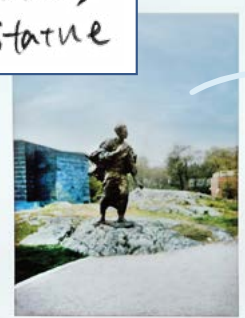




the Law's  
Branders  
Statue



# BRANDEIS SNAPSHOTS

A FIRST-PERSON GUIDE  
TO LIFE ON CAMPUS



Study day!



Smiles  
at Sherm!



PROPERTY OF \_\_\_\_\_

.....

THINGS TO LOOK FOR WHEN CHOOSING A SCHOOL

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

TOP FIVE REASONS TO CHOOSE BRANDEIS

**1.** .....

**2.** .....

**3.** .....

**4.** .....

**5.** .....

FAVORITE THINGS ABOUT BRANDEIS

.....

**SHARE ON INSTAGRAM: TAG US OR DM @BRANDEISADMISSIONS**



# ***WE'VE GOT A STORY FOR YOU***

Life at Brandeis is an adventure — a one-of-a-kind experience that's best told by the students who live it every day. So we're going to sit back and let them do the talking.

Meet seven Brandeis students sharing seven unique stories. Find out what brought them here and what it is they love about Brandeis. The challenging and engaging academics. Caring faculty who put them first. A supportive community that fosters lifelong friendships. Athletics and clubs. New ideas. Self-discovery. And so much more.

As you learn about their journeys, you will begin to imagine your own.



# Allow us to introduce ourselves.



## Greg HE/HIM

"When I was a kid, I wanted to be an astronaut. My mom would joke about me having my head in the clouds. It fit because I've always been fascinated with space and quantum physics and black holes. I always wanted to learn more. Now I'm majoring in Physics here at Brandeis."

**CLASS YEAR:** 2026

**WHERE I CALL HOME:** Brooklyn, NY

**MAJOR:** Physics

**MINORS:** Creative Writing; Theater Arts

*Find Greg on page 6*



## Rebecca SHE/HER

"I'm majoring in Environmental Studies with a minor in Climate Justice, Science, and Policy. A few weeks ago during an alumni panel, one of the speakers said that while she was a student here, she treated Brandeis like her playground. That really resonated with me. There is always space on campus to explore — to find your community, find your people, and find what you love."

**CLASS YEAR:** 2024

**WHERE I CALL HOME:** Salt Lake City, UT; Los Angeles, CA

**MAJOR:** Environmental Studies

**MINOR:** Climate Justice, Science, and Policy

*Find Rebecca on page 30*





## Emily SHE/THEY

"I'm a junior majoring in Anthropology and Linguistics. I'm also a Pride Rep at the Gender and Sexuality Center. Since coming to Brandeis, I've learned that I'm more capable than I sometimes think I am and that I can be a leader in spaces that matter to me — not telling people what to do, but helping them find a place where they can be themselves."

**CLASS YEAR:** 2024

**WHERE I CALL HOME:** New York, NY; New Hope, PA

**MAJORS:** Anthropology; Linguistics

**MINORS:** Computer Science; Creativity, the Arts, and Social Transformation

*Find Emily on page 18*



## Wilson HE/HIM

"Before I began college, I worried that I'd have trouble getting used to the academics, making friends, living independently — things like that. But honestly, it was a smooth transition. I learned how flexible I am as a person. If I could give some advice to my high school self, I would say, 'Chill out a bit. No need to worry so much.'"

**CLASS YEAR:** 2026

**WHERE I CALL HOME:** Wuhan, China; San Diego, CA

**MAJORS:** Applied Mathematics; Economics

**MINOR:** Anthropology

*Find Wilson on page 10*



## Angel SHE/HER

"I'm a second-year studying Biology and Health: Science, Society, and Policy with a minor in Hispanic Studies. Brandeis will definitely push you out of your comfort zone and allow you to grow. I've taken on a lot of leadership positions with organizations on campus. I've become a more effective communicator and a more confident, compassionate team member because of that."

**CLASS YEAR:** 2025

**WHERE I CALL HOME:** Braintree, MA

**MAJORS:** Biology; Health: Science, Society, and Policy

**MINOR:** Hispanic Studies

*Find Angel on page 14*



## Ethan HE/HIM

"I'm a second-year, and I'm studying Business. I remember my first day here — my first day of classes — I had no idea where I was going. So a random student walked me to class, all the way across campus. That's just the kind of community we have here."

