



MASHAV - Israel's Agency for International Development Cooperation



**The Hebrew University of Jerusalem
The Robert H. Smith Faculty of Agriculture, Food & Environment, Division for International Studies**

NUTRITION IN A CHANGING GLOBAL ENVIRONMENT

April 20, 2015- May 19, 2015

MASHAV is the Hebrew acronym for the Agency for International Development Cooperation, a department established 50 years ago in Israel's Ministry of Foreign Affairs. MASHAV is responsible for designing and implementing Israel's international development programs, carried out in Israel and in partner countries.

In cooperation with the Hebrew University of Jerusalem's Faculty of Agriculture – MASHAV's only academic affiliate – we are pleased to announce the opening of a training and capacity building program on **NUTRITION IN A CHANGING GLOBAL ENVIRONMENT**. The course will be held in Israel at the Robert H. Smith Faculty of Agriculture, Food and Environment, Division of External Studies, in Rehovot from April 20 – May 19, 2015

RATIONALE

Major changes have occurred in the global diet. In the past, malnutrition and infectious diseases were of primary concern. They remain a challenge, but today we also face an emerging trend towards over nutrition and chronic diseases (cardiovascular, diabetes, cancer). Nutrition transition has made fast-food, high in fats and simple sugars, the preferred menu for millions of individuals around the world and in particular for growing percentages of populations in developing countries. More and more processed foods are available and foods made from natural, locally-grown produce are disappearing. As we better understand how diet affects our health, it is clear that drastic dietary changes must be made.

First, the physiological needs of each age group must be understood, followed by appropriate dietary recommendations that will promote good health. It is also evident that exposures throughout the lifespan, including in utero, affect long term health. Health professionals should have the tools to carry out critical evaluation of the most recent nutritional studies and implement appropriate changes in the community. "Informed" food choices based on sound scientific evidence can insure good nutrition for all.

OBJECTIVES

The program's objectives are:

To provide an overview of the nutritional needs of different populations.

To understand current nutritional guidelines established to provide optimal dietary intake for all age groups.

To critically examine how nutritional recommendations are made and to evaluate epidemiological and clinical evidence.

To understand the lifespan approach to nutrition.

To discuss emerging trends in modern nutritional sciences.

To develop new tools for implementing nutritional recommendations.

TOPICS OF STUDY

This program's topics of study will include:

Nutrition throughout the life-cycle: infants, children, adolescents, mothers, adults and the elderly

Understanding evidence-based nutrition

The obesity epidemic

Malnutrition

Fetal Programming

Functional Foods

Nutrigenomics- how nutrients interact with genes

Supplementation and fortification

Nutrition in chronic disease

Nutrition transition

STUDY CONDITIONS

•Classes will be held at the Faculty's Rehovot campus, where there are laboratories, advanced research equipment and the central library of Agricultural Science.

•Around-the-clock computer access will be provided, and computers will be used extensively.

•We recommend that participants who own a personal computer bring it with them for their own convenience.

•Scientific material and homework will be assigned and graded.

•Professional field trips will be held.

•Full attendance is required.

•We reserve the right to make changes in the academic program.

Application forms may be obtained from the nearest Israeli diplomatic or consular representative or can be downloaded from the website of the Israel Foreign Ministry, MASHAV Study Programs at:

<http://www.mashav.mfa.gov.il/MFA/mashav/Courses/Pages/default.aspx>

Completed applications **MUST** be sent directly to the Israeli representative in your country by March 5, 2015. In addition, please send a copy of the forms in PDF format and **not** JPEG to the Faculty by email to: randyl@savion.huji.ac.il .

COURSE COMPLETION

Each participant will prepare a seminar presentation, which will be reviewed and graded. This presentation should apply knowledge acquired during the course to a nutritional, public health challenge facing your country (for example: obesity, AIDS, iodine deficiency, etc.). Participants are advised to bring with them digitalized data relevant to their countries. On completion of the course and fulfillment of its requirements, participants will receive certificates, which will be accredited by many universities.

REQUIREMENTS

Candidates interested in attending this program require:

M.Sc. degree or above in nutrition, dietetics, medicine, bio-chemistry, health education, or a related field, from a recognized university. (A detailed record of studies and copies of degrees must be included with application forms.)

Documentation of academic studies conducted in English OR a TOEFL score of at least 89 on the internet-based scale OR an internationally recognized equivalent. (The language of instruction is English, Therefore, participants whose native tongue is not English, must furnish proof of proficiency in this language.)

Professional experience in the field is recommended (at least 3 years).

This course is designed for public health practitioners, nutritionists, dietitians, health educationists, and academicians in relevant fields.

An official certificate of good health signed and stamped by a doctor.

Two letters of recommendation are required from the candidate's place of work or university.

