

FIVE-YEAR WELLESLEY BA/MA PROGRAM

Introduction: Residency and Degree Requirements

The Wellesley BA/MA program is a 5-year combined undergraduate/graduate program that allows for highly competent Wellesley undergraduate students to enter the Brandeis University Lemberg Master’s program in their senior year. Wellesley BA/MA students must meet the same requirements as 2-year Lemberg MA students, subject to a few qualifications described below.

Residency

The Master of Arts in International Economics and Finance is a 2-year, full-time program. The Lemberg Program 2-year residency requirement begins when you enter the program. During these two years (4 full-time semesters), you will need to take a full course load by completing the equivalent of 16 full-semester 4-credit courses (64 credits). Half-semester courses, called modules, are 2 credit courses. Students are not allowed to accelerate their degree by taking heavier course loads or taking courses over the summer.

Degree requirements include seven (7) “core courses” and the balance of nine (9), are electives.

Course Requirements

The course requirements of the Wellesley BA/MAief are essentially the same as the MAief requirements. The following chart is a helpful reference for required courses. There are, however, some requirement substitution rules that are elaborated in detail in a section below.

MAief Requirements at Brandeis IBS

Subject Area	Semesters required	Courses Available to Meet Requirement		Normally offered in
If poor preparation in microeconomics		ECON 200f	Fundamentals of Microeconomics	Fall
If no prior course in statistics		ECON 210f	Fundamentals of Statistical Analysis	Fall/Spring
Quantitative Methods	1	BUS 211f FIN 217f ECON 211f ECON 212f ECON 215a	Information Management Financial Modeling Intro to Econometrics Applications of Econometrics Econometrics	Spring Fall/Spring Spring Spring Fall

Accounting	1	FIN 212a FIN 213a	Accounting and Financial Analysis Advanced Financial Accounting	Fall Fall
International Economics	3	ECON 201a ECON 202a ECON 260a	Global Economic Environment Applied International Macroeconomics International Trade Policy and Institutions	Fall/Spring Spring
Finance	2	FIN 201a FIN 202a	Financial Theory International Corporate Finance	Fall Spring
Total	7			

Degree

In all, you must complete 16 required and elective courses that count toward the Lemberg degree (64 Brandeis equivalent credits). Generally, only IBS 100/200/300-level and Wellesley ECON 300-level courses “count.” However, one of your courses may be from outside IBS/ECON if it is consistent with your IBS goals, e.g. a language course or a course from another discipline with direct applications. During your 4 semesters in the program, you may study abroad for a semester at one of our exchange universities; your program abroad would count for up to 16 credits.

The coursework that completes your degree requirement will not necessarily be the same courses used to complete your residency requirement. For example:

- You could count an upper level ECON course taken before you entered the Lemberg Program to fulfill your degree requirement.
- And a non-IBS course taken in your senior year, after entering Lemberg (taken to fulfill a general university BA requirement), could count toward your residency requirement.

Again, the residency requirement simply stipulates that a specific number of courses (16) be taken over the Lemberg two-year period while the degree requirement stipulates that you take a specific number of upper-level courses relevant to IBS goals (16) sometime during your years at Brandeis/Wellesley.

Course Enrollment Guidelines

1. Upon entering the Program, but while you are still an undergraduate (typically your senior year), you are required to take at least 2 graduate

Lemberg courses (200-level) per semester. Once entering the program, you should only be taking graduate IBS courses, not their undergraduate substitutes (e.g. take FIN 201a not ECON 171a.)

2. You are not normally permitted to take PhD-level courses during your 1st year of study.
3. Since some undergraduate courses cover material that is similar to content of graduate courses, you need to be aware of the specific rules regarding the following subject areas:

Accounting: If you took an accounting course at Babson or MIT before starting the BA/MA Program, you cannot take FIN 212a. The Babson/MIT course will fulfill your accounting requirement, but those credits **do not count** toward the 64 Brandeis equivalent credits required for the Lemberg degree. If you are interested in taking additional accounting, you may take FIN 213a, a more advanced course.

Global Economic Environment: ECON 201a is a required course for all IBS programs. No class may be used to substitute for this requirement.

Financial Theory: If you took ECON 323 or MIT course 15.401, Financial Theory before starting the BA/MA Program, you cannot take FIN 201a. ECON 323 or MIT course 15.401 will fulfill the financial theory requirement, and those credits **do count** toward the 64 Brandeis equivalent credits required for The Lemberg degree. If you are interested in taking more advanced financial theory, you may take FIN301a after ECON 323 or MIT course 15.401.

International Trade: ECON 314 will fulfill the international trade requirement; you do not have to take ECON 260a. The ECON 314 credits **do count** toward the 64 Brandeis equivalent credits required for the Lemberg degree. However, if you are interested in applications of International Trade theory in a variety of policy and institutional settings, you may wish to take ECON 260a after ECON 314.