**CLASS YEAR:** 2025

**WHERE I CALL HOME:** Brooklyn, NY

**MAJOR:** Business

**MINOR:** African and African American Studies

*Find Ethan on page 26*



## Shoshana SHE/HER

"I'm studying Biology and Health: Science, Society, and Policy. In the fall, I'm starting a master's in Biotechnology! When I first arrived at Brandeis, I was overwhelmed by all the choices — courses, clubs, all the opportunities. But then I took one science course during my first semester. I found a passion for STEM and innovation I never knew existed."

**CLASS YEAR:** 2024

**WHERE I CALL HOME:** Livingston, NJ

**MAJOR:** Biology; Health: Science, Society, and Policy; dual BS/MS with Biotechnology

*Find Shoshana on page 22*







**Yeah?**  
BUT WHY BRANDEIS?

**235**

ACRES OF PRIVATE  
SUBURBAN CAMPUS

**100+**

ACADEMIC AND  
RESIDENTIAL BUILDINGS

**43**

MAJORS

**9**

MILES FROM  
BOSTON

**R1**

RESEARCH UNIVERSITY

**51**

MINORS



IT'S A SIMPLE QUESTION, BUT THERE'S NO ONE RIGHT ANSWER.



**SHOSHANA** "I was interested in a smaller environment. When I first came here, I very much remember feeling settled and at home."



**REBECCA** "I wanted a strong liberal arts curriculum, and now that I'm here, I really do appreciate the Brandeis Core, which requires you to take classes in different fields. It allows you to explore different topics within the liberal arts."



**ANGEL** "I was drawn to the idea of an (academic) environment very focused on interdisciplinary education. I wanted to focus on humanities, but I'm also interested in STEM."



**EMILY** "I had a really good high school experience in terms of community. I wanted a college where I would find a similar kind of community. I came to Brandeis, and it just felt like home."



**WILSON** "What stood out to me was the diversity. Looking at the profile of the school and who was here — that really fit with what I desired."



**GREG** "Brandeis has an extensive social justice background. I connect strongly to a lot of the topics that are being talked about here."



**ETHAN** "I'm from New York, so I wanted to be away from home, but not too far. Also, the financial aid made it very affordable for me. And athletics, of course. I've been playing basketball since I was five. Everyone dreams of playing in college, and Brandeis gave me that opportunity."

2

NOBEL PRIZE-WINNING FACULTY

#5

RANKING BY PRINCETON REVIEW FOR STUDENTS MOST ENGAGED IN COMMUNITY SERVICE

\$71

MILLION IN ANNUAL GRANTS AND SCHOLARSHIPS FOR UNDERGRADUATES

2

MACARTHUR FELLOWS

10:1

STUDENT-TO-FACULTY RATIO

100%

OF CALCULATED FINANCIAL NEED MET

Simply put, there are a lot of reasons "Why Brandeis."

Find out more!

[BRANDEIS.EDU/WHY](http://BRANDEIS.EDU/WHY)



GREG

# “We leave our doors open. It’s such a welcoming environment.”

I KNEW I WAS GOING TO FOCUS ON PHYSICS, but I also wanted to be able to explore. I feel strongly connected to social justice. And I was looking for a place where I could connect to my Jewish heritage. For me, Brandeis felt right.

But ... I was also worried.

‘What if I can’t find people I vibe with? How much time should I put in? What if I just sit in my room and have no one to experience college with?’ Being a first-generation college student, my parents couldn’t help me with this stuff.

I met some people during Orientation. One night, we decided to sit out in the hallway of my building and talk. We were saying, “We’re never going to be able to do this when classes come around!” But we were wrong. We still have those 2 a.m. conversations.

I’ve also been to Shabbat dinners here and there. It’s nice to just be in a Jewish community where I can celebrate a part of my culture.

Those events, those conversations, those very deep connections that you form in the span of a few months — I feel like that is a very unique Brandeis thing. People listen. They give advice — whether it’s your major, or your classes, or life in general. They’re just there. We leave our doors open. It’s such a welcoming environment.