COST AND APPLICATION

Scholarships are available from MASHAV (see below) to cover the fee for study. The scholarship covers tuition, board, lodging and travel in Israel required for the purposes of the program of studies. This fee does not include travel costs to and from the home countries or incidental expenses.

ADDITIONAL DETAILS FOR PARTICIPANTS

ACCOMMODATIONS: Single bedroom accommodation in a shared apartment will be provided in our fully equipped guest house on campus. Meals will be provided. Both laundry (on campus) and dry cleaning (in town) are at the participant's expense.

WEATHER: Spring is the nicest season of the year, with a very comfortable climate. The temperature in Tel Aviv is usually between 16 to 24 Degrees centigrade (61 to 75 Degrees Fahrenheit). Participants are requested to bring clothes suitable for outdoor activities including a light jacket, a bathing suit and comfortable walking shoes. We also recommend that you bring some light sweaters, short-sleeved shirts and a good range of generally light clothes.

INSURANCE: Participants are insured for medical care during their stay in Israel. This does not include pre-existing conditions and /or major dental care. Personal belongings are not insured, and are the responsibility of each individual.

Participants who take regular medication must bring enough medicine for the duration of the course. Participants who wear glasses are advised to bring a spare pair. We recommend that hand luggage include basic toiletries and a change of clothes for the first day or so. These should be carried separately in case of delay in baggage delivery. Participants will not receive any allowance or pocket money. Please bring money for out-of-pocket expenses.

AIRPORT TRANSPORTATION: Those accepted to the course will supply flight details to their local Israeli representative and to us. Upon arrival in Israel, the participant will pick up his/her luggage. After passing through customs, the participant will enter the arrivals terminal and walk towards the left. Go up the escalator to the first floor. On the left, behind the car rental counters, you will see a counter of a company called MONI-SITON. This is a special taxi service, which has a list of expected arrivals. Go to the counter and tell them your name, country and that you're attending a course at the Faculty. You will be taken to the Faculty of Agriculture, Rehovot, free of charge. This service is pre-paid.

PLEASE DO NOT TAKE ANY OTHER FORM OF TRANSPORTATION!

PARTICIPATING INSTITUTIONS

This 30-day course is truly a joint venture. Involved in its implementation are:

Academics: Under the auspices of the Hebrew University of Jerusalem's Robert H. Smith Faculty of Agriculture, Food & Environment. Academic Coordinator: Dr. Aliza Stark.

Administration: The Faculty's Division for International Studies in cooperation with the Division for International Cooperation of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MASHAV).

MASHAV- Israel's Agency for International Development Cooperation - at Israel's Ministry of Foreign Affairs was founded in late 1957, and is responsible for the design, coordination and implementation of the State of Israel's development cooperation programs.

MASHAV concentrates on human and institutional capacity building by sharing Israel's own development experience and expertise, imparting know-how and transferring innovative technologies and tested methodologies adaptable to developing country needs.

MASHAV's approach is to ensure social, economic and environmental sustainable development, joining the international community's efforts to implement the Millennium Development Goals by 2015. In events of natural disasters, MASHAV also provides humanitarian assistance and participates in reconstruction and rehabilitation efforts.

THE HEBREW UNIVERSITY OF JERUSALEM

The Hebrew University of Jerusalem was opened in 1925, preceding the establishment of the State of Israel by more than two decades. The University was designed to be a world class institution of higher learning and research. Today, the Hebrew University comprises seven faculties, 15 schools, some 60 research centers, a student body of about 23,000 and a tenured-track faculty of some 1,500. One third of its enrollment is at the M.Sc. and Ph.D. level.

THE ROBERT H. SMITH FACULTY OF AGRICULTURE, FOOD & ENVIRONMENT

The Hebrew University's Robert H. Smith Faculty of Agriculture, Food & Environment was established in 1942 in Rehovot, a city at a distance of some 55 km from the main campus of the University in Jerusalem. The site was chosen with considerations of its climate and soil conditions. It is the only agricultural institution of higher education in Israel offering university degrees.

The Faculty's Division for International Studies was established in 1986. One of its aims is to expose academic graduates from abroad to post-graduate programs, giving them insight into the achievements and research of Israel in general and of the Faculty in particular, expanding their knowledge in specific fields and creating opportunities for international cooperation.

COMMUNICATION

Further information relating to the subject matter of the course may be obtained from:

Division for International Studies

Robert H. Smith Faculty of Agriculture, Food & Environment

P.O. Box 12

Rehovot, Israel 76100

Tel. 972-8-9489509, or 972-8-9489511

Fax. 972-8-9470171

Website: <http://departments.agri.huji.ac.il/externalstudies/index.php>

Program Administrator: Ms. Randy Lang

E-mail address: randyl@savion.huji.ac.il