

FIVE-YEAR BA/MAIEF PROGRAM

Introduction: Residency and Degree Requirements

The BA/MAief program is a 5-year combined undergraduate/graduate program that allows highly competent undergraduate students to enter the Master's program in their senior year. BA/MAief students have to meet the same requirements as 2-year Lemberg MAief students, subject to a few qualifications described below. Students should consult the MAief Handbook for basic program requirements.

Residency

For a BA/MA student, the Lemberg Program's 2-year residency requirement begins the first semester the student enters the program, usually the fall of the senior year. During these two years (4 full-time semesters), the student 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.

Course Requirements

The course requirements of the 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
<i>If poor preparation in microeconomics</i>		<i>ECON 200f</i>	<i>Fundamentals of Microeconomics</i>	<i>Fall</i>
<i>If no prior course in statistics</i>		<i>ECON 210f</i>	<i>Fundamentals of Statistical Analysis</i>	<i>Fall/Spring</i>
Quant Methods	1	BUS 211f	Information Management	Spring
		FIN 217f	Financial Modeling	Spring
		FIN 218f	Financial Modeling II	Fall
		ECON 211f	Introduction to Econometrics	Spring
		ECON 212f	Applications of Econometrics	Spring

		ECON 215a	Econometrics*	Fall
Accounting	1	FIN 212a	Accounting and Financial Analysis	Fall
		FIN 213a	Advanced Financial Accounting	Fall
International Economics	3	ECON 201a	Global Economic Environment	Fall
		ECON 202a	Applied International	Spring
		ECON 260a	Macroeconomics International Trade Policy and Institutions	Spring
Finance	2	FIN 201a	Financial Theory	Fall
		FIN 202a	International Corporate Finance	Spring
Total	7			

Degree

In all, you must complete 16 required and elective courses that count toward the Lemberg degree (64 credits). Generally, only IBS 200/300-level and ECON 100-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 a 100-level ECON course taken before you entered the Lemberg Program to fulfill your degree requirement.
- 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.

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 (IBS 200-level) per semester. Once you have entered 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. If you are completing a senior thesis (e.g., ECON 99a/b), it may count as an elective course in your Program if the topic is appropriate to IBS and approved by the Lemberg Program Director.
4. Since some undergraduate courses cover material that is similar to content of graduate courses, students need to be aware of specific requirement substitution rules regarding the following subject areas:
 - **Accounting:** Students who took BUS 6a before starting the BA/MA Program cannot take FIN 212a, but they are allowed to (but do not have to) take FIN 213a (a more advanced course). However, BUS 6a, a substitute for FIN 212a, does *not* count as credit toward the Lemberg 16-course requirement.
 - **Financial Theory:** Students who took ECON 171a before starting the BA/MA Program cannot take FIN 201a, but they are allowed to (but do not have to) take FIN 301a (a more advanced course). ECON 171a is a substitute for FIN 201a and it also counts toward the Lemberg 16-course requirement.
 - **Global Economic Environment.** ECON 201a is a required course for all IBS programs. No class may be used to substitute for this requirement.
 - **International Macroeconomics:** Students who took ECON 161a before starting the BA/MA Program don't have to take ECON 202a, but they are allowed to do so (the overlap in content is not excessive). ECON 161a is a substitute for the ECON 202a requirement and it counts toward the Lemberg 16-course requirement.
 - **International Trade:** Students can take ECON 160a, ECON 260a or both. Either satisfies the International Trade requirement; however most students should take ECON 260a because it has been designed for the Lemberg program. Students who took ECON 60a before entering Lemberg cannot take ECON 260a. ECON 60a is a substitute for 260a, but it does not count toward the Lemberg 16-course requirement.
 - **International Corporate Finance:** Students who took ECON 174a before starting the BA/MA program cannot take FIN 202a (but they should consult the instructor and audit the portions of FIN 202a not covered in ECON 174a). ECON 174a is a substitute for FIN 202a and it also counts toward the Lemberg 16-course requirement.
 - **Business Minor:** BA/MAs who wish to finish a Business or IB minor should, where possible, complete requirements by taking 200-level IBS courses. Take

BUS 260a (Competition and Strategy) as a substitute for BUS 10a (formerly ECON 37b), BUS 270a (Managing International Business) as a substitute for BUS 70a (formerly ECON 33a) or BUS 75a and FIN 212a (Accounting/Financial Analysis) as a substitute for BUS 6a.

- **Quantitative Requirement:** Students may count ECON 184b (Econometrics) towards the quantitative requirement of the MA portion of their program.
5. You may select electives from 200- or 300-level IBS courses, as well as ECON 100-level courses. 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 courses 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, but many do not. Consult the ECON advising head if you are in doubt about your undergraduate major status.

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

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
- met the Brandeis undergrad language requirement

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

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

plans with staff in the OASS. It may be useful to discuss cross-registration plans with the Program Director who can provide useful advice.