

UNIVERSITY OF HAIFA

Faculty of Social Sciences

The Herta and Paul Amir Faculty of Social Sciences

Research · Teaching · Innovation · Community



הפקולטה
למדעי החברה
ע"ש שמואל והרטה עמיר

אוניברסיטת
חיפה



~4,000

Students

130+

Academic staff

8

Departments

45

Research labs & centers



About the Faculty

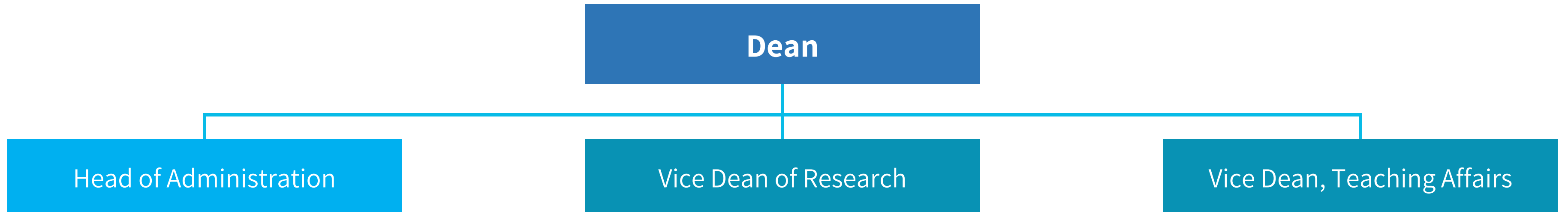
The Faculty of Social Sciences was established in 1972 and has since grown into the largest faculty at the University of Haifa, comprising eight departments spanning Psychology, Environmental Sciences, Political Science, Economics, Business Administration, Communication, and Sociology. With approximately 4,000 students across undergraduate, graduate, and doctoral programs, and a faculty of more than 130 leading academics, it stands as one of Israel's most vibrant centers for social science research and education.

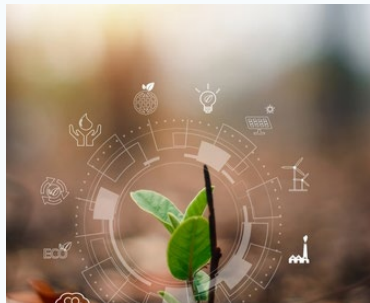
The Faculty is distinguished by its commitment to interdisciplinary inquiry — a conviction that the most consequential questions about human society do not belong to a single discipline, but emerge at the intersections between them. Its researchers address fundamental questions of our time: how identities and communities are formed, how power and policy shape collective life, how economies evolve, and how societies respond to change and crisis.

Central to the Faculty is its strong emphasis on computational social science and digital innovation, integrating critical social thinking with advanced data analytics, large-scale quantitative methods, machine learning, network analysis, and AI — enabling scholars and students not only to understand social reality, but to model and anticipate social change.

Through world-class research, innovative academic programs, and the training of the next generation of researchers, policymakers, and professionals, the Faculty of Social Sciences is shaping the way society understands — and improves — itself.

