Get Connected

This is a list of ongoing, drop-in or scheduled times for students to have casual or structured connections through conversations. Below, find links to campus resources and how to get connected with Brandeis community members who want to support students. The first step to getting connected is to reach out!

While we are keeping physically distant, we are still here and want to connect, whether it be via email, Zoom, other technology, or at a safe distance in person. Here are some ideas for conversation starters with faculty, staff, and peers.

With faculty/TA (remember, office hours aren’t just for asking about a paper or an upcoming exam, it’s about forming a relationship with someone who might become a professional mentor or write you a recommendation letter someday):

- What was your path to teach/do research at Brandeis?
- What are/were some key relationships/mentorships for you in your career?
- What do you like best about your field of study?
- What do you wish you could change about your field of study?
- I’m interested in ________. What do you suggest I read or who do you suggest I try to meet at Brandeis/in the Boston/national area?
- I want to make sure I’m on the right track about ______ from class. Can you help?

With staff (co-curricular, wellness, facilities, anyone who works at Brandeis who doesn’t teach):

- How do you describe how your role contributes to the Brandeis community?
- What are/were some key relationships/mentorships for you in your career?
- I have an idea about ______ that could improve ______ at Brandeis. How do you suggest I proceed?
- What I want most from my time at Brandeis is __________. Who do you suggest I meet or what steps should I consider?
- I’m interested in __________. What do you suggest I read or who do you suggest I try to meet at Brandeis/in the Boston/national area?

With a student leader (club officer, Fellow, tutor, Community Advisor, etc.):

- I am concerned about/interested in __________. Are you interested in that?
- I need help with understanding __________. Can you help or point me to someone who can?
- I am overwhelmed with __________. What do you suggest?

With a classmate/peer:

- I’ve been thinking about _____ from class. Do you want to connect outside class time to chat about it?
- I heard about a fun program about __________. Would you like to go together?
- I remember you said ______ in class. I thought it was very interesting and would love to talk more!
- Would you like to work on ________ assignment together?
Campus Resources for Connections:

**Academic Services** (undergraduates)
- 30 Minute Appointments: Online ([Academic Advising](#) and [Pre-Health Advising](#) only). Advisor will initiate a phone or Zoom call.
- 20 Minute Same Day Appointments: are available through the [Academic Advising Drop-in Calendar](#). Appointments are made available each Thursday for the following week. Appointment blocks include 8-10am, 1-4pm, and 5-7pm EST. Students are welcome to meet with any academic advisor to get quick questions answered.
- **Roosevelt Fellows** are a small group of junior and senior leaders who provide an informed and accessible student perspective on academics at Brandeis. They are trained by the Office of Academic Services as generalist peer academic advisors for all undergraduates with a focus on new students. [Roosevelt Fellows offer weekly office hours](#) and are available by appointment.
- **Student Accessibility Support Fellows** are also available for consultations with students.

**Brandeis Banter**
Looking for a chance to chat with other members of the Brandeis community?
Discussion groups available on:
- Schitt's Creek & The Good Place
- Current events
- The intersection of sports and social justice
- What you are reading for fun
- Big Ideas

Learn more about [Brandeis Banter](#) and sign-up for the 5-week program starting Friday, February 19 (virtual and in-person opportunities available). Join any time! Questions? Email [lhaynie@brandeis.edu](mailto:lhaynie@brandeis.edu)

**Center for Spiritual Life**
The Center for Spiritual Life offers a safe space for students to explore their spirituality and find their place in the world, on their terms. We offer religious services, as well as other opportunities for learning and connection. [Staff chaplains](#) are available to speak with students on campus or by Zoom.

Programs:
- [Virtual Zen Zone](#) (4:30pm EST on Wednesdays, 12:30pm EST on Fridays)
- [Virtual CommuniTea](#) (7:30pm EST on Wednesdays)

**Community Living** (undergraduates)
Community Living supports all residential students on campus and can be reached at [dcl@brandeis.edu](mailto:dcl@brandeis.edu). Community Advisors, or CAs, are student leaders who live in the residence halls to serve as resources, provide support, and hold hybrid online/in-person programs for students in the residence halls.

**Community Service**
The Department of Community Service supports students who are looking to make changes in their communities through direct-service, advocacy, education or civic engagement. Staff are always available
to meet with students over zoom and can be reached by emailing communityservice@brandeis.edu to schedule an appointment. In addition, the Department's Community Engagement Ambassador Program (CEAP) are student ambassadors who meet with students to explore their interests, skills, and passion and help them align with needs in our local community. You can learn more about our CEAP Ambassadors and schedule an in-person or virtual meeting by emailing them at ceap@brandeis.edu.

**Brandeis Counseling Center (BCC)**

Community Therapy is available to students throughout the year.

Workshops and discussion groups are available to students located anywhere. To register for a workshop or discussion group, click here: BCC workshop and group registration form.

**Dean of Students Office**

Join the Brandeis Community on Wednesday nights from 7 - 8:30 p.m. for a virtual Open Mic Night with poetry, music and expression. Please email deanofstudentsoffice@brandeis.edu for the zoom information.

