

First Yearlong Academic Program for Visiting International Students



This year, Oranim International School welcomed its first group of visiting international students to study in a yearlong academic program. Fourteen graduate students from all over the former Soviet Union completed a successful year at Oranim in the MASA-Nativ program.

MASA-Nativ studies include coursework for the M.Teach degree and Teaching Certificate, as well as intensive Hebrew language study (Ulpan) and enrichment in the areas of Judaism, Zionism, and Israel. Courses are in education, pedagogy, methodology, psychology, and socio-cultural issues.

Students study in Russian with senior Oranim faculty, and have the opportunity to take courses in English. In their second semester, students were all integrated in regular Oranim courses, learning together with Israeli students in both English and Hebrew.

For those who choose to continue their studies at Oranim, this year will count as the first of two years of studies required to complete an M.Teach in Secondary School Education and a Teaching Certificate in English or Science.

MASA-Nativ students participate in a wide range of extracurricular activities including touring throughout Israel, Jewish and Israeli cultural programs, and volunteer work. Students live in the dormitories on Oranim's beautiful pastoral campus, only twenty minutes from Haifa.

This past year, students enjoyed trips to Tel Aviv, Jerusalem, Haifa, Beit She'arim, Zikhron Ya'akov, a Bedouin settlement, and more. Students volunteered at the Nahalal youth village with young Russian speaking immigrants. They tutored privately and organized social activities.

At the opening ceremony for the program, Dr. Roberta Bell-Kligler, Acting Director of the International School, told the students: "It is a great privilege for me to open this program here at the college. To the impressive program participants, I want to say that we respect the roots with which you came to us. We want you to keep those roots. Our hope is that in the time that you are at Oranim you will also spread your wings. We will help you with this. As Amnon Shamosh [Israeli author and poet] wrote, our hope is that you will grow and become people with both roots and wings."

For detailed information in Russian on the MASA-Nativ program, read [here](#). We are in the process of recruiting students for next year's program.