

Standing together

Updates for Bar-Ilan students



October 16, 2023

Dear Students,

Israel is now in the midst of a painful war, perhaps the harshest one in its history. All of us are coping at this time, both physically and emotionally, with a particularly challenging reality. Individual and national uncertainty is troubling each and every one of us – how long will this war go on? what will its consequences be when we return to our daily lives?

Like many other civilian establishments in the country, the academic framework is also trying to find a balance between continuing daily activity and coping with these special circumstances. You, our students, are at the focus of our thoughts and discussions when we attempt to make decisions that significantly affect you.

At this time, we must stress that our thoughts are with you and your loved ones in these challenging times, and we promise you that we are committed to helping in any way possible. We recognize the need to be considerate and flexible during this period, and it is important to us to provide the broadest possible support framework to help you navigate the many challenges and to move forward academically.

Given the unprecedented nature of the circumstances, we have made the following academic adaptations:

1. The opening of the 2023-24 academic year is deferred to November 5, 2023. There may be a further deferral based on developments.
2. Dates for submission of all types of assignments or papers, research proposals, dissertations and exams on the thesis, thesis equivalence and thesis completion have been extended to November 16, 2023. These extensions are not final; further extensions will be considered based on developments.
3. All exams scheduled through October 27 (inclusive) are deferred to a date to be determined at a later time.
4. The deadline for [scholarship applications](#) to the Scholarship Unit has been extended to November 30, 2023.
5. Bar-Ilan University is particularly attentive to the needs of students who have been called up for reserve duty and their families, to civilians on the front, and of course those who have been directly harmed. We will do **everything** to assist each and every one of you so that you may study in the coming academic year, successfully fulfilling your academic requirements.

We will keep you updated on further decisions and guidelines.

Representatives of the Dean of Students Office, the School of Graduate Studies, the academic departments, academic faculty members and administrative staff are reaching out to students and will assist you with any issue.

- On Sunday, October 22, we will resume [Open Door services](#), Zoom sessions on Sundays, Tuesdays and Thursdays between 10 AM and 12 Noon. Representatives of all departments and offices will be available to provide you with answers to all questions and requests. You may find the Zoom address for your department in the [attached link](#).
- Contact information for all academic departments and administrative offices is available on the [Bar-Ilan website](#).
- You may also contact the service hotline with any issue at *9392 or via [WhatsApp](#) at 052-6171988.
- The Student Union is at your service for any issue or question, via email at pniyot@bis.org.il or via the Student Union's Instagram and Facebook pages.
- Bar-Ilan has set up a volunteering framework for students who wish to assist in different educational initiatives: setting up activities, discussions and short lectures for children and teens, assistance for older adults, families, etc. For further details on volunteering [click here](#).
- We would also like to point out that Bar-Ilan has set up a hotline to provide emotional support by professionally trained staff of the Department of Psychology and the Department of Social Work. The phone number for support: 03-5318811.



Vital information for emergencies

- [For emergency situations and for saving lives](#) – the map of secure spaces, defibrillators (resuscitation devices), emergency phone numbers, etc.
- [Guidelines for dealing with rocket hits](#)
- [Shelters and protected spaces](#) – PowerPoint slideshow for download.
- [Recommendations for coping with anxiety and wartime routine](#).

To all of you and your families – wishing you strength, resilience and hope in these difficult times.

Sincerely,

Prof. Arie Reich, Vice-Rector

Prof. Ronit Sarid, Dean of the School for Advanced Studies

Prof. Benjamin Shmueli, Dean of Student