I did the \*GALAXY MENTORSHIP PROGRAM,\* which is specifically for STEM students, and connected with a current PhD student named Ella. Now I work as a research assistant in the Duclos lab. We focus on how small systems on a molecular level interact to create emergent behaviors — how fluid dynamic systems affect molecular interactions. Where does that come from? Why is it happening? It’s incredibly interesting, and hopefully helpful for the future of humanity.

Having those experiences and a big support system has been incredibly helpful. It’s felt like falling onto one of those things firemen use to catch people or how stunt doubles in movies fall off a cliff and then land on a big, fluffy mattress.

People sometimes ask me why I like Brandeis and what the experience is like here. I tell them about the community and how interconnected we are. I say that I’m at a place where I just feel like I fit.



## \*IN A GALAXY (NOT SO) FAR AWAY\*

The Galaxy Program is a mentorship initiative that pairs first-year STEM undergraduates with PhD students who help them navigate academics at Brandeis. It’s just one of the ways students here connect and support one another.



**WILSON** “The international population at Brandeis has helped me reconnect with my roots. I’m from Wuhan, but I’ve been in the U.S. since I was 14. At Brandeis, I get to talk with peers who have spent most of their time in China. It’s refreshing to reconnect with a part of you you’ve lost over the years.”



**REBECCA** “We’re all learning and growing. Brandeis is there to help you figure things out. You’ll experience different fields, connect with classmates and faculty, and have access to staff who are always there to support you.”



**SHOSHANA** “I’m doing research at the Lovett Lab, which studies mechanisms of DNA damage and repair, and replication. Going to lab meetings, connecting with people outside the undergrad community, and writing proposals for grants — it’s something I’ve really valued.”



GREG, ON FACING HIS FEARS AND FINDING HIS FIT.



# A little bit all over the place — but in the best possible way.

## INTRODUCING THE WONDERFUL WORLD OF ACADEMICS AT BRANDEIS.

The Brandeis Core is a series of required courses that encourages students to thrive in today's interconnected world. From intensive writing and digital literacy to social justice and creative arts, the Core will provide you with new knowledge and perspectives, and prepare you for a lifetime of success.

Visit [BRANDEIS.EDU/CORE](http://BRANDEIS.EDU/CORE) for more information.



**WILSON** "For my University Writing Seminar, I wrote about time travel and a band called Electric Light Orchestra — analyzing the different instruments and techniques, and how they are used to highlight different eras, which then (introduces) the time-travel theme."



**GREG** "I came in wanting to do astrophysics. Then I took Waves and Oscillations, and I started realizing, 'Wait — I want to learn more about sound physics. I want to do acoustics.'"



**EMILY** "I had to take a science requirement, so I figured I'd try Introduction to Problem Solving in Python."

And I loved the way it made me think. The logic of it just made my brain feel good. And now I'm going to do a minor in Computer Science. I wouldn't have known that was something I liked if I hadn't been exposed to it through the Brandeis Core."



**SHOSHANA** "I took a class called Trauma and Violence in Israeli Literature and Film. And it got me interested in gender studies and classes that are a little bit more sociology focused. It's like a reward system — start with one class, see where it takes you. Jump around."



**ETHAN** "Last year, I stumbled across this History of Rock class. I never was really into that type of music, but that class changed my whole perspective. Now I listen to Elvis all the time."



