey
9:00 PM	Jam session at the pub (Kibbutz event)	
27-May		
7:30 AM	Optional hike up Electricity Mountain - bring closed shoes, hat, water, sunscreen. Meet at the back gate of Ketura	
8:30 AM	Breakfast	
9:30 AM	Argan project explanation - taking group to the argan workshop	Nadav Solowey
10:30 AM	Renewable Energy project explanation	Jozsef Kadar
12:30 PM	Lunch	
1:30 PM	Intro to Judaism + Shabbat on Ketura	R. Michael Cohen + Moshe Falkoff
	Free time - pool open	
6:30 PM	Optional: Sabbath services	
7:30 PM	Dinner	
8:45 PM	A-capella songs outside the dining hall (Kibbutz event)	
28-May		
	FREE DAY	
19:30	Musical "Havdala" - celebrating the end of Shabbat and the beginning of a new week (very short, Kibbutz event)	
8:00 PM	Help kibbutz setting up for event at the pool: making popcorn, setting up tables + help during and after event	Erika Eden
9:15 PM	Jam session at the pool (Kibbutz event)	
29-May		
6:30 AM	Ecological Corridors project (checking out the differences between field and dune, not actually setting cameras up)	Nitzan Segev
8:00 AM	Return to Ketura - breakfast	
8:45 AM	Shitta River project (setting up cameras)	Nitzan Segev
10:30 AM	Tour of the fields	Noah Marthinsen
11:30 AM	Return to Ketura	
12:00 PM	COVID study in water in Bedouin communities	Fareed Mahameed
1:00 PM	Lunch	
	Free time - pool open from 2pm / project work	
4:30 PM	Water as the basis for life	Clive Lipchin
6:00 PM	Dinner	
7:00 PM	Daily reflection	
30-May		
7:30 AM	Breakfast in the dining hall	
8:00 AM	Housekeeping in your rooms till 10:00	
8:30 AM	Tour of the off-grid village	Will Weisinger
10:30 AM	Kibbutz Values and Practice – interactive session	KK
12:00 PM	Lunch in the dining hall	
1:00 PM	Free time / project work / pool open from 2pm	
3:30 PM	Environmental ethics	Ofer Margalit
5:00 PM	Environmental education	Ofer Margalit
6:30 PM	Bring dirty laundry to the kibbutz washing machines	
6:30 PM	Dinner in the dining hall	
7:00 PM	Family sing-along outside the dining hall (Kibbutz event)	
8:00 PM	Scorpion Safari - bring closed shoes and long pants	Nadav Solowey

31-May		
7:00 AM	Breakfast + pick up clean laundry	
7:45 AM	Depart Ketura to Yotvata	
	Yotvata R&D:	
8:00 AM	Tour of R&D: Using greywater systems and water monitoring	Motti Harari
8:30 AM	Dual-use of land for agrivoltaics	William Weisinger
9:00 AM	Continue tour of R&D	Motti Harari
10:00 AM	Explanation about Acacia trees and their adaptation	Rotem Meiri
10:30 AM	Explanation and tour of DSASC / Renewable Energy center, lecture about Evrona oil spill	Nitzan Segev
11:45 AM	Lunch at Yotvata + ice cream	
12:45 PM	Continue to Eilat	
1:30 PM	Coral Beach snorkeling	
5:30 PM	Return to Ketura	
6:00 PM	Dinner in dining room	
7:30 PM	Daily reflection	
8:30 PM	Concert at the pub (Kibbutz event)	Till Haze
1-Jun		
7:30 AM	Breakfast	
8:00 AM	Housekeeping in your rooms till 10:00	
8:30 AM	Global Energy Transition	Jozsef Kadar
	Free time	
1:00 PM	Lunch	
2:00 PM	Ecosystem services in agriculture	Jessica Schackermann
4:00 PM	Egyptian Bedouin situation	Hilary Gilbert
6:00 PM	Dinner in dining room	
7:30 PM	Daily reflection	
2-Jun		
7:00 AM	Work in the CSA garden	Noah Marthinsen
8:30 AM	Breakfast	
9:30 AM	Agriculture in the Desert: Physiological and Economic Challenges	Noah Marthinsen
11:00 AM	Water aerobics at the pool (optional)	Meital Hazan
12:00 PM	Lunch	
1:00 PM	Wind energy	Tali Zohar
4:00 PM	Help decorate the pool for Shavuot	
5:30 PM	Tour of the Ketura micro-brewery - Beertzinut	Neil
6:30 AM	Dinner in dining room	
7:30 PM	Daily reflection	
9:00 PM	Pub open	
3-Jun		
7:30 AM	Pilates workout (optional)	Meital Hazan
8:30 AM	Breakfast	
After breakfast	Help decorate football field for Shavuot	
10:00 AM	Free time - pool open	
11:30 AM	Logistics before the weekend	
12:00 PM	Lunch	
