Students Experience Israel

A total of 43 Princeton students traveled to Israel on two CJL-sponsored trips during the January intersession - Inside Israel and Tiger Trek. Led by former US ambassador to Israel and Egypt and Princeton professor Daniel Kurtzer, participants in the fifth Inside Israel trip engaged in an in-depth look at the Palestinian-Israeli conflict through conversations with Israeli and Palestinian elected officials, policy makers and scholars. The new Israel Tiger Trek was a student-organized, experience focused on exploring Israel's unique position as a start-up nation. Participants visited Israeli high-tech start-up companies and met with top leaders in innovation and entrepreneurship.

"The lessons learned on this trip inspire me to think more critically about geopolitical conflicts, to acknowledge the heavy role of religion and culture in international affairs, and to be a patient listener to all sides."

Inside Israel Participant

"Absolutely incredible trip. The speakers were incredibly accomplished and interesting people who challenged the way I think about technology, entrepreneurship, religion, and culture."

Tiger Trek Participant

Photos below.

In HerWords

Miriam Stern '22

The CJL is where I eat lunch every day, but it is also much more than that to me. I have served on the CJL executive student board for the past two years, first as Communications Chair and now as Treasurer. I manage the expenses for all CJL board activities, as well as seek funds for CJL's student group projects. I am also a Community Engagement Intern (CEI), connecting with other Jewish students at Princeton in informal contexts, such as coffee breaks and meals at CJL, to discuss Jewish identity and involvement on campus.

Every week I attend and sometimes even lead Shabbat services as part of the Koach (Conservative) prayer community. I look forward to reuniting with my friends, eating Shabbat dinner with them at CJL and especially sharing Havdallah together followed by grilled cheese. With great food, community, rituals, social activities and leadership opportunities, the CJL is the place for me to learn, relax and reconnect.
Staff Spotlight: Israel Fellow
Tair Goldbarsht

Tair was born in Akko, and moved to Jerusalem to earn a Bachelor's degree at The Hebrew University. She is in her 2nd year as CJL's Israel Fellow bringing Israeli culture, education and dialogue to all students on campus. Tair oversees diverse activities including a weekly Hebrew Table at the CJL, Israeli holiday celebrations such as Yom Ha'Atzmaut, and guest lectures by outstanding Israel speakers such as writer Etgar Keret. Tair leads student trips to Israel and is the staff adviser for the CJL student groups Tigers for Israel, TAMID, J-StreetU and J-Grads. During the summer, Tair provides on-the-ground staff support for the Keller Center's Princeton Startup Immersion Program (PSIP) in Tel Aviv. Contact Tair at tairg@princeton.edu.

Spring Learning Seminars

Mass incarceration, social media and the quest for meaning, are among the many issues that Jewish Learning Fellowship (JLF) students are exploring at CJL. This semester, 40 students are participating in four small-group discussion-based classes: Let Our People Go, The Struggle is Real: Social Media vs. Real Life, Life as a Sacred Gift and Your Jewish Story. Facilitated by CJL's outstanding educators, these seminars range from 6-10 weeks during lunch or dinner. Participants are able to build community and explore salient issues by discussing their own perspectives and exploring relevant Jewish philosophy and thought.

"I really appreciate the opportunity to reflect on my Jewish identity, and learn that there are many kinds of Jews in the world."
JLF Your Jewish Story Participant

Collegiate Moot Beit Din
CMBD

Mazel Tov to Abe Waserstein ’21, who for the 3rd straight year pulled off a memorable weekend of learning, discussion, singing, debate and connection at Princeton. Over 70 students from 28 universities in the US, Canada, and Israel came together at CJL for this unique program which explored the topic of Tainted Money--when, if at all, charities need to be responsible and accountable for the sources of their funding.
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