

BE
WHO
YOU ARE

THE
**MIDYEAR
PATH**

Brandeis



*Welcome to
Brandeis.*

*We can't
wait for you
to join us.*



At Brandeis, we receive applications from a greater number of qualified students than we are able to offer fall admission. By offering part of the class an opportunity to join our campus in January, we can enrich our community with outstanding students like you.

We know how much you and the approximately 120 other midyears who arrive in January will infuse our community with new enthusiasm about what it means to be a Brandeisian.

You will join fellow students, faculty, and alumni who are friendly, intellectually curious, and ready to think creatively. Through the Brandeis Core curriculum, you will develop a comprehensive liberal arts foundation within a thriving research institution. You will gain practical skills to guide your education today and shape your career journey tomorrow.

*Imagine
what we
can do
together.*

DISCOVER LIFE-CHANGING OPPORTUNITIES

As a medium-sized, top-tier research university, Brandeis offers a culture of learning and mentorship essential to a 21st-century liberal arts education. Close relationships with professors and research opportunities enable you to collaborate with faculty mentors. Whether you want to partner with a professor on fieldwork or see what happens when you bridge neuroscience and studio art, you will challenge yourself and expand your interests. You might even change someone else's life, too.

98%

**NINETY-EIGHT PERCENT OF THE CLASS OF 2023 WAS EMPLOYED,
IN GRADUATE SCHOOL, OR ENGAGED IN MEANINGFUL EXPERIENCES
WITHIN SIX MONTHS OF GRADUATION.**

INCLUSION IS IN OUR DNA

The American Jewish community established Brandeis at a time when discrimination barred Jews and other marginalized groups from many leading U.S. colleges and universities. Our founders created a university open to all students, faculty, and staff, regardless of background or belief. Diversity, equity, and inclusion are deeply rooted in our identity as an institution — and in the Brandeis Core. These values are a regular reminder for self-reflection, and a continuous call to grow.

33%

THIRTY-THREE PERCENT OF BRANDEIS UNDERGRADUATES ARE STUDENTS OF COLOR. TWENTY PERCENT OF UNDERGRADUATES ARE INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS.

NO MATTER WHAT INSPIRES YOU ...

or prompts you to ask “why,” you will meet other Brandeisians in class — and through nearly 200 student-led clubs and organizations — who share your passions. You will learn how to apply your curiosity, skills, knowledge, and values to benefit society. As a community, we work toward positive change, locally and globally. We support one another with compassion and community spirit.

And we are stronger for it.

#1

THE PRINCETON REVIEW RANKED BRANDEIS #1 FOR STUDENTS
MOST ENGAGED IN COMMUNITY SERVICE.



*Being a
midyear is
a unique
opportunity.*



COUNTLESS PATHS AND POSSIBILITIES

As a midyear, you have an entire semester to take advantage of your independence. We encourage you to spend this time pursuing a meaningful experience, whether you work, volunteer, study abroad, or take college courses.

FINDING A JOB, INTERNSHIP, OR VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY

Working or volunteering during the fall is a great way to transition from high school to Brandeis. It teaches time management, fosters teamwork, hones critical thinking, and provides leadership opportunities, giving you valuable real-world experience.

TAKING COURSES BEFORE ENROLLING AT BRANDEIS

The Office of the University Registrar assists midyear students who wish to take courses at another institution before enrolling at Brandeis to ensure those courses are transferable. Faculty and staff advisors are assigned to midyear students over the summer and are available to provide advice regarding course registration, academic options, and other university policies and processes before the start of the fall semester.

SEMESTER ABROAD PROGRAMS DESIGNED FOR MIDYEARS

Brandeis works with study abroad programs in two cities that are tailored to meet the academic and social interests of midyear students. Participants on these programs can earn transfer credits. Programs are offered in partnership with Arcadia University and CET Academic Programs, two longtime study abroad partners that Brandeis has reviewed for their commitment to student health and safety. For more information, please visit brandeis.edu/abroad/midyear.

FALL PROGRAM IN FLORENCE

CET Academic Programs, a leading study abroad program provider, offers Brandeis midyear students the chance to spend their first college semester in Florence. Students take a full course load while studying and living in one of the world's most captivating cities. Classes include Beginning Italian, a first-year writing seminar, and three electives in fields such as art history, studio art, politics, and economics. The program also brings learning outside the classroom. Students can go on a hike and picnic in the Chianti countryside, participate in city charity walks, and join in local soccer tournaments.

FALL PROGRAM IN LONDON

The College of Global Studies at Arcadia University sponsors a fall program in London for Brandeis midyears. Experience all the culture and excitement London offers through field study, excursions, and cross-cultural activities, along with thought-provoking lectures. With the city of London as your classroom, you'll take a full course load with classes in areas such as history, politics, literature, economics, and journalism. Students enroll in a first-year writing seminar and three elective courses.

FREQUENTLY ASKED MIDYEAR QUESTIONS

HOW LARGE A MIDYEAR CLASS WILL BRANDEIS ENROLL?

Brandeis enrolls approximately 120 midyear students each academic year.

WHEN DO MIDYEAR STUDENTS GRADUATE?

Like other Brandeis students, midyears follow a program designed to be completed in eight semesters. Some students, however, are able to fulfill their requirements in seven semesters. The choice of when to graduate, like the choice of how to spend the fall semester, is one you will need to make for yourself, in conjunction with your advisors and family.

WHAT HOUSING OPPORTUNITIES ARE AVAIL- ABLE FOR MIDYEAR STUDENTS?

Midyears are guaranteed housing in a residence hall for their first three consecutive semesters. Brandeis makes every effort to place midyear students together, either as roommates or as neighbors in the same hall. You will be notified about your housing assignment in early December.