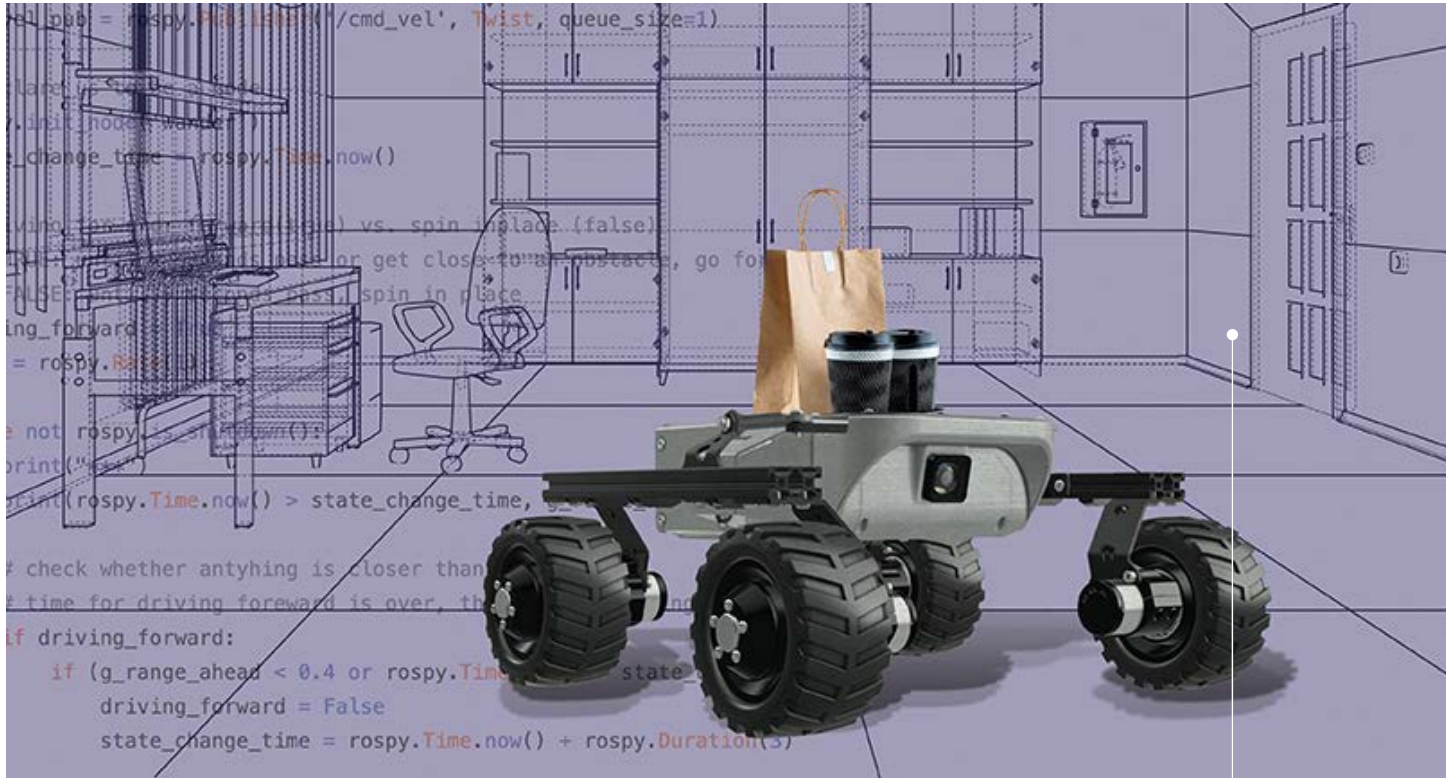
**REBECCA** "I was able to take Sculpture: Object in Clay last semester, and I really loved it. I discovered a new creative side of me!"





You should never judge a book by its cover — but picking classes because they sound cool? Why not?

WHO KNEW SCHOOL COULD BE THIS FUN?



**HIST 162A**

Writing on the Wall: Histories of Graffiti in the Americas

**NPSY 12A**

Perception: Human, Animal, Machine

**ENG 20A**

Bollywood: Popular Film, Genre, and Society

**HISP 104B**

Peoples, Ideas, and Language of the Hispanic World

**CAST 170A**

Documenting Immigrant Experiences

**COSI 119A**

Autonomous Robotics



WILSON

# “I came here to study Math ... now I’m an Anthropology minor!”

**IT WAS IMPORTANT TO ME** that I was in a place with a more open curriculum and the freedom to study whatever I wanted. I wanted to see other perspectives and learn from people with different situations or backgrounds.

At the start of every semester, **\*YOU CAN SIT IN ON ALMOST ANY CLASS\*** to see if you want to take it. One afternoon in the fall, I said, ‘You know what? I’m gonna check out a random class.’ It was **\*PROFESSOR FERRY’S ANTHROPOLOGY CLASS,\*** and I was really intrigued by how she connects Anthropology and statistical models to behavioral economics and macroeconomics.

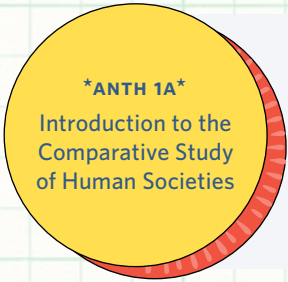
It’s wild because I came here to study Math, and I’m exploring all these other branches. And now I’m an Anthropology minor!

