

ישיבת הר עציון
YESHIVAT HAR ETZION
The Dr. William Major
overseas Students Program

Yeshivat Har Etzion



What makes Gush unique?

Learn to be an Independent Learner

Master the tools to probe the depths of Torah through uncompromising intellectual depth and an impassioned commitment | **Pages 4/5**

Your Link to the Mesorah

Gush connects you directly to a living, dynamic tradition, founded on unwavering *yirat Shamayim*, that fearlessly engages with modern reality | **Pages 6/7**

Intense Schedule

A demanding, structured daily schedule designed to build well-rounded, committed talmidei chachamim | **Pages 10/11**

Total Integration with Israelis

Immerse yourself fully in an Israeli yeshiva, learning, living, and growing side-by-side with Israeli peers | **Pages 14/15**

Tanach Revolution

"The Gush methodology" - Pressing an ear against the text, to its nuance and tone, to hear the Divine messages being conveyed. | **Pages 18/19**

And much, much more.

Read on…

Torah Excellence

Deep Commitment, Intellectual Rigor





78

Alumni who are Hesder Roshei Yeshiva and Rebbeim

Shaping the landscape of Religious Zionist Torah education across Israel.



330

Alumni who are Rabbanim & Educators in Chutz LaAretz

Transmitting the Gush mesorah to communities, schools, and campuses worldwide.

350

Sefarim Published By the Yeshiva

Enriching the global beit midrash with groundbreaking, deep Torah scholarship.



For nearly six decades, Yeshivat Har Etzion has stood as a global epicenter of Torah study, shaping generations of talmidei chachamim through deep intellectual sophistication and an uncompromising commitment to Torah and its values. Talmidim are exposed to the vast breadth and depth of Gemara, Halacha, Tanach, Machshava, and beyond.

Learning within the tradition of the *Brisker derech*, the Yeshiva empowers each talmid to **independently** analyze and explore every *sugya*. Talmidim learn to pinpoint the core issues, ask probing questions, and formulate the underlying principles - the *lomdus* - of whichever topic they study. Rather than merely preparing sources to follow a shiur, talmidim are trained to develop the skills to understand for themselves what truly **lies behind the words** of the Gemara and Rishonim.

Your link to The Mesorah

Immersed in Torah – Engaged with the World

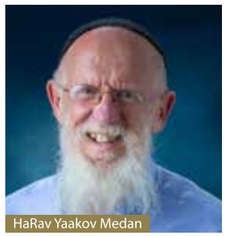


The yeshiva stands on the shoulders of giants. It was founded in the aftermath of the Six-Day War by HaRav Yehuda Amital *zt"l* and HaRav Aharon Lichtenstein zt"l, two colossal luminaries who brought with them the *mesorah* of their rebbeim, *gedolei Yisrael* of the previous generation.

Generations of talmidim have connected to the *mesorah* that thrives within these walls, **a vision built on *yirat Shamayim*, idealism, passion, and ethics, forged through a profound commitment to Torah and mitzvot. A commitment that demands of us to be both deeply immersed in Torah while conscientiously engaged with the broader world and its responsibilities.**



HaRav Baruch Gigi



HaRav Yaakov Medan



HaRav Mosheh Lichtenstein

"The avowed purpose of the yeshiva is the molding of each and every talmid as a *ben Torah*, in the fullest and deepest sense of that multifaceted term... to develop in talmidim, during this critically formative juncture in their lives, love and mastery of Torah, religious depth, and moral sensitivity."

Moreinu HaRav Aharon Lichtenstein zt"l

Today's Roshei HaYeshiva build upon and dynamically enrich that foundation, each contributing their unique vision and spiritual depth to Torah and hashkafa for our time. The Roshei HaYeshiva are present daily in the Beit Midrash and available for talmidim; many develop close relationships with them for life.

