About Brandeis University

Brandeis University is a community of scholars and students united by their commitment to the pursuit of knowledge and its transmission from generation to generation. As a research university, Brandeis is dedicated to the advancement of the humanities, arts and social, natural and physical sciences. As a liberal arts college, Brandeis affirms the importance of a broad and critical education in enriching the lives of students and preparing them for full participation in a changing society, capable of promoting their own welfare, yet remaining deeply concerned about the welfare of others.

Partnerships

The program is a collaboration between Brandeis University and DIS in Copenhagen.

Find Out More

For program fees, application deadlines and procedures, housing, FAQs and more, please visit us on the web. If you would like to speak with a program representative, please contact the Office of Study Abroad.

Economics in Denmark
Summer Program

“This five-and-a-half-week intensive program is designed to provide students with a solid grounding in intermediate economic theory, while exploring the European approach to economic policy, market institutions, and economic behavior. The dual-course approach to the summer program, with one course taught by a Brandeis economist and the other taught by a European economist, will promote the ability to compare and contrast economic institutions and markets. Located in the historic and beautiful port city of Copenhagen, Denmark, the program will take advantage of the city's strong history of commerce and unique Scandinavian culture through field trips and guest lectures.”

– Professor Kathryn Graddy, Branden in Copenhagen, 2016 Faculty Director

Program Dates

Early July – Mid-August

Eligibility

• Are in good academic and judicial standing at Brandeis University
• Have completed at least one year of college-level coursework by the program start date
• Have a cumulative grade point average of 3.0 or higher
• Prerequisites include ECON 2a A Survey of Economics with a B+ or above OR ECON 10a Introduction to Microeconomics
• Students must also have passed MATH 10a Techniques of Calculus with a C- or above, or otherwise satisfied the calculus requirement

Student Life

Housing and Meals
You will be placed in DIS housing that includes a furnished room, shared kitchen, and common bathrooms. Students are responsible for grocery shopping and cooking for themselves. Doing your own shopping is a great way to engage with the local culture and cooking together is an ideal way to build community with your fellow participants.

Field Trips and Cultural Events
Copenhagen comes alive in the summer. The city streets and parks buzz with festivals, seasonal markets, cultural events, and outdoor music performances. With 18 hours of daylight, the days are long and filled with things to do. You will have the opportunity to participate in a variety of field trips to get to know the city, as well as a weekend excursion to either Western Denmark or Sweden during the program.

Computers and Library Access
DIS maintains a study and reference library with thousands of resources, a cinema, and study space. All DIS buildings are equipped with WiFi. Most students choose to bring their own laptop, but DIS also has 24 hour computer labs available.

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Academic Excursions
During the course of the program there will be various academic excursions in both Denmark, as well as in neighboring Sweden, organized for both courses to help bring you into direct contact with the subject matter you are studying. Connections through the Copenhagen Business School and local industry are a few examples of organizations you will be exposed to over the course of the program.

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Applications are reviewed once spaces are filled on a rolling admissions deadline. Students are encouraged to apply well before this date as applications will no longer be reviewed.

Visit go.brandeis.edu/copenhagen for more information on the application process.

Program Overview

The Brandeis in Copenhagen program is a two-course, five and a half-week intensive summer program combining Microeconomic Theory and Behavioral Economics in Copenhagen, Denmark. The program is a culturally immersive, experiential learning experience where you will come in direct contact with European and Scandinavian case studies and current issues. You will study economic theory and applications in the classroom, engage with speakers on European policy issues and visit places of economic interest, such as businesses, markets, and government institutions. Integration between the two courses and the field trips will provide a holistic understanding of economic issues in Scandinavian Europe, as well as a solid grounding in core economic theory.

You will be located in the heart of medieval Copenhagen. On the way to class, you will navigate through a network of walking streets, and after class you will explore squares packed with outdoor cafes, canals lined with cobblestones and colorful facades, castles surrounded by public gardens, and twisting spires dotting the skyline. You will find hidden corners of the city designed for community use, from bike paths to skate parks to harbor baths.

All students will also learn the basics of the Danish language.

Academics

You will simultaneously take a rigorous, intermediate-level core course taught by a Brandeis faculty member and an elective taught by a local faculty member from our academic partner, DIS. Your learning will consist of a combination of classroom lectures and coursework, guest speakers, and field trips to sites of interest in and around Copenhagen. All aspects of this program will deepen your understanding of economic theory and policy from US, Scandinavian, and European perspectives.

ECON 80a Microeconomic Theory

The objective of this course is to provide you with a working knowledge of the standard analytical tools that bear most directly on the economic decisions of individuals and firms. The course will examine the economics of markets and the producers and consumers that buy and sell in those markets. The focus will be on cost analysis, the determinants of market structure, market power, and the implications of government regulation.

Course Credit

• Satisfies the Quantitative Reasoning requirement
• For Economics Majors: Satisfies the ECON 80a Intermediate Theory course requirement
• For Economics Minors: Satisfies the elective requirement

ECON 42b Behavioral Economics

Behavioral Economics is revising the standard economic model of human behavior by integrating psychological research and economic science. This course is based on new theory and experiments by examining actual economics related to human behavior. Your analytical skills will be developed through work with conflicting theories and with data on choices made by people based on social norms that contradict the strictly rational model. We relate this to how behavior and norms are different in the Nordic and European countries as compared to the American research material presented in class.

Course Credit

• Satisfies the Quantitative Reasoning requirement
• For Economics Majors: Satisfies the lower level elective requirement
• For Economics Minors: Satisfies the elective requirement

• For Business Majors and Minors: Satisfies the Business and Society elective requirement

Academic Partner

DIS is a non-profit study abroad institution with locations in Copenhagen and Stockholm, offering semester, academic year, and summer programs taught in English. Established in 1959, DIS offers students enrolled in North American universities engaging and challenging coursework enriched by faculty who teach what they do, hands-on learning opportunities, and field studies.

DIS is located in the very center of old Copenhagen — only two minutes’ walk from City Hall Square and the central pedestrian and shopping street Strøget. It is an ideal location offering the many benefits of an urban atmosphere. You will be in close proximity to Frue Plads, where the main building of the University of Copenhagen is located, as well as the University library. The DIS buildings date from 1798 and are protected by the Danish Preservation Act.

Faculty Leadership

Kathryn Graddy

Kathryn Graddy is the Fred and Rita Richman Distinguished Professor of Economics at Brandeis University. She came to Brandeis in 2007 from Oxford University, where she was a Fellow of Exeter College. Prior to Oxford, she was Assistant Professor of Economics at the London Business School and a Junior Research Fellow at Jesus College, Oxford. She received her PhD in Economics from Princeton University, her MBA from Columbia University, and her BS and BA in Mathematics and Russian from Tulane University.

Kathryn’s research focuses on the economics of art and culture and more generally, industrial organization. She has published extensively in the field of the economics of the arts, with papers in top international journals including the American Economic Review, the Rand Journal of Economics, and the Journal of Economic History; among others. She has written policy papers on Artist Resale Rights for the UK Patent Office, and she is currently an Editor-in-Chief of the Journal of Cultural Economics.

For Economics Minors: Satisfies the Quantitative Reasoning requirement
• Satisfies the lower level elective requirement

For Economics Majors: Satisfies the elective requirement
• Satisfies the Business and Society elective requirement

For Business Majors and Minors: Satisfies the Business and Society elective requirement

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