Brandeis doesn’t just talk about interdisciplinary (education): they actually make it happen. They cross-list courses so it’s easy for people to explore different interests. For me, that means Philosophy of Mathematics, and Math and Music — they are a way of connecting what we’re interested in to other subjects, taking a subject that motivates us, and using it to develop a new passion or fascination. It’s a great way to grow and discover.



**\*GO SHOPPING\***

At the start of each semester, Brandeis students can “shop” course offerings by attending classes they aren’t enrolled in. If they love the class and there are open seats, they’re free to enroll. It’s a flexible way to learn more about the classes and subjects that spark curiosity.



This class examines the ways human beings construct their lives in a variety of societies. Includes the study of the concept of culture, kinship, and social organization, political economy, gender and sexuality, religion and ritual, symbols and language, social inequalities and social change, and globalization. Consideration of anthropological research methods and approaches to cross-cultural analysis.



**SHOSHANA** “A lot of courses I’ve taken — like Organic Chemistry and Diet and Health — have transformed the way I understand the world. When I realized cis and trans fats are the same as cis and trans alkenes, I had this ‘ah-ha’ moment that made me appreciate food a lot more — it’s way more complex than just carbohydrates, lipids, and proteins. I feel like I’m living science.”

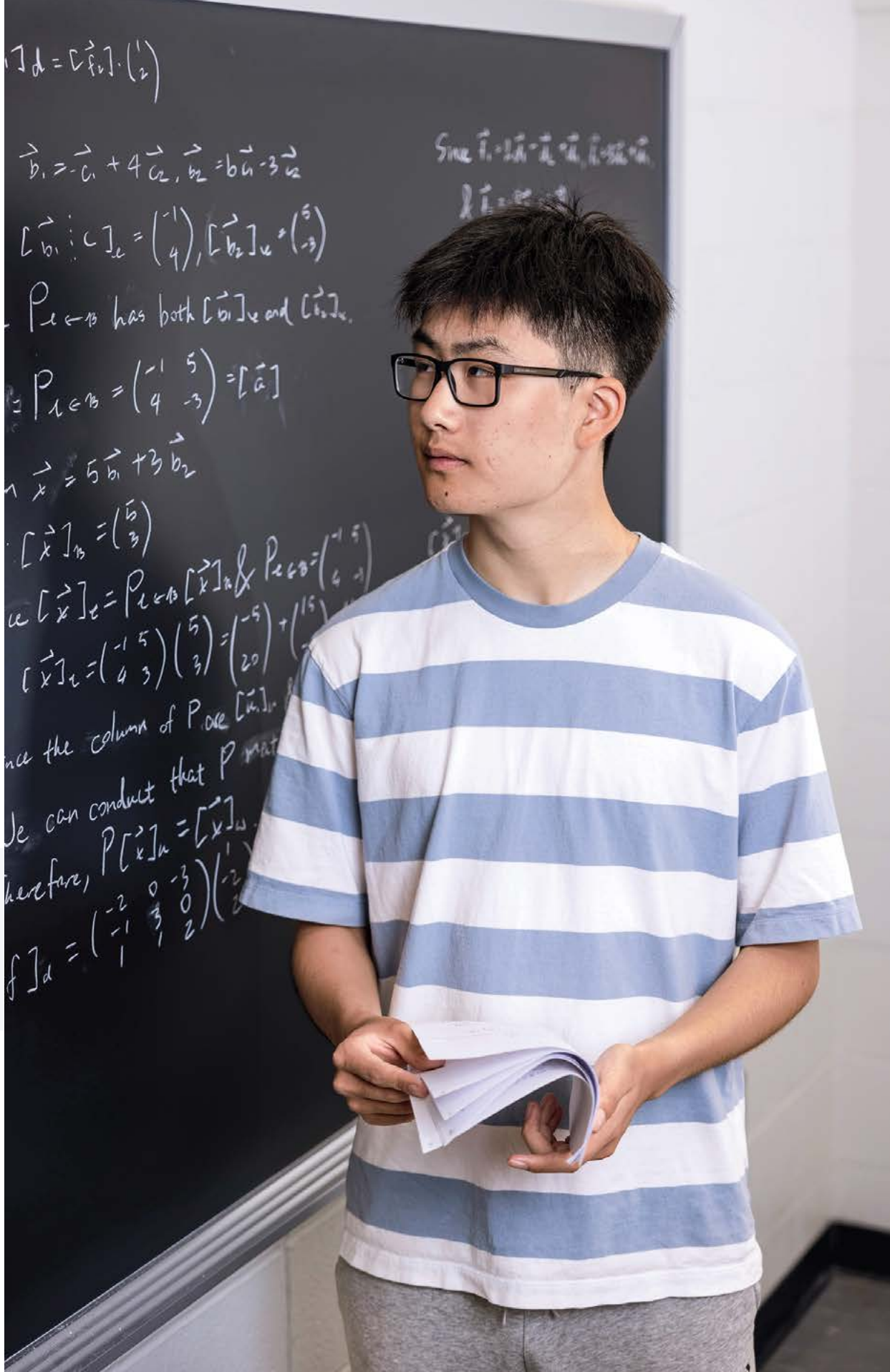


