FIND THE TEACHER WITHIN YOU.
Teaching isn’t an art that we ever “master,” but the Brandeis Master of Arts in Teaching program will support your professional and personal growth as you gain the skills to succeed in the classroom.

Shauna Antley Pellauer ’08
English Teacher, Newton South High School
THE BEST
TEACHERS
NEVER STOP LEARNING.
There are teachers who embody lifelong learning, continually exploring the subjects they teach. They seek to inspire their students and to become ever more successful at engaging young people on a journey of exploration and discovery.

Most of all, these gifted teachers awaken confidence and curiosity in all students, from the most capable to those with challenges to overcome. The Brandeis Master of Arts in Teaching program helps to create such teachers, providing educators like you with the capabilities to change the lives of students, improve schools and help shape the educational system. If you have the makings of a truly great teacher, we can help you gain the skills and experience to match.
A GREAT TEACHER IS ...

Inspired. Outstanding teachers are bold and passionate about uncovering what matters in a subject. They ignite young minds with their own love of learning and with their belief in the potential possessed by every student.

Creative. The best teachers are experimental and innovative, employing changing and wide-ranging means of engaging students of various abilities, stimulating discussion and promoting critical thinking.

Determined. Great teachers find ways to convince all students to believe in themselves and the importance of their work. They strive to deepen students’ understanding of, and engagement with, the world around them.

Dedicated. The best teachers are unwavering in their commitment to giving students the kind of education that transforms lives. They continually examine their own practices, sharing insights with colleagues. They are also tireless in providing and maintaining a safe, respectful learning community.
WHY BRANDEIS?
We welcome students with strong content preparation who want to become creative, highly effective classroom teachers.

The Brandeis Secondary Master of Arts in Teaching program offers:

• Personalized attention from faculty, mentors and colleagues in a small and caring cohort

• Discipline-focused pedagogy that enables you to share your passion for your subject with your students

• A holistic approach to adolescent development

• A choice of an internship in an urban, suburban or Jewish day school

• Dual certification in middle (grades 5-8) and high (grades 8-12) school

• Substantial financial aid

• Induction support that will enhance your development as a teacher leader

This 13-month, full-time intensive program helps you develop the skills, knowledge and insights you need to excel as a teacher. Dedicated faculty, outstanding professional colleagues and diverse students work closely together. Students learn about practice and theory from master secondary teachers and professors.
Are you excited about inspiring young people to learn your subject? Teaching critical thinking is not the same in mathematics as it is in English, history or Chinese. That’s why at Brandeis you learn pedagogy grounded in the subject you teach. Discipline-based seminars ensure that you learn the optimal means for planning and instruction within your chosen subject. You also enroll in four university courses to deepen your knowledge about the content you will teach.
Today’s classrooms are increasingly diverse. The Master of Arts in Teaching program gives you the skills and confidence to engage students with different backgrounds and different levels of capability and experience. Our program prepares thoughtful, caring teachers to honor the strengths of every student and to address the needs of English language learners and those with disabilities. By the time you graduate, you will have the knowledge, skills and insights necessary to develop strong relationships with students’ families and the community.
YEAR-LONG INTERNSHIP

School context and culture matter. Because we are dedicated to developing teachers who want to teach in urban (including charter), suburban and parochial schools, we take the internship placement process very seriously. Before the program even begins, you meet with the faculty leader to discuss what kind of placement makes sense and consult with the potential cooperating teacher in order to determine whether there is a good match.

After spending two days per week in the fall observing in the classes of your mentor and other teachers, you will assume responsibility in January for teaching two classes during the spring semester. In May, you begin a mini-placement that enables you to gain knowledge about middle- and high-school classrooms by the time you graduate. (If your year-long internship is in a high school, your mini-placement would be in a middle school, and vice versa.) This second placement enables you to be certified in grades 5-8 and 8-12.

