Brandeis-India
SCIENCE SCHOLARS PROGRAM
Spring Semester Program

Program Overview

Brandeis University’s Office of Study Abroad and Division of Science, in collaboration with the Indian Institute of Science (IISc) in Bangalore, India, offers a program for top-notch science students interested in an intellectually stimulating study abroad opportunity at the premier science research and education institution in India. The Brandeis-India Science Scholars Program (BISSP) is an exchange program for students interested in studying biology, chemistry, computer science, math, and physics. What better place to do so than the scientific and technological hub of India?

Along with classes taught in English by Indian faculty, students will have the opportunity to collaborate on research projects in one of the many labs on campus. Following the spring semester program, select students from the IISc will come to Brandeis to participate in a summer research project with our faculty.

Partner University

Established in 1909 as a graduate research institution, the IISc began a four-year undergraduate program in 2011, giving undergraduate students exposure to research opportunities and a broad curriculum in the sciences. The facilities at the IISc are very well-equipped and many national research facilities are housed there. Academic divisions at the IISc include biology, chemistry, engineering, environmental science, materials, mathematics, and physics. Located on 400 lush acres in the heart of Bangalore, the Institute is a quiet residential campus that students, faculty, and staff call home. The hustle and bustle and excitement of Bangalore awaits for you outside the front gates.

“The Brandeis-India Science Scholars program is an “elite” study abroad program designed for high-achieving science majors to spend a semester abroad. IISc, Bangalore is the premier science education institution in India and is highly selective. The curriculum is much more extensive than we could ever dream to offer at Brandeis, and therefore, intended to broaden both the geographic and intellectual horizons of science majors.”

–Bulbul Chakraborty, Brandeis University, Ancell Professor of Physics

BISSP is a fantastic opportunity to enhance your Brandeis science studies.
Course Work

You will choose from a number of departments within the various divisions of the Undergraduate Program. Working closely with your academic advisor and the Brandeis Office of Study Abroad, you will select the classes that fulfill your academic needs and will meet the requirements for transfer back to Brandeis.

- Take 2-3 courses in biology, chemistry, engineering, environmental science, materials, mathematics, and physics.
- Partake in a research/lab project under the guidance of an IISc faculty supervisor (optional)
- Complement your Brandeis science-curriculum with courses that will count towards your science major or minor
- Courses are taught in English

Eligibility

Qualified candidates are high-achieving science students at Brandeis University as the academic rigor at the IISc is demanding and requires independent motivation and learning.

Housing

As a residential campus, students, as well as many faculty and staff live on campus. The IISc has several student hostel and mess facilities. Students on the program will live in single rooms with other Indian and international students. Bathrooms are traditional Indian facilities that are shared. Meals will be provided in the mess facilities, or students can opt to eat at one of the many inexpensive restaurants on campus.

Student Life

As a student at IISc, Brandeis students will have access to all of the campus facilities including the gym, swimming pool, tennis courts, and medical facilities.

“Before I came across BISSP, I thought it was impossible for a pre-med, science major to study abroad during the school year. However, while studying in India, I was not only able to take courses to complete my Biology major, but I was also able to participate in advanced level research at one of the top international research institutes. I was simultaneously able to travel throughout the country and experience such a rich and vibrant culture. This was definitely an experience I will never forget!”

—Madeline Engeler, Brandeis University ’16

Find Out More

For program fees, application deadlines and procedures, course options and credit equivalencies, a list of former participants, housing, FAQs and more, please visit us on the web.

If you would like to speak with a program representative, please call the Office of Study Abroad.

Program Dates

Early January – Late April

Program Application

Applications are reviewed on a rolling basis until the closing deadline. Students are encouraged to apply well before the admission deadline. Applications will be reviewed up until the deadline, provided spaces are still available.

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

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