ISBA Frequently Asked Questions

Q: When is the program?
A: The upcoming ISBA program will take place June 9-July 22, 2016.

Q. How much do I need to know about business or Israel?
A. You don’t need previous business course work or knowledge of Israel to participate.

Q. Are there religious or ethnic background requirements?
A. No, ISBA is non-denominational and open to students of all faiths and beliefs.

Q. How is the academy structured?
A. ISBA has a modular format that combines classroom learning with experiential-learning opportunities.

Q. What does ISBA cost?
A. The fee for 2016 is $4,500, and includes tuition, housing, insurance, excursion costs and some meals. You’re responsible for your airfare, food, and additional expenses, such as elective travel.

Q. Are scholarships available?
A. Some scholarships may be available for students with financial need. Contact Elizabeth Snell, the ISBA program coordinator for more information: isba@olin.wustl.edu

Q. When is the application deadline?
A. The final application deadline is February 15, 2016, however completed applications will be evaluated and early acceptance given on a rolling basis starting January 4, 2016.

Q. What about health, safety, and security issues?
A. Olin and IDC staff members are on hand at all times if you need assistance with anything. While you’re abroad, you’ll be enrolled in HTH Worldwide health insurance as well as International SOS health insurance. You also will be registered with the U.S. State Department. On the first day of orientation, emergency procedures are reviewed, and you receive a wallet-size card with a list of emergency phone numbers.
Q. What transportation is available?
A. A private bus takes you to the IDC campus on class days. Private buses also take you to off-campus sites.

Q. Are there any required textbooks/course materials?
A. Students are expected to have read Start-up Nation: The Story of Israel's Economic Miracle prior to the program start date. Otherwise, class materials (generally articles and readings) will be provided.

Q. How many students will be accepted?
A. We will accept no more than 45 students.

Q. How much time are students in class?
A. Students will spend approximately three days a week at IDC. Some of that time will be spent in a lecture class and some spent for group projects and individual work.

Q. What companies/historical sites/museums do students get to visit?
A. This changes year to year but you can expect to visit Masada and the Dead Sea, Jerusalem, and a number of museums in Tel Aviv.

Q. What might a typical day in the life of an ISBA student look like?
A.
8:30 a.m.–Wake up
9:00 a.m.–Gather at meeting point for bus pick up
10:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.–Class at the Interdisciplinary Center in Herzliya
1:00-2:00 p.m.–Lunch at IDC
2:00-4:00 p.m.–Coursework with assigned group
4:30 p.m.–return to Tel Aviv by bus
4:30-6:00 p.m.–Gym, Laundry, free time
6:00-8:00 p.m.–Dinner with ISBA friends
8:00-11:00 p.m.–Relaxing and experiencing the Tel Aviv night life

Q. What does a typical weekend look like?
A. Weekends across the six weeks of the program will be split fairly evenly between planned excursions and free weekends.