

BRANDEIS UNIVERSITY

BRANDEIS INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS SCHOOL

GENERAL INFORMATION

Type of school	Private
Academic calendar	Semester

SURVEY SAYS...

Cutting-edge classes
<i>Solid preparation in:</i>
Finance
Teamwork
Quantitative skills
Doing business in a global economy

STUDENTS

Enrollment of MBA Program	75
% male/female	60/40
% minorities	1
% international	75
Average age at entry	27
Average years work experience at entry	3.9

ACADEMICS

Academic Experience Rating	80
Profs interesting rating	95
Profs accessible rating	78
Student/faculty ratio	8:1
% female faculty	43

Academics

At Brandeis International Business School, "learning is not limited to theoretical concepts. Keeping education connected to the real world of business and policy is an integral part of the IBS experience." The University offers students a "strong foundation in economics and finance." Moreover, Brandeis is renowned for its "global focus," and MBA candidates here are privy to "a truly global platform for professionals who seek advancement in international business." Indeed, many people here greatly appreciate that the school "has students from more than 70 countries." It provides an "excellent cultural mix" and "terrific exposure [to other] cultures." Overall, the "academic rigor can be quite high, but it, in part, depends on what course load you choose to take and how much you want to challenge yourself."

Importantly, Brandeis students are full of praise for their professors. Certainly, they "are well respected in their fields" and are "always available to provide further guidance." And one content second year student adds, "The professors are very friendly, extremely smart, and are concerned that we graduate with a great job. The open-door policy is very true." This admiration also extends to Brandeis' administration. As a first year student happily shares, "The administration is very proactive in organizing the events at the college and making sure that everyone participates in these events." And another second-year student quickly follows up stating, "Whatever you want to get done, the school's administration will help you achieve it."

Career and Placement

Brandeis' IBS Career Center strives to help their students land plum internships and employment opportunities. The office provides a number of services, from access to online libraries and databases to career education and advising. Students frequently take advantage of mock interview lessons, company information sessions, and panel presentations. Additionally, there are a handful of networking events, the culmination of which is the school's annual on-campus career fair. Of course, despite the Career Center's best efforts, many students wish they would be more proactive about attracting more companies. As one first-year student shared, "Although the Career Services Office does a great job, the possibilities to get paid internships are limited. From my point of view, most local and small companies recruit here." Additionally, a second-year student chimes in that he'd like to see "job placement increase for international students in the United States." However, an optimistic and hopeful student counters, "It is definitely a young school, but the rate that we are growing with the intelligent people graduating from here, in a few years we will have a larger alumni network of extremely successful professionals, who will carry the Brandeis IBS name throughout the world as a premier education in international business."

Employers that frequently hire Brandeis grads include BNP Paribas, Citibank, General Electric, Goldman Sachs, JP Morgan/Chase, Lehman Brothers, NERA Economic Consulting, United Airlines, and Watson Wyatt.

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Student Life and Environment

If pressed to describe their peers in one word, most MBA candidates at Brandeis would define their fellow students as “diverse.” Indeed, the program is “hugely international,” and “everyone here is open to new experiences.” By and large, people find their classmates “cooperative” and “collaborative.” And one second year breathes a sigh of relief explaining, “They are friendly, and the environment is encouraging as opposed to competitive.” One slightly chagrined student does note that “the average student age is younger than I had expected.” Another student concurs, adding that some classmates are “a bit too young and a bit too inexperienced to be in business school.” Others disagree and quickly assert that their fellow students “bring interesting perspectives” and argue that there are plenty of “people with different professional backgrounds [to] enrich discussions.” Perhaps this student sums up his peers best, “They are people I want to spend time with outside of the school.”

Life at Brandeis moves “very fast.” Students are “constantly multi-tasking between class work, group projects, and club events.” Certainly there is much to participate in. As one MBA candidate highlights, “There are lots of clubs, and importantly, lots of opportunities of opening ones on your own. TGIFs and group activities at the International Graduate Business School are a good time to get together and relax after pretty stressful and hectic (although rewarding and energizing at the same time) study weeks at Brandeis.” Additionally, students love to take advantage of Brandeis’ proximity to Boston. As one student reveals, “Access to Boston is great. The school helps out on the weekend by providing busses, which run later than public transportation.”

Admissions

Though Brandeis’ MBA program is relatively new, competition for that coveted acceptance letter is still fierce. The admissions committee is on the hunt for applicants who can demonstrate both a keen analytical ability and proven leadership skills. Additionally, admissions officers will carefully assess your undergraduate record and expect strong GMAT or GRE scores. Further, given the curriculum and the makeup of the student body, it’s important to display an interest in international issues. It is recommended that applicants have between two and five years of work experience. It is also expected that prospective students took intro micro- and macroeconomics and statistics while in undergrad. Finally, most international students will need to take the TOEFL exam. A score of 600 on the paper-based exam, 250 on the computer-based, or 100 on the IBT exam is usually required.

FINANCIAL FACTS

Annual tuition	\$37,530
Room & board	\$6,000
% of students receiving aid	84
% of first-year students receiving aid	80
% of students receiving grants	84
Average award package	\$23,886
Average grant	\$13,886
Average student loan debt	\$20,500

ADMISSIONS

Admissions Selectivity Rating	93
# of applications received	191
Range of GMAT	520–640
Average GPA	3.41
TOEFL required of international students	Yes
Minimum TOEFL (paper/computer)	600/250
Application fee	\$55
International application fee	\$55
Regular application deadline	2/15
Early decision program?	Yes
Deferment available	Yes
Maximum length of deferment	1 year
Transfer students accepted	Yes
Transfer application policy:	
Will accept transfer credit by waiving required courses.	
Non-fall admissions	Yes
Need-blind admissions	No

EMPLOYMENT PROFILE

Career Rating	86	Top 5 Employers Hiring Grads
Percent employed at graduation	46	EMC (4), Observant LLC (2), Knight
Percent employed 3 months after graduation	72	Liberties (2)
Average base starting salary	\$66,962	