**ANGEL** “One class I’m in now is called Race, Science, and Society, and I never would have taken it if it wasn’t for Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Studies in the U.S., which is a requirement for the Core. We learned about systemic racism and how that relates to science today — how different representation in science is impacted by that, and how the scientists we associate with STEM are very representative of these issues.”



**EMILY** “Professor Plaster in the Linguistics department embodies what it means to be a good professor. He loves when students ask questions, and if he doesn’t have the answer right away, he’ll follow up with an email and an article. He’s really invested in his students, and he’s full of curiosity.”





$$[d] = [P]^{-1} \cdot \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\vec{b}_1 = -\vec{c}_1 + 4\vec{c}_2, \vec{b}_2 = 6\vec{c}_1 - 3\vec{c}_2$$

$$[b_1]_{\mathcal{C}} = \begin{pmatrix} -1 \\ 4 \end{pmatrix}, [b_2]_{\mathcal{C}} = \begin{pmatrix} 6 \\ -3 \end{pmatrix}$$

$P_{\mathcal{C} \leftarrow \mathcal{B}}$  has both  $[b_1]_{\mathcal{C}}$  and  $[b_2]_{\mathcal{C}}$ .

$$P_{\mathcal{C} \leftarrow \mathcal{B}} = \begin{pmatrix} -1 & 6 \\ 4 & -3 \end{pmatrix} = [a]$$

$$\vec{x} = 5\vec{b}_1 + 3\vec{b}_2$$

$$[x]_{\mathcal{B}} = \begin{pmatrix} 5 \\ 3 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$[x]_{\mathcal{C}} = P_{\mathcal{C} \leftarrow \mathcal{B}} [x]_{\mathcal{B}} = \begin{pmatrix} -1 & 6 \\ 4 & -3 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 5 \\ 3 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} -5 \\ 20 \end{pmatrix} + \begin{pmatrix} 18 \\ -9 \end{pmatrix}$$

Since the column of  $P$  are  $[u_1]$ .