1:00 PM	Shavuot lesson: Connecting Community, Earth and Spirit: The ancient agricultural cycle and the festivals, the meaning of Shavuot	R. Michael Cohen
2:00 PM	Free time - pool open	
4:00 PM	6 people for crafts stations at the pool	
4:00 PM	Shavuot activities at the pool	
5:00 PM	Shavuot ceremony at the soccer field	
6:30 PM	Optional: Sabbath services	
7:30 PM	Dinner	
4-Jun		
	FREE DAY	
4:00 PM	6 people for crafts stations at the pool	
4:00 PM	Shavuot activities at the pool	
7:00 PM	Special Shavuot dinner	
	Night-time "Tikkun" - Shavuot studies, English sessions available	
5-Jun: Shavuot		
8:00 AM	Breakfast	
9:30 AM	Optional: Shavuot services	
12:00 PM	Special Shavuot meal	
Afternoon	Shavuot activities on Ketura	
	Dinner	

6-Jun		
7:00 AM	Breakfast	
Morning	Bring dirty laundry to the kibbutz washing machines	
8:00 AM	Housekeeping in your rooms till 10:00	
8:45 AM	Depart south	
9:00 AM	Hai Bar - Oryx feeding and tour	Arik Sucar
10:00 AM	Depart to Eilat	
11:00 AM	Underwater Observatory – learn about underwater biospheres + free time in the observatory	Omer Polak
	Lunch in Eilat	
2:30 PM	Return to Ketura	
3:30 PM	Energy storage, Fuel cells, hydrogen and Geothermal	Tareq Abu Hamed
6:30 PM	Dinner	
7:30 PM	Scorpion search - 2 people	Liri Koplevitch (Nitzan's TA) will pick up
7-Jun		
7:30 AM	Kickboxing workout (optional)	Meital Hazan
8:15 AM	Breakfast + pick up clean laundry	
9:00 AM	The future of the electricity market	Tali Zohar
12:30 PM	Lunch	
2:30 PM	Climate change, the Middle East and Post-Oil	Dan Rabinowitz
	Free time + pack	
6:30 PM	Dinner	
7:30 PM	Daily reflection	
7:30 PM	Scorpion search - 2 (other) people	Liri Koplevitch (Nitzan's TA) will pick up
8-Jun		
6:30 AM	Breakfast + check out of Ketura	
7:15 AM	Depart to field trip	
8:15 AM	Walk to Amonite wall and Makhtesh (crater)	Elli Groner
9:45 AM	Gvanim walk about	
10:30 AM	Leave for Mitzpe Ramon	
10:45 AM	Crater view	
11:00 AM	Visitors center	
12:00 PM	Lunch	
1:00 PM	Continue to Ashalim	
2:00 PM	Ashalim solar tower tour	Local guide
3:30 PM	Continue to Wadi Aricha	
4:00 PM	Wadi Aricha: Bedouin entrepreneurship	Salman Sadan & Miri Lavi Neeman
5:00 PM	Conservation in Palestine and in Bedouin communities	Miri Lavi Neeman
6:30 PM	Bedouin dinner	
Overnight	Bedouin tent	
9-Jun		
7:00 AM	Breakfast at the Bedouin tent	
8:00 AM	Depart Wadi Aricha	
10:00 AM	Arrive to Lotan	
	Check-in to the EcoCampus, meet the residents, orientation	
	Opening circle and intro to program on Lotan	
1:00 PM	Lunch- dining room	
	Free time - pool open	
4:30 PM	Introduction to natural building: Advantages and principles of building with earth. Basic earth building mix and making adobe bricks	Mark Naveh
6:30 PM	Dinner- Food Truck	
7:30 PM	Daily reflection	
	Campfire at star-gazing platform	
10-Jun		
6:15 AM	Construction using recycled and natural materials part one: Start of earth building project using tires & trash, 1st coat of earth plaster	Mike Kaplin
8:30 AM	Breakfast - Food Truck	
9:30 AM	Introduction to Permaculture: The three ethics	Mark Naveh
12:30 PM	Lunch- dining room	
1:30 PM	Roots of the crisis and the holistic worldview	Mark Naveh
	Free time (pool open)	
6:30 PM	Community welcoming Shabbat service (optional)	
7:30 PM	Dinner - dining room	
11-Jun		
	Free day. Pool open 10am-6pm	
8:30 AM	Breakfast - Food Truck	
12:30 PM	Lunch - Food Truck	
5:00 PM	Dinner prep team meet	
6:30 PM	Dinner - Campus (toranim)	

12-Jun		
6:15 AM	Principles of agro-ecology and sustainable agriculture. Introduction to composting - making soil the way the forest does	Eran Meiri
8:30 AM	Breakfast - Food Truck	
9:30 AM	Campus maintenance	
10:00 PM	Project work	
1:00 PM	Lunch- dining room	
3:00 PM	Sustainable cooking systems: Solar ovens, rocket stoves, thermal mass ovens	Mike Kaplin