**Gender and Sexuality Center (GSC)**

Meetings with staff are available by Zoom appointments - email gsc@brandeis.edu

**Graduate Student Affairs (graduate students)**

Whether you are new to Brandeis or a returning graduate student, the staff at Graduate Student Affairs are committed to helping you navigate your time in graduate school. Life as a graduate student is busy and stressful—we are here to support you in doing your best academically while also taking care of yourself. GSA Staff are available to meet by phone, zoom, or over email--please feel free to reach out to any of us!

**Hiatt Career Center (undergraduates)**

Virtual Drop-ins: Have quick questions? Schedule a 25-minute Zoom drop-in appointment with a Hiatt Advisor in advance to review application materials (resume or cover letter), career advice and ask questions. Contact the Hiatt front desk at 781-736-3618 or email hiattcenter@brandeis.edu for same-day drop-in availability.

Fall Hours 2020 (held during the academic year)

Monday- Friday: 11:00 am - 4:00 pm and Monday-Thursday: 8:00 pm - 10:00 pm

**Hillel**

Brandeis Hillel is committed to forging new friendships, meeting dedicated mentors, celebrating the Jewish calendar, and engaging in service to others, all inspired by Jewish texts and traditions. Hillel Staff is here for you throughout your time at Brandeis. We can grab virtual coffee, meet pastorally, and learn informally together. This means you can find your niche -- whether you want to find a spiritual home, volunteer and serve others, grapple with Israel and Jewish values, celebrate Shabbat, or explore Jewish art and culture - - we are here to help you and support you. Connect with the many Hillel professionals here.
**Intercultural Center** (ICC)

The Intercultural Center (ICC) hours are: Monday-Friday 12pm-8pm

The Intercultural Center is here for you. Enjoy our study spaces, lounges (located on both the 1st and 2nd floor) and learn about ICC clubs and events. Come by to study, relax, take a break, get out of your room, watch a movie or for socially distant hangouts with your friends.

Email the ICC at [Interculturalcenter@brandeis.edu](mailto:Interculturalcenter@brandeis.edu) if you would like to join the ICC listserv or have any questions. [Zoom meetings with ICC staff members](#) are available by appointment.

**inSTEP** (International Students)

Come join the inSTEP Campus Partners at and **Get inSTEP with inSTEP**! Hosted twice a month, international students are invited to meet other students, stay connected with the Brandeis community, and get to know the inSTEP Campus Partners who support students at Brandeis.

- February 23, 2021 at 12:00 pm EST
- March 9, 2021 at 12:00 pm EST (Wellness Theme for Wellness Day)
- March 23, 2021 at 12:00 pm EST
- April 6, 2021 at 12:00 pm EST
- April 20, 2021 at 12:00 pm EST (Wellness Day)
- inSTEP Zoom Link: [https://brandeis.zoom.us/j/98655430526](https://brandeis.zoom.us/j/98655430526) Email Adrea Papadopoulos [apapadop@brandeis.edu](mailto:apapadop@brandeis.edu) for the password. As a reminder, please use your Brandeis credentials to log into the Zoom link.

**International Students and Scholars Office** (ISSO)

ISSO Virtual Drop-In Hours:

- Monday 2:00-4:00 p.m.
- Wednesday 9:00-11:00 a.m.
- Friday 2:00-4:00 p.m.
- Virtual Drop-in hours with ISSO available by Zoom

Drop-in advising sessions are generally reserved for quick questions that require a 5-10 minute discussion with an ISSO advisor. If you have a more complex question, please schedule an appointment. To schedule a Zoom appointment with an ISSO advisor, please send an email to [isso@brandeis.edu](mailto:isso@brandeis.edu).

**Office of Study Abroad** (undergraduates)

- **30 Minute Appointments with Study Abroad**: Advisor will initiate a phone or Zoom call.
- Office of Study Abroad Virtual Drop-In Hours:
  - Monday, Tuesday, Thursday 1:00-3:00pm
  - Wednesday, Friday 8:00-10:00am
- Access [virtual drop-in hours for Study Abroad](#)
- Study Abroad Ambassadors are study abroad returnees who are available to chat with you about study abroad options, their experience, and give you a student perspective on study abroad opportunities. [Study Abroad Ambassadors each host weekly office hours listed online](#) along with the link to join.
The Ombuds Office is a year round office open to the entire Community. We are meeting with visitors virtually by Zoom or phone during COVID-19 times. We are a confidential resource for anyone who has no idea where to turn for support or to get an answer to a big or small concern relating to anything that is limiting their ability to function fully. The Ombuds Team is not an institutional reporter.

Schedule a visit:

- Online Appointments: Visit our online calendar
- Email: brandeisombuds@brandeis.edu
- Phone: 781-736-2265

Prevention, Advocacy, & Resource Center (PARC)

PARC Advocates are available to chat Monday-Friday from noon-5pm any day classes are in session. You may also request an appointment with PARC via Zoom on their website.

ProjectConnect

Project Connect is a peer-facilitated program that helps students meet and get to know students outside of their social group, and build stronger community on campus. Students meet in groups of 4-6 over the course of six 1-hour sessions and engage in a series of thought-provoking questions and fun activities, ending with a fun group gathering. Groups will be held virtually and in-person, and begin the week of Feb 15.

This is a new program that would be great for any student struggling socially, feeling isolated or lonely, or looking to make new friends.