

2025 Graduate Student Orientation Schedule

FRIDAY, AUGUST 22

10:00am – 11:00am - Welcome from Grad Affairs & Student Panels

Shapiro Campus Center Theater

- Jessica Basile & Jing Zhang (Office of Graduate Affairs) introduce Orientation Leaders, review agenda and expectations of the orientation program
- Current students discuss graduate student life at Brandeis and answer your questions

11:00am – 11:30am – ‘Connections’ in Small Groups

Various Locations

Orientation Leaders will hold small group sessions outside of the Shapiro Campus Center so you can meet some of your peers. This is a great opportunity for you to make connections with other students in a facilitated environment.

11:30am - 12:30pm – Resource Fair

Sherman Function Hall (in Hassenfeld)

Orientation Leaders will bring you to the Resource Fair, where you can engage with offices and student organizations that support graduate students. Hosted by Graduate Affairs and InStep, a collaborative campus group of folks from who support international students, the Resource Fair features resources, student organizations, and community partners. Come put a face to the folks you can turn to for help throughout your time at Brandeis.

12:30pm - 1:30pm – Lunch

Sherman Dining Hall (in Hassenfeld)

Your Orientation Leader has a meal ticket for you to be able to enjoy a buffet lunch with your peers.

1:30pm - 4:30pm Informational Panels and Campus Tours

Meeting outside of Hassenfeld for the campus tours. Information sessions are located in Hassenfeld in the Lurias, Levin-Ross and Geller rooms (to the left as you leave Sherman Function Hall)

When you registered for Orientation, you chose times to engage in the following options, so please refer to your registration email response to confirm where to go. Options include:

- Informational panels
 - **Language, Teaching and Writing at Brandeis:** Hosted by the Center for Teaching and Learning, the Writing Center, English Language Programs, and Student Accessibility Support, this session provides you with information on the resources and support available for pedagogical skills, writing development, and English language support.
 - **Health and Wellness at Brandeis:** Hosted by the Brandeis Counseling Center, (BCC) the Health Center, Health and Wellness Programs (HAWP), the Prevention, Advocacy and Resource Center (PARC), the University Ombuds, and the Office for Spiritual Life, this session offers information on resources and supports to help you maintain a healthy work/life balance while you're in graduate school.
 - **Graduate Student Life:** Graduate students, Grad Affairs and campus partners share their experiences with life at Brandeis and in the greater Boston metro area. What's life like for a graduate student at Brandeis? How do you balance your personal life with your academic work? Where do graduate students hang out on campus? Where can you get a cheap (or free!) cup of coffee? Where do you go for fun or to relax?
- Campus tour: get a sense of the physical campus, with a focus on graduate student areas.
- Library tour: an overview of library resources available to you.
- Athletics tour: find out what the gym and athletic facilities have to offer!

4:30pm – 6:00pm Reception

Faculty Club

Drop by the Faculty Club and treat yourself to some light refreshments! The President of the Graduate Student Association and members of Brandeis' Senior Administration will offer a brief welcome. Relax and enjoy all that you've done and learned about today.

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Orientation Questions & Guidance

How Can I access orientation virtually?

- Please check your Moodle Communities dashboard for the “Graduate Affairs Information and Resource” course. Within that course, you will find a lot of information that will help you adjust to both the greater Boston area and to graduate school at Brandeis.

What Accessibility accommodations can be met for attendees?

- We will be happy to support you. You can email us at graduateaffairs@brandeis.edu

Where are some comfortable public places I can go on campus to take a moment for myself?

- Shapiro Campus Center
- Shapiro Science Center (Lounges on multiple floors)
- Graduate Student Center (Gerstenzang)
- Library
- Rose Art Museum