5:00 PM	Daily reflection/ Dinner prep team	
6:30 PM	Dinner - Campus (toranim)	
7:30 PM	Reptile search - 1 person	Liri Koplevitch (Nitzan's TA) will pick up
13-Jun		
6:15 AM	Food production in the urban environment: Container gardens	Eran Meiri
8:30 AM	Breakfast - Food Truck	
9:30 AM	Campus maintenance	
10:00 PM	Environmental leadership	Tess Haber
1:00 PM	Lunch- dining room	
	Free time (pool open)	
3:30 PM	The Ecology of Community	Mark Naveh
5:30 PM	Daily reflection/ Dinner prep team	
6:30 PM	Dinner - Campus (toranim)	
7:30 PM	Reptile search - 2 (other) people	Liri Koplevitch (Nitzan's TA) will pick up
8:00 PM	Group activity	Debby
14-Jun		
6:15 AM	Garden bed preparation: The no-till method	Eran Meiri
8:30 AM	Breakfast - Food Truck	
9:30 AM	The Problem of Growth	Mark Naveh
12:30 PM	Campus maintenance	
1:00 PM	Lunch- dining room	
	Project work/ pool time	
5:30 PM	Daily reflection/ Dinner prep team	
6:30 PM	Dinner - Campus (toranim)	
7:30 PM	Reptile search - 2 (other) people	Liri Koplevitch (Nitzan's TA) will pick up
	Community case study: the development and change on Lotan	Mark Naveh
15-Jun		
6:15 AM	Nature trail field walk focusing on bird migration, desert ecology and human impacts	Mark Naveh
8:30 AM	Breakfast - Food Truck	
9:30 AM	Campus maintenance	
10:00 AM	Making a sheet mulch garden raised bed	Eran Meiri
12:00 PM	Timna prep	
1:00 PM	Lunch- dining room	
	Free time (pool open)	
3:30 PM	Anaerobic decomposition: Biogas systems from organic waste	Mike Kaplin
5:30 PM	Daily reflection/ Dinner prep team	
6:30 PM	Dinner - Campus (toranim)	
7:30 PM	Kundalini yoga	Debby
16-Jun		
6:15 AM	4 people to go work with Jessica Schaeckermann in the fields	Jessica Schackermann
6:15 AM	Continuation of earth building project	Mike Kaplin
8:30 AM	Breakfast - Food Truck	
9:30 AM	Project work	
12:30 PM	Campus maintenance	
1:00 PM	Lunch- dining room	
	Free time (pool open)	
4:00 PM	Principles and techniques of earth building using examples from around the world	Mike Kaplin
6:00 PM	Daily reflection	
6:30 PM	Dinner- Food Truck	
8:00 PM	Israeli folk dancing	Eli Sayag
17-Jun		
6:30 AM	Timna Park: Research projects on different topics	Bill Slott
8:30 AM	Packed breakfast at Timna	
11:00 AM	Testing soil for building purposes	Mike Kaplin
12:30 PM	Lunch- dining room	
	Free time (pool open)	
6:30 PM	Community welcoming Shabbat service (optional)	
7:30 PM	Dinner - dining room	

18-Jun		
	Free day. Pool open 10am-6pm	
8:30 AM	Breakfast - Food Truck	
12:30 PM	Lunch - Food Truck	
5:00 PM	Dinner prep team meet	
6:30 PM	Dinner - Campus (toranim)	
19-Jun		
6:30 AM	Final coat and sculptural mud	Eran Meiri
8:30 AM	Breakfast - Food Truck	
9:30 AM	Campus maintenance	
10:00 PM	Localization, the Economics of Happiness, Community Empowerment	Mark Naveh
13:00	Lunch- dining room	
3:30 PM	Ecological design: Principles of energy efficient and earthquake resistant building and construction	Mike Kaplin
5:30 PM	Daily reflection/ Dinner prep team	
6:30 PM	Dinner - Campus (toranim)	
8:00 PM	Tarot reading	Sinead Fine
20-Jun		
6:30 AM	Capturing the oryx - sleeping darts, tagging, explanation, transport to freedom	Till 10:00 latest
	Packed Breakfast	
9:30 AM	Campus maintenance	
12:30 PM	Final presentations of projects	
1:00 PM	Lunch- dining room	
	Free time (pool open)	
3:30 PM	Bioregions, Ecovillages and Transition Towns. Drawing it all together, summation	Mark Naveh
5:30 PM	Daily reflection/ Dinner prep team	
6:30 PM	Dinner	
8:30 PM	Desert evening celebration: drums and fire	
21-Jun		
	Depart Lotan to Jerusalem	
10:00 AM	Swim in the Dead Sea	
	Lunch in the Dead Sea	
1:30 PM	Arrive to Jerusalem	
	Tour of the Old City of Jerusalem	
Overnight	Abraham Hostel Jerusalem	
22-Jun		
	Breakfast in the hostel	
8:00 AM	Head to Ben Gurion Airport for departures	