We can conduct that  $P$  mat

therefore,  $P [x]_{\mathcal{B}} = [x]_{\mathcal{C}}$

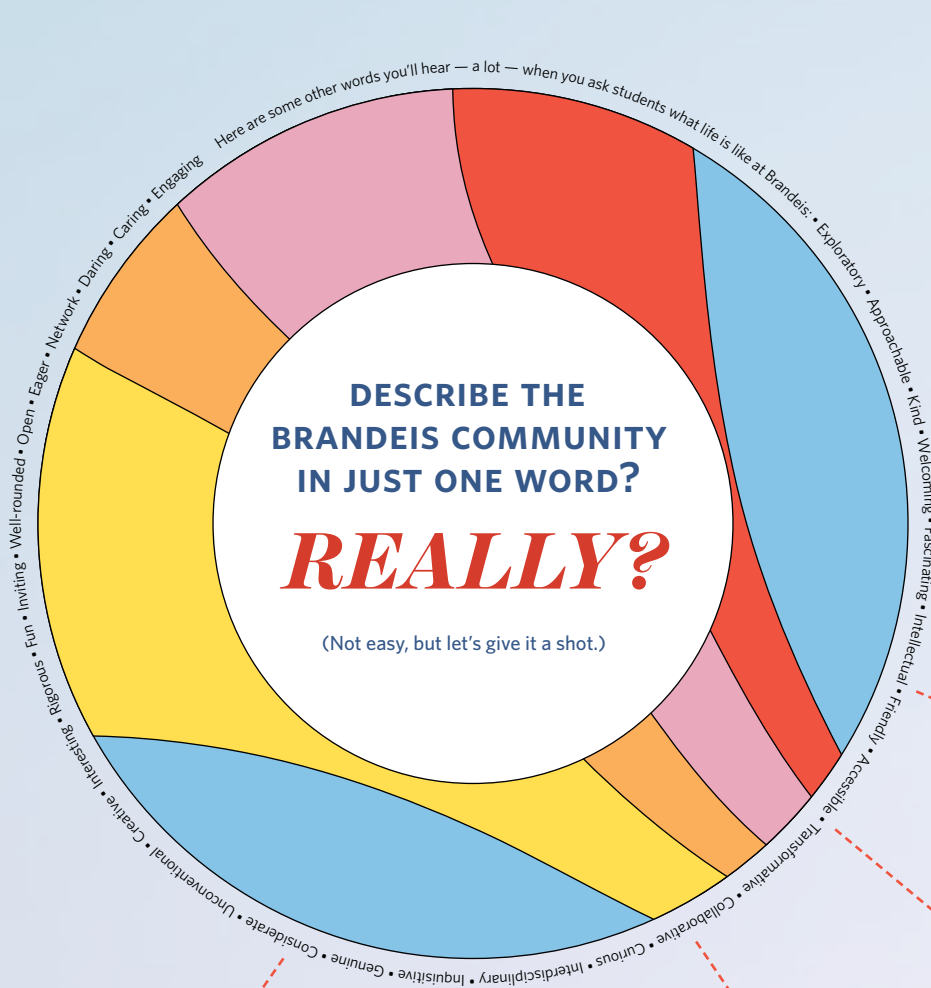
$$[d] = \begin{pmatrix} -2 & 0 & -3 \\ -1 & 3 & 0 \\ 1 & 1 & 2 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -2 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix}$$

Since  $\vec{c}_1 = \vec{a}_1 - \vec{a}_2, \vec{c}_2 = 5\vec{a}_1 + \vec{a}_2$   
 $[c_1]_{\mathcal{A}} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix}, [c_2]_{\mathcal{A}} = \begin{pmatrix} 5 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$

WILSON IS CHANGING HIS EQUATION. (BECAUSE MATH, GET IT?)

APPLY YOURSELF: WILSON TAKES ON MATH 15A APPLIED LINEAR ALGEBRA





However you describe it, the community you'll find at Brandeis is like no other.

BRANDEIS.EDU/  
STUDENT-STORIES



**Diverse, Inter-connected**

(THAT'S TWO WORDS, GREG!)

**GREG** "There's this sense that I know someone who knows someone and that we all know each other. But everyone has their own perspective and opinion. People have their own things to say, their own passions, and (specific) social movements they're connected with."

**Supportive**



**WILSON** "Even though the academics can be intense, I always feel like I'm supported by both the community and the faculty."



**Committed**

**ANGEL** "Everyone cares about academics, but they also care about social justice, cultural activities, and spiritual activities. We're passionate about our interests here."

## Different



**ETHAN** "There are so many people from different cultures, different activities going on, different interests — just a bunch of aspects that make your experience here more than just one thing."



**A CAMPUS COMMUNITY THAT REFLECTS THE GLOBAL COMMUNITY.**

## Open-minded

**REBECCA** "Welcoming of people's opinions and ideas — just hearing you out, and thinking about different perspectives. There's always a space on campus for you to find your community and meet the people you really connect with."



**44**  
STATES REPRESENTED ON CAMPUS

**58**  
COUNTRIES REPRESENTED

**20%**  
INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS

**17%**  
FIRST-GENERATION STUDENTS

**33%**  
STUDENTS OF COLOR

**67%**  
BRANDEIS STUDENTS ARE FROM OUTSIDE MASSACHUSETTS

Top 10 non-U.S. countries represented on campus:

1. CHINA
2. INDIA
3. VIETNAM
4. CANADA
5. TAIWAN
6. JAPAN
7. HONG KONG
8. KOREA
9. ISRAEL
10. BRAZIL

## Family



**EMILY** "I can be myself here, especially with my friends and the people I know well. We care about each other, and I know I can be who I am with them. Brandeis is the place that facilitated that."

## Can I say quirky?



**SHOSHANA** "There's someone here who has a unicycle. I see them a lot. I think that's pretty quirky. But in all seriousness, it speaks to allowing ourselves to be authentic and genuine — not hiding parts of ourselves because we know we're going to be judged by others."