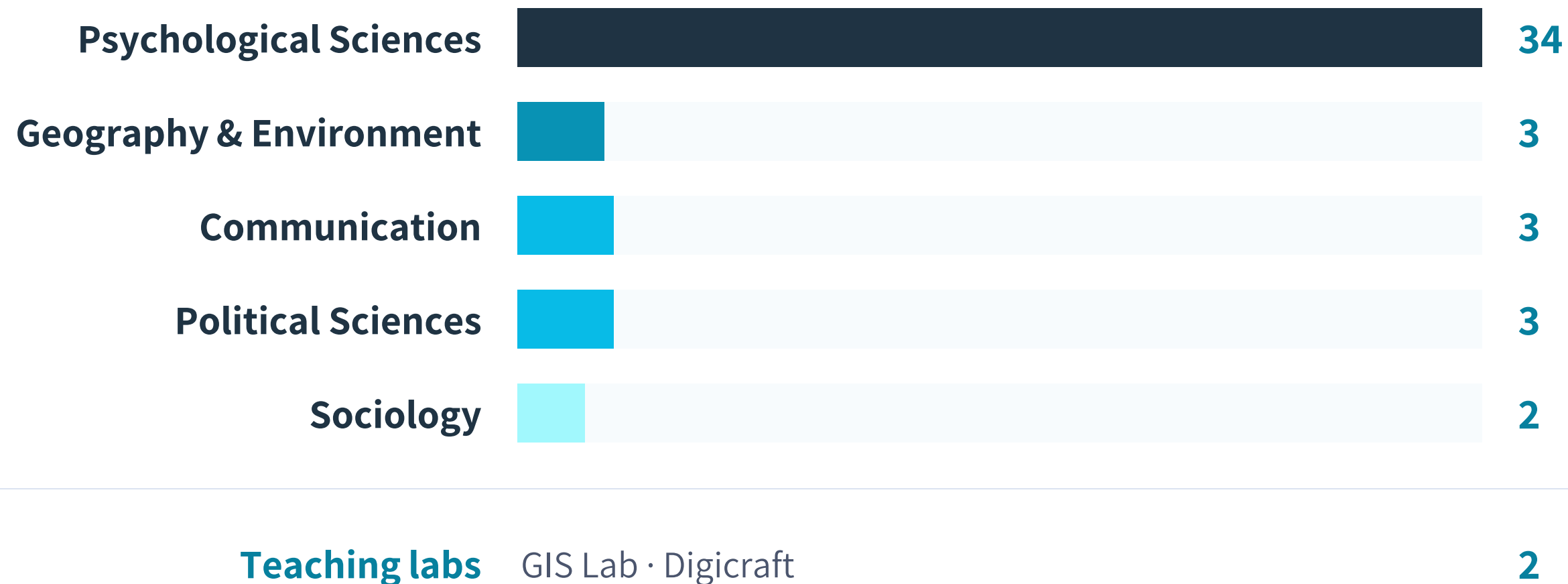
Faculty Structure



SCHOOLS				DEPARTMENTS			PROGRAM
School of Psychological Sciences  BA MA PhD	School of Environmental Sciences  BA MA PhD	School of Political Sciences  BA MA PhD	School of Business Admin.  BA MA PhD	Dept. of Communication  BA MA PhD	Dept. of Sociology  BA MA PhD	Dept. of Economics  BA MA PhD	PPE Program  BA

Research Labs & Centers

45 active research labs · 11 centers & institutes · 2 dedicated teaching labs



A research infrastructure spanning wet labs and data centers

9

Wet / biological labs, incl. neuroscience facilities in the Rabin building

36

Dry labs — behavioural, computational and imaging research

5

Academic units hosting labs and research centers



School of Psychological Sciences

34 research labs and centers

Stress & Psychopathology Lab

Prof. Roee Admon

Social Anxiety Lab

Prof. Idan Aderka

Cognition–Emotion Interaction Lab

Prof. Hadas Okon-Singer

Observing Minds Lab

Prof. Amit Bernstein

Experimental Psychopathology Lab

Prof. Noam Weinbach

Behavioral Neuroscience Lab

Prof. Gal Richter-Levin

Psychotherapy Research Lab

Prof. Sigal Zilcha-Mano

Eitam Lab

Prof. Baruch Eitam

Social Dilemmas & Evolution of Cooperation Lab

Prof. Ilan Fischer

Neural Circuits of Behavior Lab

Dr. Oded Klavir

Molecular Basis of Psychopathology Lab

Prof. Inna Gaisler-Salomon

Learning & Memory Lab

Prof. Irit Akirav

Loss, Bereavement & Human Resilience — International Lab

Prof. Simon Shimshon Rubin

Social & Affective Neuroscience Lab

Prof. Simone Shamay-Tsoory

Developmental Psychopathology Lab

Prof. Tomer Shechner

Intergroup Conflicts & Their Resolution Lab

Dr. Keren Sharvit

Face Recognition Lab

Prof. Sam Rakover

Psychophysiological Research Lab

Shamay-Tsoory · Gabay · Mendelsohn

Personality Assessment Lab

Prof. Moshe Almagor-Tikotzky

Diametric Lab

Prof. Ahmad Abu-Akel

Salomon Lab — Consciousness & Self

Prof. Roy Salomon

Center for the Study of Child Development

Prof. David Oppenheim · Prof. Avi Sagi-Schwartz

Child Development Lab

School of Psychological Sciences

Evolutionary Cognitive Neuroscience Lab

Dr. Shai Gabay

Psychophysical Lab

Prof. Yaffa Yeshurun

Emotion Research Group

Prof. Assaf Kron

Language & Development Lab

Dr. Naomi Havron

Identity Development & Psychopathology Lab

Dr. Benjamin Katz

Phenotyping Autism Trajectories Across the Life Span

Dr. Einat Waizbard

Cognitive Lab

School of Psychological Sciences

Perception, Encoding & Recall Lab

Dr. Ofer Perl

Neuroplasticity & Brain Organization Lab

Dr. Smadar Ovadia-Caro

Language & Brain Plasticity Lab

Prof. Tali Bitan

Social Decision Making Lab

Dr. Uri Hertz



Research Labs by Department

11 labs and centers across four academic units

Geography & Environment (3)