CAN MIDYEAR ADMISSION BE DEFERRED FOR A SEMESTER?

No, all admission offers at Brandeis are deferrable for a full year only. Midyear students must start at Brandeis in the month of January.

WILL MEMBERS OF THE MIDYEAR CLASS BE CONSIDERED FOR FINANCIAL AID?

Yes. If the CSS Profile application was filed on time, you will receive a tentative financial aid award letter from the Office of Student Financial Services.

CAN MEMBERS OF THE MIDYEAR CLASS TAKE COURSES AT ANOTHER COLLEGE DURING THE FALL SEMESTER BEFORE THEY ENTER BRANDEIS?

Midyear students may enroll in a nondegree-seeking program at a regionally accredited, degree-granting institution prior to matriculating at Brandeis. Before you enroll in fall classes, the Office of the University Registrar at Brandeis can help you determine whether you will receive credit for such coursework and whether those courses will fulfill Brandeis academic requirements.

To learn more, please visit brandeis.edu/registrar/transfer/midyear.

WHAT ARE MY OPTIONS IF I'M INTERESTED IN PRE-HEALTH OR THE SCIENCES?

Brandeis has an excellent record of preparing midyears to pursue science degrees and education in the health professions. With some careful planning, midyears can position themselves to attend top medical schools or other science graduate programs. There are benefits to starting your academic career in the spring. A semester off can give you time to focus on other pre-health or science-related activities, such as gaining EMT or CNA certification, working in a hospital, or doing research full time. Such experiences can help strengthen your understanding of the health- and science-related professions and improve your candidacy for professional school.

It may be challenging to pursue a major in chemistry, biochemistry, or physics as a midyear student. We strongly recommend that you meet with your advisor in Academic Services to discuss course sequencing. The Academic Services staff is dedicated to working with you to support your academic path and goals.

To learn more about advising, visit brandeis.edu/advising. For more information on the sciences and pre-health at Brandeis, visit brandeis.edu/prehealth.



*We want to
help make
your midyear
transition a
smooth one.*





GET ORIENTED

There's a lot to do to prepare for Brandeis. Starting later this spring and throughout the summer, you'll start preparing for your arrival on campus.

Orientation is the beginning of your Brandeis journey, and the Department of Orientation and First Year Experience (FYE) is excited to welcome you to campus! Our two-part Orientation program, starting with virtual modules in the fall and in-person Orientation in January, is designed to provide answers to the many questions you have about Brandeis.

And it doesn't stop there. Throughout your first semester on campus, FYE events will help you continue to feel welcome, connected, and supported. To learn more, visit brandeis.edu/orientation.



PRO TIP: **JUMP IN**

"Everyone at Orientation is nervous. Really jump in, be authentic, be honest. You don't have to prove anything to anyone or yourself. Take a deep breath, slow down, and enjoy it. Who you are is exactly who you're supposed to be."

➤ ZAC '26



PRO TIP:
FLEX AND FLEXIBILITY

“The most valuable part of my academic experience has been the freedom to try out different classes and areas of study. I had no idea what I wanted to do when I first arrived here, and the course structure made it very simple for me to try different interests.”

➤ AYDEN '24

WORK THAT CORE!

The Core Curriculum affirms our values of open inquiry, debate, inclusion, and diversity while promoting critical thinking and cross-disciplinary exploration.

In the summer, Academic Advisors will offer webinars to help you select classes and prepare for registration in November.

When you arrive on campus, you'll be assigned a Roosevelt Fellow, a peer advisor who can offer advice on how to choose courses and navigate all the academic programs offered at Brandeis.

Whether you already know your major or want to take some time to explore, you might choose a first-semester schedule that looks something like this:

- One class for your desired major or area of interest. See the full list at brandeis.edu/majors.
- One class in a different department that could fulfill one of your Brandeis Core requirements.
- A University Writing Seminar. See brandeis.edu/uws.
- A language class — continue one that you studied in high school or learn a new language.
- Navigating Health and Safety — a six-week module required in your first semester.





PRO TIP:
**THE KEYS TO YOUR
NEW ROOM**

“The best things about living on campus are convenience and inclusiveness. I’m a music student living in Ziv, and Slosberg, our music building, is only a three-minute walk away. With academic, athletic, and most club activities on campus, you feel a sense of connection to the student body as a whole.”

➤ ARIS '24

ROOMIES

Welcome to your home away from home!

Community living at Brandeis allows you to reside with classmates who share your interests, who will expose you to new ideas, and who may even become your friends for life. As a first-year student, you'll be assigned housing with other first-years or sophomores, typically in a double or triple room.

Based on information in your Housing Application, you'll be matched with a roommate and receive your room assignment by early December.





PHOTOGRAPHY: DAN HOLMES, GAELAN MORSE, AND MIKE LOVETT
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FOODIES

With a focus on locally sourced ingredients, sustainability, and wellness, dining at Brandeis is both flavorful and fun. The All Access meal plans are popular choices for new students. You can use your meals at The Table at Sherman or Usdan Kitchen dining halls, grab a bagel at Einstein's, sip coffee at our on-campus Dunkin' or Starbucks, visit several kosher dining locations, and more. Do you have dietary restrictions or allergies? No problem. Our campus nutritionist is available to work with you.



PRO TIP: **WHAT'S FOR DINNER?**

"My favorite place to eat on campus is The Stein. The atmosphere always has great vibes with music playing, club events, trivia, and more. There is always something exciting going on, and it allows you to feel less like you're in a dining hall and more like a social hub with new things to do and new people to meet."

➤ ALYSSA '24

IF YOU HAVE MORE QUESTIONS, FEEL FREE TO CONTACT US.

ACADEMIC SERVICES

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COMMUNITY LIVING

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ORIENTATION AND FIRST YEAR EXPERIENCE

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