4.3.19

Admission to Master degree studies

School of Molecular Cell Biology and Biotechnology

1. Application dates:

- The application for a master's degree should be performed between mid-February and September 1st at any given year.
- It is also possible to apply for studies beginning in the second semester. In such cases we strongly recommend applying before September and requesting to start studies in the second semester, since this increases the chance of obtaining a relevant scholarship. Otherwise, applications are between November and February of any given year.

2. Admissions procedure :

- During the course of a Master's degree in our school, students are expected to perform research in one of the school's research group, and submit a thesis at the end of their studies. In parallel, students will take courses as part of the track they choose *together* with their supervisor.
- In order to be accepted for a Master's degree all candidates must **first find a supervisor** and to complete the following requirements:

2.1 Life Sciences graduates who have an average of 80 or higher (at least after 5 semesters) will be accepted directly without an interview.

2.2 Life Sciences graduates with grades ranging from 75 to 80, will be interviewed by the school's M.Sc. committee. Students whose average grade is less than 75 may apply for an exception to the School Master's Committee. These candidates must send their CV, and list one (preferable two) two researchers who can write recommendation letters connected to the applicant's undergraduate (B.A./B.Sc.) studies. All info needs to be sent to Dr Adi Stern, head of the school's M.Sc. committee at sternadi@tauex.tau.ac.il

2.3 Acceptance of students from the faculties of exact sciences or engineering to one of the following tracks: Theoretical and Mathematical Biology Track, Bioinformatics Track, Biotechnology Track

Students who have not studied biology at the undergraduate level but who have completed a bachelor's degree in the faculties of exact sciences or engineering, and who wish to be admitted to the school and to one of the above tracks must: (a) have an average of 85 or more at the time of admission (at least after 5 semesters); (b) find a supervisor ; (c) pass the admissions committee of the relevant track.

These candidates will be exempt from the school's admissions committee.

Additional courses required from the candidate and when they should be taken will be determined according to the requirements of the track, in coordination with the head of the track, the designated supervisor, and members of the school's M.Sc. committee.

Candidates must complete additional courses with an average 80 and above. A qualified committee member will verify these conditions.

A student who completed a bachelor's degree in the faculties of exact sciences or engineering with an average above 80 and less than 85 may be admitted to one of the tracks listed above on the basis of three conditions above, but exemption from the school committee interview is subject to examination by members of the school's M.Sc. committee.

2.4 Acceptance of students from the exact sciences to all other tracks

Students with a B.Sc. from exact sciences who wish to be admitted to a track not listed in 2.3 are required to complete supplementary studies before registering for a master's degree. This will require the candidate to pass the following courses with an average of 80 or higher before enrolling for a master's degree:

- General Genetics, Biochemistry, Enzymology and Metabolism, and Cell Biology, Laboratory in Molecular Biology.
- Send a CV, and list one (preferable two) two researchers who can write recommendation letters connected to the applicant's undergraduate (B.A./B.Sc.) studies. All info will be sent to Dr Adi Stern, head of the school's MSc committee at sternadi@tauex.tau.ac.il.
- Pass an interview with the MSc committee.
- Complete a fifth basic course in biology in the first year of the MSc studies, after consulting with the head of the track.

2.5 Acceptance of students who are not from the exact sciences

We strongly suggest that students who have not studied biology at the undergraduate level, and who did not study for a bachelor's degree in the exact sciences, and who wish to be admitted to the school and study in one of the other tracks of the Midrasha (graduate school), to complete a "track after the degree" program in the life sciences. Alternatively, you can choose supplementary studies before registering for a master's degree. This will require candidate to pass the following courses with an average of 80 or higher before enrolling for a master's degree:

- General Genetics, Biochemistry, Enzymology and Metabolism, and Cell Biology, Laboratory in Molecular Biology.
- To study one of these two courses before registration: General Microbiology or Molecular Biology and Biotechnology.
- To complete a "lab project" in one of the school's research groups before registration (6 points).

Students must also meet the following criteria: (a) Have an average of over 80 at the time of admission (at least after 5 semesters at the undergraduate level). (B) pass the school admissions committee. (C) complete courses as their studies track requires

3. Submitting a thesis and the final exam

- In the final exam there will be two examiners and the supervisor.
- In the exam a presentation is allowed with research results only. Refreshments are forbidden.

4. MSc students' presentations

4.1 During the school's MALAM seminar, the students have to give two presentations, one during his first year, based on scientific publications, and the second one, will be based on the thesis and will be presented in the end of MSc studies in the school's seminar.

4.2 Other presentations will be given in accordance to the track's requirements.

4.3 Presentations should preferentially be in English rather than Hebrew but this is not a must.