

Independent Interdisciplinary Major Proposal Application

Brandeis University – Office of Academic Services

Section I: Basic Information

Name: _____ Student ID Number: _____

Class Year: _____ E-mail: _____@brandeis.edu

Title of Proposed IIM: _____

Please list any other majors and minors you plan to complete if your IIM is approved:

If your IIM is not approved, please indicate the alternative major you plan to declare:

Primary Faculty Advisor

Name: _____ Department: _____

E-mail: _____@brandeis.edu Full-time faculty member (Yes or No)? _____

Secondary Faculty Advisors

Name: _____ Department: _____

E-mail: _____@brandeis.edu

Name: _____ Department: _____

E-mail: _____@brandeis.edu

By signing below, I am acknowledging my intention to complete the proposed curriculum of courses listed in Sections I, II, and III. I understand that after final approval of my proposal by the IIM Faculty Committee and the Undergraduate Curriculum Committee, any deletions, substitutions, or additions must be approved by my primary advisor and communicated to the IIM Coordinator via the [IIM Course Revision Form](#).

Student Signature: _____ Date: _____

Section II: Proposed Curriculum

(Together, your Brandeis Courses, Optional Non-Brandeis Courses, and Senior Capstone Project should add up to 12 courses [or 48 credits]. In addition, you should list four Alternate Courses.)

Brandeis Courses

Course Number	Course Title	Foundational Literacy (WI, OC, DL)	Semester Completed/Scheduled	Grade Earned

Optional Non-Brandeis Courses

(e.g., Study Abroad, Summer School, Cross-Registration, etc.)

Course Number	Course Title	Foundational Literacy (WI, OC, DL)	Semester Completed/Scheduled	Grade Earned

Senior Capstone Project

(Select one option for a culminating project in your senior year. A thesis is required to graduate with IIM departmental honors.)

Course Number

Course Title

IIM 98a or 98b

Independent Study

(Completed fall or spring of senior year for 4 credits total.)

Topic of Research: _____

Faculty Sponsor: _____

OR

IIM 99d

Senior Thesis

(Completed fall and spring of senior year for 8 credits total.)

Topic of Research: _____

Faculty Sponsor: _____

Alternate Courses

(List possible substitutes for courses in Sections I & II in case they are unavailable due to scheduling changes or conflicts.)

Course Number	Course Title	Foundational Literacy (WI, OC, DL)	Semester Completed/Scheduled	Grade Earned

Background Courses

(List completed courses that demonstrate your preparation to do advanced work listed in your curriculum, e.g., foreign language, math, statistics, etc.)

Course Number	Course Title	Semester Completed/Scheduled	Grade Earned

Section III: Written Statement

Please attach your written proposal, typically 3-4 typed pages. The proposal should include the following sections:

- A description of your major and how it contributes to your intellectual development.
- An explanation of why this IIM is preferable to a combination of existing majors/minors.
- A comparison of the structure and content of this major to that of undergraduate programs at 3-4 other schools.
- A discussion of the curriculum and how the courses contribute to your course of study.
- A description of your intellectual goals and post-Brandeis plans.

Section IV: Other Attachments

Please include the following when you submit your completed IIM Proposal Application and written statement:

- Your faculty letter of endorsement, signed by all three faculty advisors.
- PDF copies of the description and curricula of 3-4 comparable undergraduate programs offered at other colleges and universities.

Petitions are can be submitted either in October or March. Check with the [IIM website](#) for exact dates. Please note an Independent Interdisciplinary Major should be proposed no later than the fall semester of your junior year. Any questions should be directed to the IIM Coordinator in Academic Services.