Inspiring Rebbeim

עשה לך רב, וקנה לך חבר



Genuine Care & Accessibility:

At the center of the Yeshiva experience is a deep, genuine care. Every student naturally forms a close bond with his Shiur Rebbe, a bond which often continues for life. Rebbeim work one-on-one with each student to guide his personal growth through a mature, respectful relationship that honors the talmid's independence, personal integrity, and individual voice.

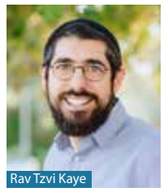
Similarly, the entire faculty, a distinguished team of renowned talmidei chachamim, is present and always open for talmidim to consult with and learn from.


Rav Eli Weber
Director of Overseas Programs


Rav Pini Cohen


Rav Mordechai Friedman


Rav Yair Kahn


Rav Tzvi Kaye

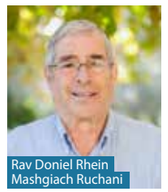

Rav Doniel Schreiber

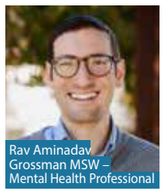

Rav Moshe Taragin


Rav Chanoch Waxman


Rav Avraham Wein


Rav Jacob Bernstein
Mashgiach Ruchani


Rav Doniel Rhein
Mashgiach Ruchani


Rav Aminadav Grossman MSW – Mental Health Professional

Personal Guidance, Enduring Bonds, and a Lifelong Spiritual Home

Opening Their Homes:

Most Rebbeim live in Alon Shvut, so the learning extends far beyond the beit midrash doors. Talmidim are regular guests at their homes for Shabbat and Yom Tov meals, joining vaadim and informal discussions that foster authentic growth.

Personal Support:

Dedicated *mashgichim* ensure that each student is supported emotionally and spiritually. In addition, a qualified Mental Health Professional is present in the beit midrash throughout the week to provide fully confidential professional guidance when needed.

Daily Schedule

Live and love your learning

Our daily schedule is intentionally demanding, and that rigor is precisely what yields extraordinary results. By immersing themselves in Talmud Torah, our talmidim achieve rapid growth, building an enduring familiarity with Torah through mastery of its texts with clarity and depth.

7:00 AM
Pre-Shacharit Chaburot/Chavrutot
Shacharit
Post Shacharit Chaburot/Chavrutot
Breakfast

8:30 AM Morning Seder:
Gemara B'Iyun: Seder and Shiur Yomi

1:00 PM
Lunch
Bein HeSedarim break time for rest, sports, hobbies, shopping





3:00 PM **Mincha**

3:15 PM Afternoon Seder:

*The Yeshiva believes deeply in cultivating **broad talmidei chachamim** who possess comprehensive knowledge and understanding encompassing not only Gemara, but also Tanach and parshanut, Halacha, Machshava, and beyond.*

During afternoon seder, each talmid builds his own schedule to maximize his potential, choosing from a wide array of options.

- **Guided bekiut tracks and chaburot guiding chavruta learning**
- **Chugim (classes) going into topics in-depth**

  Halacha | Parsha | Tanach in a year track | Neviim Rishonim | Neviim Achronim | Mussar | Machshava | Tefilla | Ramban Al HaTorah | Choice Sugiot Belyun | Mishna | Gemara bekiyut | Gemara bekiyun chabura
- Talmidim can also join any of the rich schedule of **Israeli afternoon chugim**.
- Weekly **sichat Rosh HaYeshiva**, for the overseas students, where the Roshei HaYeshiva share their thoughts and answer any questions from the talmidim.

7:15 PM Dinner

8:00 PM **Maariv**

8:15 PM Night Seder:

- Gemara Bekiut with Older Chavruta
- Weekly Iyun Shiur on the night-seder Gemara
- Mussar Seder

11:00 PM **Post Night Seder**

- Chavrutot in Beit Midrash
- Chaburot in Tanya and Maharal
- Vaad in Rebbeim's houses
- Mussar Vaad
- Lively Farbrengens at key points throughout the year



Located in the thriving Gush Etzion region, the Yeshiva sits on an expansive campus in the scenic Judean Hills. There are modern comfortable dorms, outdoor sports fields and tennis courts, a local gym among many other facilities that make for a rich and healthy student life experience.

