



ENSURE INCLUSIVE AND EQUITABLE QUALITY EDUCATION AND PROMOTE LIFELONG LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES FOR ALL

RESEARCH

Bilingual Education Policy in Xinjiang Revisited

[‘The “Bilingual Education” Policy in Xinjiang Revisited’](#) published in the journal *Modern China*, by Associate Prof. Nimrod Baranovitch, of the Department of Asian Studies, examines the controversial policy's impact on Uyghur ethnic identity. Uyghur scholars' essays and ethnographic data highlight the policy's negative impact on Uyghur identity, indicating implications for quality education. Contrary to previous understanding, the study reveals that not all Uyghurs resisted the policy; some political and academic elites promoted it. Some Uyghur academics' overt opposition to the policy challenges the existing scholarship's covert resistance assumption.

Micro-level Dynamic and Educational Reforms

[‘Between Collaboration and Conflict: the exploration of micropolitical processes during reform enactment in an Arab junior high school in Israel’](#) by Prof. Ayman Agbaria, of the Faculty of Education, and colleagues, explores an Arab junior high school's responses



The Younes and Soraya Nazarian Library (Credit: The Younes and Soraya Nazarian Library)

to the Ministry of Education New Horizon reform in Israel. Through qualitative case study, it analyzes how staff interpret and implement the reform, impacting their professional identities. The research reveals both collaborative and conflict-driven strategies among teachers and the principal to safeguard their interests. The findings underscore how micro-level dynamics and local context influence larger educational reforms.

PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT

University of Haifa for Youth

University of Haifa for Youth was established in 2022, and since has involved [thousands of teens in their enrichment programs](#) and over 100 teens in

full-degree programs, such as Etgar, a prestigious undergraduate program for high school seniors studying computer science; and Kodkod, an intensive mathematics program for undergraduates. The university offers an array of courses from Cinema to Science.

Social Work Study Delegation to Uganda

In the summer of 2023, [a delegation from the School of Social Work embarked on a mission to Uganda](#), which they prepared for over a year. In collaboration with the Jewish Agency 'TEN' initiative, the one-week mission included 10 students and 2 senior faculty members. The delegation had several key objectives: mutual learning of varying welfare

systems, understanding social issues in Uganda and Israel, building connections between leading social work researchers, and exposing students to international aspects of community development.

LEARNING AND STUDENTS

Academic Clusters

UofH aims to equip its graduates with a diverse academic toolbox to prepare them for the modern workforce. In addition to their disciplinary studies, undergraduate students can choose one of [six clusters](#), each focusing on unique skill sets: (1) Critical Thinking (2) Data Science and Cyber (3) Innovation and Entrepreneurship (4) Human Resources (5) Sustainability and Open Environment (6) Digital Communication. These clusters aim to bridge academia with the evolving employment landscape, industry, and community while fostering a holistic and well-rounded education.

New MA Programs

The University of Haifa has recently introduced several new academic programs, among which is an international interdisciplinary [Master's degree in Child Development](#) that targets professionals who work with children. This program aims to enhance the quality of students' work substantially by equipping them with advanced assessment tools. Additionally, the Faculty of Social Welfare and Health Sciences offers an MA program in Bioethics and Public Health, which seamlessly [integrates](#)

[ethical thinking into health policy decision-making](#). This program emphasizes practical. The curriculum addresses ethical dilemmas, caregiver-patient relationships, and justice in public health.

The students of 'Ofakim Program' are looking at the horizon

The [‘Ofakim program’](#) UofH's Honors program which trains outstanding students in an array of academic research tools, introduces them to various disciplines, and cultivates in them high-level critical thinking, writing and analytical skills. The program aims to turn its graduates into leading interdisciplinary researchers in academia, and key opinion and action leaders in Israeli society. 'Ofakim' students receive a full scholarship, personal guidance, and participate in study tours in Israel and abroad. The program accompanies its graduates from the moment of graduation and throughout their career, while they harness their studies on their way to the top.

OPERATIONS

Largest Gift to UofH: New \$120M Scholarship Fund

The largest gift in the University's history – a \$120 million commitment from Mr. Elie Horn, will be used to establish two new scholarship funds.

The first is 'Ahavat Olam' (eternal love), which will support students pursuing in-depth studies in Jewish religion, heritage, and history; while the second scholarship fund will provide

need-based financial assistance to deserving female students. Mr. Elie Horn, Brazilian-Jewish philanthropist and businessperson and longstanding friend and supporter of the University received an [honorary doctorate](#) in recognition of his lifetime dedication to the Jewish community in South America, his support of Israel and its people, and generosity and friendship to the University of Haifa.

Open Access to Published Research

The trend towards open information is growing, allowing for free of charge and unrestricted access to research worldwide. UofH's Younes and Soraya Nazarian Library have signed agreements with publishers to facilitate [open access publishing](#) for researchers, ensuring accessibility for the public.

Library and Museum Access

To serve the public both the UofH Library and Hecht Museum are open to the public for free during weekdays. During summer months, the museum holds archaeology-related craft workshops for local youth. During the winter, on Saturday, when many institutions are closed in Israel due to the Jewish Sabbath, the museum hosts theatrical performances for children followed by interactive activities. Throughout the year, [the Library serves as a 'cultural center'](#) which is open to the general public that offers fascinating lectures related to the areas of interest of the library.