Geomorphology Lab

Prof. Lea Wittenberg

Spectroscopy & Remote Sensing Lab

Prof. Anna Brook

Landscape Ecology Lab

Prof. Dan Malkinson

Communication (3)

Communication Lab

Prof. Nurit Tal-Or

Computational Communication Research Lab

Dr. Alon Zoizner

Computational Communication Lab

Prof. Jonathan Cohen

Political Sciences (3)

Political Psychology Lab — Cyber & Terrorism

Prof. Daphna Canetti

Political Behavior Lab

Prof. Israel Waismel-Manor

Public Organizations & Public Policy (POP) Interdisciplinary Lab

Prof. Eran Vigoda-Gadot

Sociology (2)

Income Inequality Lab

Prof. Tali Kristal

Politics & Ethnicity Lab

Prof. Yuval Feinstein · under establishment



Research Centers & Institutes

11 centers and institutes, each led by a senior faculty member

Institute of Information Processing & Decision Making (IIPDM)

Prof. Shai Gabay

Integrative Center for Brain & Behavior

Prof. Inna Gaisler-Salomon

Center for the Study of Child Development

Prof. David Oppenheim

Interdisciplinary Center for the Study of Poverty & Social Exclusion

Dr. Asaf Levanon

The Jewish–Arab Center

Dr. Doron Navot

Center for National Security Studies

Prof. Benjamin Miller

Center for the Study of Organizations & Human Resource Management

Prof. Michal Biron Ben Gera

Center for Public Management & Policy

Prof. Shlomo Mizrahi

Center for Natural Resources & Environmental Research

Prof. Ofira Ayalon

Center for Tourism, Pilgrimage & Recreation Studies

Prof. Eli Avraham

Kadas Green Roofs Ecology Research Center

Prof. Dan Malkinson

SPATIAL ANALYSIS

GIS Lab

Geographic Information Systems

Teaching facility of the School of Environmental Sciences, used for coursework in spatial analysis, cartography and remote sensing. Students work with geographic data on dedicated workstations, from introductory mapping courses through independent research projects.

Academic lead

Dr. Moti Zohar

DIGITAL MEDIA

Digicraft

Digital creation studio · Department of Communication

A production and digital-craft studio for communication students: content creation, video and audio production, data storytelling and digital design. Digicraft supports course assignments, student projects and workshops that bridge media practice and social science research.

Home unit

Dept. of Communication

Used by

BA & MA students

Academic Excellence in the Faculty

Five ERC grants | Doctoral Excellence Initiative

European Research Council (ERC) Grants

2020 • ERC Advanced Grant

INTERPLASTIC — Inter-Brain Plasticity in Social Learning

Prof. Simone Shamay-Tsoory · School of Psychological Sciences

2020 • ERC Starting Grant

UnReal — Computational & Neural Model of the Sense of Reality

Prof. Roy Salomon · School of Psychological Sciences

2022 • ERC Consolidator Grant + Advanced Grant

DIWA — Digitalisation, Inequality & Work Automation

Prof. Tali Kristal · Department of Sociology

2023 • ERC Consolidator Grant

SynSig — Synchrony as a Curative Factor in Psychotherapy

Prof. Sigal Zilcha-Mano · School of Psychological Sciences

2025 • ERC Proof of Concept

SMARTH-MDD — AI-Based Early Detection of Depression

Prof. Sigal Zilcha-Mano · School of Psychological Sciences

Idit Doctoral Fellowship Program

Idit Fellowship Program

- ▶ Four-year multidisciplinary doctoral program
- ▶ Select group of PhD students across all departments
- ▶ Cross-field community for research & professional development
- ▶ Goal: integration into Israeli and international academia at the level of leading global institutions
- ▶ Annual conference | Publications | Mentorship network

Students, Campus & Community

Committed to diversity, excellence, and social impact

01 Diversity & Inclusion

A pluralistic environment welcoming Jewish, Arab, Druze and international students.

02 Research Opportunities

From undergraduate assistants to doctoral candidates, students work alongside leading researchers.

03 Community Partnerships

Collaborations with public institutions, NGOs, municipalities and industry partners.

04 Distinctive Academic Programs

PPE, Behavioral Economics (with the Technion), Mosaic, Organizational Behavior and security-forces tracks.



The Faculty of Social Sciences is shaping the way society understands — and improves — itself.

Where Science Meets Social Impact

The Herta & Paul Amir Faculty of Social Sciences

University of Haifa