Just half an hour south of Yerushalayim, the Yeshiva is far enough from the city to maintain a quiet and strong yeshiva environment, yet close enough that traveling into town when necessary is fast and convenient.



Total Immersion in an Israeli Yeshiva





One Unified Yeshiva:

One of the things that truly sets Gush's overseas program apart is the total integration of overseas students with their Israeli peers. Socially and spiritually, the Yeshiva operates as **one cohesive family**. Sharing chavrutot, studying side-by-side in the beit midrash, and living together, they build lifelong friendships that transcend borders. While living the authentic Israeli yeshiva experience, overseas talmidim enjoy a dedicated framework built just for them. English shiurim, inspiring programming, dedicated Shabbatonim, and individual support provide all the benefits of an amazing overseas program while remaining fully immersed in an Israeli environment. Many, already in Shana Alef, and all talmidim by Shana Bet, seamlessly integrate into the Israeli shiurim.

Shared Living & Warm Hospitality:

Students have the opportunity to room together with their Israeli peers in the dormitories, sharing daily routines and cultural perspectives. Israeli talmidim regularly invite their overseas brothers' home for Shabbatot, offering an authentic taste of Israeli family life.

1,214 Olim

90
Talmidim Enlisting Annually

Aliya and IDF:

Given the environment of passion and responsibility that defines the Yeshiva, it comes as no surprise that many overseas talmidim choose to make Aliya and/or enlist in the IDF. There is no one-size-fits-all approach; Rebbeim work one-on-one with each talmid to help him thoughtfully evaluate whether or not making aliya at this stage or enlisting is the right choice for his personal and spiritual growth. Talmidim who chose to enter the army do so surrounded by a strong, supportive network of close overseas and Israeli friends, backed by an extensive support system from the Yeshiva providing both practical help and ongoing spiritual nourishment.



Avodat Hashem

Yeshiva life is an extraordinary journey of ennoblement; a deliberate, passionate pursuit of becoming a true Eved Hashem.



Rigorous Talmud Torah:

The Yeshiva fosters an atmosphere of energetic intellectual and spiritual immersion, driven by an unyielding devotion to Torah study as the core of one's avodat Hashem.

Passionate Tefilla:

Talmidim explore the depth, meaning, and structure of tefilla through dedicated shiurim and chugim, which explore both the philosophy of tefilla and its content.

Character & Hashkafa:

Middot refinement and a sophisticated, deeply grounded worldview are cultivated through interactive mussar vaadim, uplifting *sichot*, vibrant tishim, and personal, one-on-one mentorship with the Rebbeim.

A Community of Thriving Bnei Torah:

Ultimately, nothing can replace the experience of being part of a group of passionate talmidim, *Yirei Shamayim*, focused on growth, who inspire one another in a collective aspiration for spiritual greatness.





Responsibility to Am Yisrael

Hearing the Baby Cry:

The atmosphere in the Yeshiva naturally cultivates within its talmidim a deep sense of responsibility to the Jewish people, the State of Israel, and the world, embracing all that this commitment demands. This belief in synthesizing Torah values with active responsibility lies at the very core of our identity. It reflects the fundamental principle, regularly emphasized by founding Rosh HaYeshiva, HaRav Yehuda Amital zt"l, that the capacity to "hear the baby cry" is an indispensable element of genuine Torah study. Our talmidim leave the Yeshiva imbued with purpose and an enduring dedication to Am Yisrael. We take immense pride in seeing them step into leadership roles, both formal and informal, in the IDF, on university campuses, in youth movements, and in communities, with many going on to serve as Roshei Yeshiva, educators, and leaders in Israel and throughout the world.