Despite different placements, discussing common goals and teaching dilemmas together enriches the learning experience for you and your fellow students. (Brandeis is the only university in the United States preparing teachers for public schools, Jewish day schools and parochial schools.)
Each Master of Arts in Teaching (MAT) student completes a classroom-based research project. Here are some recent titles:

“Reimagining ‘Management’ in an Urban Classroom: Creating a Community of Respect”
JENNA L. FERNANDES, ENGLISH MAT, 2008

“The Cellphone Conundrum: Dealing With Student Attitudes Toward Technology in the Classroom”
JESSIE DAIGNEAULT, BIOLOGY MAT, 2010

“Affecting Outcomes on Reading Assignments in a Science Classroom”
PETER TORDO, PHYSICS MAT, 2010

“‘Anyone? ... Anyone? ...’: Increasing Class Participation in a High-School Classroom”
LAURA HIMMELBERGER, HISTORY MAT, 2011

“‘Give Me Havruta or Give Me Death!: Teaching Partner Work in the Jewish Studies Classroom”
NOAM SIENNA, TANAKH MAT, 2012
ON GOING SUPPORT

Have the support of a vibrant community even after you earn your degree.

Employment. Since the program began, Brandeis Secondary Master of Arts in Teaching graduates have been exceptionally successful in finding teaching positions. Our alumni are currently teaching in secondary schools in Massachusetts and other states, including New York, California and New Hampshire.

Support for beginning teachers. Any graduate whose initial teaching position is in the Boston area is invited to participate in the monthly meetings of our teacher induction program.

Teacher leadership. Brandeis graduates are increasingly being recognized as teacher leaders in their schools. Faculty members continue to provide perspective and support as alumni move into instructional and institutional leadership roles.
I definitely feel prepared to teach, and I think the program is well-structured to take people who know nothing or little about the world of teaching and get them ready in 13 months to become a full-time teacher.

*Stephanie White ‘10*
*9th-Grade English Teacher, Rising Tide Charter Public School*

I was drawn to Brandeis’ teaching program because of the university’s small size, academic rigor and focus on social justice. This program will help me develop the skills and strategies I will need to be a great teacher, one who will inspire my students to be creative thinkers and insightful citizens of the world.

*Ben Sachs-Hamilton ‘12*
*History Teacher, Newton South High School*

The master’s program has taught me a lot about my teaching philosophy and my “teacher self.” This experience has broadened my approach to education and the ways I carry myself in the classroom.

*Cynthia Masillon ‘12*
*History Teacher, Somerville High School*

Not only did I learn how to be an effective educator, but I learned how important it is for teachers to be reflective in their practice, innovative in their teaching and intentional in the decisions they make in the classroom.

*Sara Smith ‘10*
*Tanakh Teacher, Yeshiva of Los Angeles Girls High School*
APPLYING TO THE PROGRAM AND FINANCIAL AID

Financial support for graduate students and prospective teachers is available from a variety of sources.

The Brandeis Public Educator Scholarship provides tuition remission to Master of Arts in Teaching students with outstanding potential to contribute to the improvement of public education through an active and creative life as a teacher in the public sector.

The Dean’s Scholarship for an Outstanding Teacher in a High Needs Area provides tuition remission to a Master of Arts in Teaching student with outstanding potential for a strong commitment to teaching in an identified “high needs” area, generally defined as one or a combination of the following: high-poverty school, mathematics, physics, chemistry or biology.

Other scholarships available:
The Brandeis Jewish Educator Scholarship
Americorps or City Year alumni/staff
The Brandeis Alumni Scholarship for Teaching
Teacher Loan Forgiveness Programs
For further information
Marya R. Levenson, EdD
Professor of the Practice in Education
Director, Education Program
mlevenso@brandeis.edu

Diana Turk, PhD
Associate Professor of Education
Director of Teacher Education
dbturk@brandeis.edu

Eileen Kell
Senior Department Coordinator
ekell@brandeis.edu
781-736-2002

Manuel Tuan
Master of Arts in Teaching Program Coordinator
mat@brandeis.edu
781-736-2002

Visit our website
www.brandeis.edu/programs/mat