Applied International Macroeconomics: If you took ECON 313 before starting the BA/MA Program, you do not have to take ECON 202a. ECON 313 will fulfill the international macroeconomics requirement and those credits **do count** toward the 64 Brandeis equivalent credits required for the Lemberg degree. However, if you are interested in International Macroeconomics, you may take ECON 202a after ECON 313 as it will provide more advanced and in depth instruction.

Quantitative Methods. The quantitative methods requirement can be fulfilled by successfully completing ECON 203 Econometrics.

4. You may select electives from IBS 200- or 300-level course offerings as

well as certain ECON 100-level courses that are approved for the Lemberg Program. IBS offers more than 50 electives, and the list grows yearly. Please consult the IBS web page at

http://www.brandeis.edu/global/current_students.php

for what will be offered, the prerequisites associated with each course and the schedule of classes. Please note that some IBS courses count as “upper-level” electives toward the ECON major at Wellesley, but many do not. Please consult the ECON Department Chair, regarding all courses counting towards your Wellesley degree.

Concentrations

Through elective course work, students are able to focus their studies through “concentrations.” A concentration unifies a student’s work at Brandeis and abroad. In the MAief program, you may elect to concentrate in International Economic Policy, International Finance or International Business. A concentration is achieved by taking four elective courses beyond those in the core requirements in a particular field. At least two of the four courses offered for the concentration must be taken at IBS. You may choose to take elective coursework through study abroad or through cross-registration at Boston area consortium schools; however you should get these courses pre-approved by your Program Director to have them count toward a concentration. You must complete the declaration of concentration process before you apply for graduation. You can obtain a “Declaration of Concentration” form online at http://www.brandeis.edu/global/current_students.php.

Planning Your Courses in the MAief Program

You should take some time to plan in advance so that you are not overloaded and are able to complete all requirements and take the electives that you want to take. Your Program Director can help in the planning process, but you should also ask fellow MAief students for their advice. Be aware that the requirements for the MBA are different from the MAief, so advice you get from MBA students may or may not apply to you.

Non-Course Requirements

The requirements described below have corresponding exemption paperwork that students need to complete. A notation on a student’s transcript will be made, which will indicate the requirement has been met. Students who have already met these requirements should submit paperwork during the first semester at IBS. See the Office of Administrative and Student Services (OASS) for all forms and paperwork.

Language Proficiency Requirement

The Wellesley foreign language requirement satisfies this. To graduate, a student is required to have working knowledge of a language in addition to English. Practically speaking, this means ability to carry on a basic conversation with a colleague in a

language other than English. Basic reading and writing skills (such as a simple email) are also required.

To demonstrate proficiency, evidence can be provided in one of the following ways:

- Native language is not English
- Two semesters of a language at Brandeis
- Two to four courses in the host language while studying abroad
- Intensive language course during the study abroad semester
- Demonstrated competency (see the OASS to inquire about this option)
- An intensive language course such as Berlitz

International Experience Requirement

The MBA and MAief Programs require students to have or gain professional international experience before they graduate. This requirement can be satisfied in the following ways:

- Studying abroad for a semester at one of our partner universities
- Living outside of the United States for three or more years (having lived outside of the US when a young child will not meet this requirement; see OASS)
- Working in a professional position for at least three months outside of the US undertaking a rigorous internship outside the United States for 3 or more months

Study Abroad Option

Even students who have already met the international experience requirement before they get here may elect to study abroad at one of our partner universities.

You may study abroad for one semester and receive credit for up to 4 courses toward your Brandeis degree. To receive the full 4-course credit you must take the normal course load at the partner university and complete your courses with satisfactory grades. Students typically study abroad in the fall of their second year. If you choose to go abroad in the spring of your first year, you need to decide very soon after you arrive at Brandeis. Consult with the Assistant Director of Academics and Student Services if you are considering this option.

The courses you take abroad normally fulfill the elective part of your Brandeis degree requirements. In unusual cases, you may complete a core course requirement or receive credit for additional coursework. You must get approval for this in advance; please consult your program director.

Cross-Registration Option

Students are permitted with signature permission to cross-register for one course each semester, and these courses can count as electives. Schools with cross-registration include: Babson College, Boston University, Boston College, Bentley College, and Tufts University.

Cross-registration is purely a student initiative; that is students must complete all the necessary paperwork and make all arrangements¹. Students should discuss course plans with staff in the OASS. It may be useful to discuss cross-registration plans with the Program Director who can provide useful advice.

¹This includes transportation. Withdrawal from a cross-registered course requires paperwork with the partner university.