Search for: "Rav Amital Hear the Baby Cry"





Tanach Revolution

Hearing the Message of the Navi



◀ Yemei Iyun BeTanach





▲ Rosh Yeshiva HaRav Medan and Rabbi Menachem Leibtag discuss Tanach in The Gush Beit Midrash

7,000
Participants in Yemei Iyun BeTanach

20,000
Participants in the Yeshiva's Shenayim Leyom Tanach track

13,700 subscribers & 8,100 videos
The Yeshiva's Torah YouTube Channel
www.youtube.com/@HarEtzion-TheGush

At Yeshivat Har Etzion, the study of Tanach is not merely an auxiliary subject; it is a cornerstone of the Yeshiva's intellectual and spiritual life. Pioneered by giants such as HaRav Yaakov Medan, Rav Yoel Bin-Nun, and Rav Menachem Leibtag, the "Gush methodology" has transformed the landscape of modern Tanach study, applying to it the same level of analytical depth, rigor, and devotion traditionally reserved for Gemara.

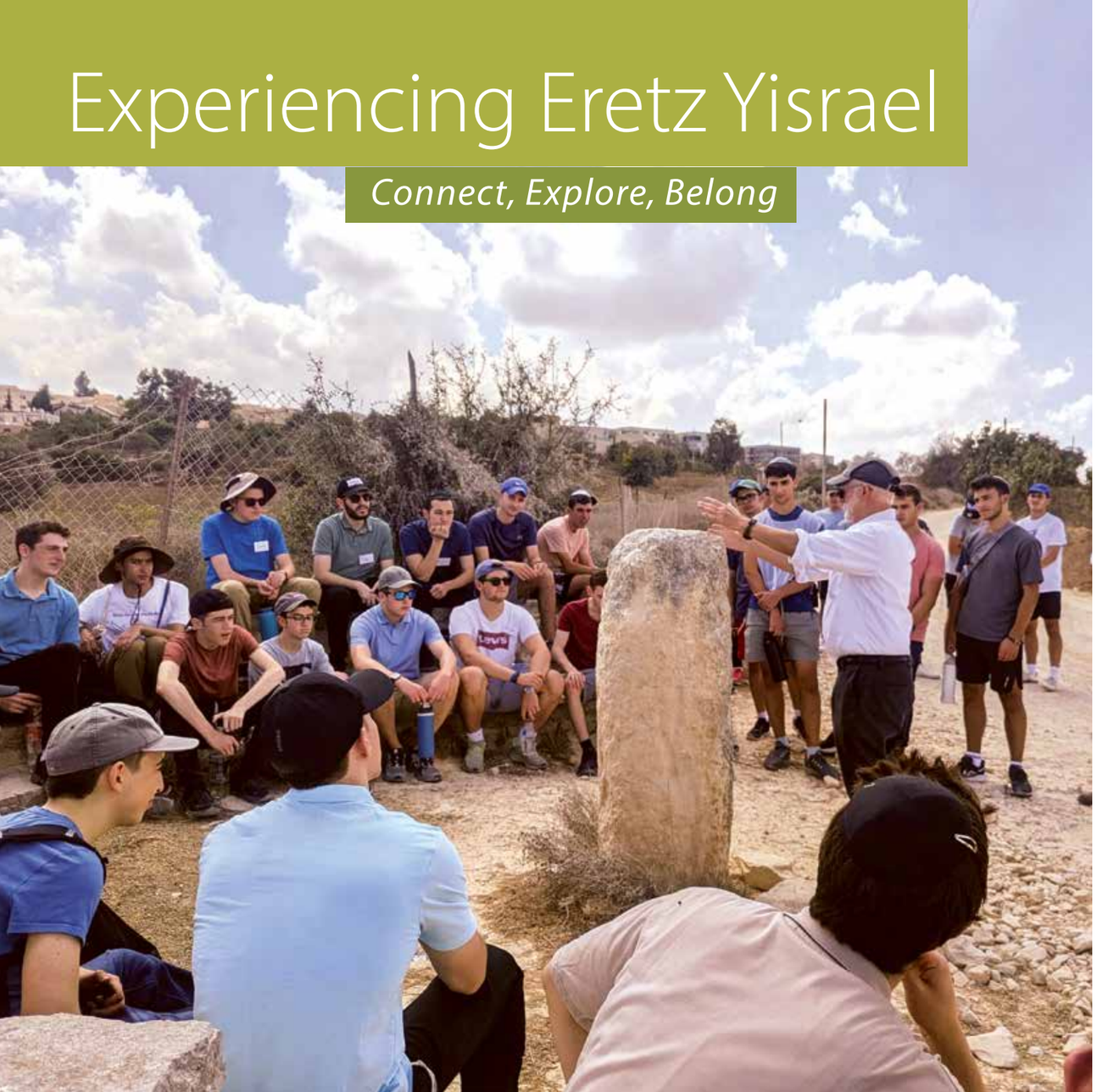
The Uniqueness of the Gush Approach:

What makes Tanach at Yeshivat Har Etzion so distinct is its focus on uncovering the deeper meaning and broader themes underlying the text. Talmidim are taught to press their ear against the text, being sensitive to its nuance and tone, to hear the message the Navi is conveying, and not just to work out more details of the story. True awe and reverence for Devar Hashem demands that we pay attention to all aspects of the text, its literary structure, thematic parallels, and textual nuances.

Tanach learning at Gush is driven by an unyielding commitment to discovering the deep religious, ethical, and theological messages embedded within the text. Talmidim grapple with the complex human dimensions of the narratives of Tanach, and uncover how the eternal principles of Tanach address the contemporary questions of the Jewish nation today.

Experiencing Eretz Yisrael

Connect, Explore, Belong



Your year of learning in Israel offers an extraordinary opportunity to truly know the Land and develop a deep, personal connection to Eretz Yisrael. Not as a tourist, but as an insider who calls it home.

Tiyulim & Exploring Eretz Yisrael

Tiyulim at the Yeshiva bring Torah to life and forge lifelong bonds. From Tanach-based trips, including reading the pesukim on location where history actually unfolded, to exploring Israel's breathtaking landscapes, each journey transforms your connection to the Land. Extended trips during bein hazmanim to the Golan and Eilat offer immersive exploration in a vibrant Torah atmosphere.



Shabbatonim & A Living Community

Two out of every three Shabbatot are spent together in the Yeshiva, packed with vibrant davening, inspiring shiurim, uplifting tishim and kiddushim, and seder learning. Throughout the year, there are also special Shabbatonim including one steeped in the kedusha of the Old City of Yerushalayim and another in the magical atmosphere of Tzfat.

On out-Shabbatot, talmidim experience authentic Israeli life firsthand. Many talmidim take these weekends to spend time with family and friends or stay at their Israeli peers' homes, deepening the friendships built in the beit midrash to share in warm home hospitality across the country.



Lifelong Bonds

Your spiritual home, for life



The Yeshiva experience is not a temporary chapter, but the foundation of a lifelong spiritual home. Every talmid who enters the Yeshiva remains a cherished part of its family for life. Even decades after leaving the yeshiva, alumni remain in contact with their Rebbeim, turning to them for guidance and sharing with them their smachot, their losses, and simply staying in touch.







Alumni regularly return to fill the beit midrash once again, whether immersing themselves in the charged tefillot of Selichot and the Yamim Noraim, or taking time from their busy lives to spend a day learning within its familiar walls. Many proudly bring their children and grandchildren back to learn with them, in the place where their spiritual foundations were laid.

The Yeshiva actively nurtures this lifelong relationship through dedicated alumni programming, including inspiring shabbatonim, reunions, yemei iyun both in the Yeshiva and in communities throughout the world, and even running Bar and Bat Mitzvah programs for the next generation.



3,184

graduates from the Dr. William Major z"l Overseas program at Gush



Gushlinks

in TheGush | Yeshivat Har Etzion - The Gush

www.haretzion.org | http://vbm-torah.org

For more information,
to visit or apply, email us:
office@etzion.org.il