MENTORSHIP, SERVICE, AND CULTURE SHOWS: ANGEL IS CREATING A COMMUNITY THAT'S ALL HER OWN.



**REBECCA** "There are a lot of clubs on campus that host shows. Just this Sunday, I went to a gala for Femme of Color Alliance!"



**SHOSHANA** "Yeah — there are a lot of efforts to help support and raise voices of people who are underrepresented, helping them achieve equity and quality of life."



**GREG** "One of my friends is in the Brandeis Latinx Student Organization. They had their yearly show, INCENDIO, last semester. There's a lot of work that goes into them, but the shows always go smoothly, and there's a lot of people and support!"



ANGEL

“I found so much support when I got here. I just wanted to give it back.”

SUPPORT FROM THE START

I started at Brandeis with a Pre-Orientation program designed to help first-generation students acclimate to campus. I'll be honest, I really didn't know what to expect. But right away, I met people from similar backgrounds and found a support network of people who had (faced) some of the same barriers to being here. It was just nice to have that.

I also had a mentor named Liz. Her goal was to help me, emotionally and academically, by pointing me to the resources I might need. She was instrumental in showing me how much is available to us here — you just have to know where to look. Thanks to her, I applied to be a \*PEER MENTOR,\* and now I have two first-year mentees of my own! I found so much support when I got here. I just wanted to give it back.

PURPOSE THROUGH SERVICE

Brandeis cares about community service, and so do I. My first semester, I was part of the Prospect Hill Kids' Club, where you hang out with (lower-income) kids and help them with their homework. I also did Advocates for Health, reading to the elderly. I'm currently involved with Service Without Borders, and with the Language Empowering Action Project, which is what I'm most dedicated to. We teach English as a second language to adults throughout the Boston area.

COMMUNITY AND CULTURAL EXPLORATION

One of my favorite things about Brandeis is the Culture X show at the Intercultural Center. It's a huge showcase where each club shows off aspects of their culture. They decorate Levin Ballroom, there's always good food, and there's entertainment. Some are dance-heavy, some people will sing. I went to the Korean Student Association show last weekend, and they had a bunch of K-pop dances. The emcee sang. They brought in performers from outside of the school, and it was pretty interesting to watch. But it's also an opportunity to meet a lot of people you wouldn't otherwise meet.



club cantonese presidents



event planners of baasa



**WILSON** “Rich/Collins is a program that motivates you to use your own expertise, or what you really believe in, to help meet a specific demand in the community. I did a project on introducing a violin/viola tutoring project to the Boys & Girls Club in Worcester.”

THE RICH/COLLINS COMMUNITY LEADERSHIP AND IMPACT FELLOWSHIP

The Rich/Collins Community Leadership and Impact Fellowship provides Brandeis students with grants for social justice and volunteerism projects in the Greater Waltham community.

\*PEER MENTORING\*

The Student Support Services Peer Mentoring program matches incoming first-years with upper-class students who understand what a major adjustment college life can be. Mentors connect students with campus resources, set up outings and activities, and are a trusted sounding board.

# CLUBS, ORGANIZATIONS, AND ACTIVITIES AS DIVERSE AND EXPANSIVE AS THE STUDENTS WHO CALL BRANDEIS HOME.



**EMILY** "Clubs are a way to make friends with people who share your interests, and to see your friends doing what they love. I'm not a theater person, but I have a lot of friends who are and going to watch their performances is really cool."



**GREG** "Yeah, I know SO MANY PEOPLE in performance groups — whether it's a cappella, dance, the MAD Band. And there's a semester show for each of them."



**ANGEL** "Being a club leader has taught me lots of skills — things like teamwork, flexibility, and communication."



**GREG** "I'm part of a sketch comedy group called Boris' Kitchen, which has been around since 1987. I'm also an actor in the theater department. Plus, Pottery Club and Chess Club. I also started my own club this semester, called Brandeis Organization of Poets. But you can call it BOOP!"



**REBECCA** "One thing everyone gets excited about is Springfest. It's a big concert on campus. People go crazy with outfits and stuff — a real Coachella vibe."

## KICK BACK BEFORE FINALS KICK IN

Springfest is a full day of live music and food trucks held on campus at Chapels Field. Past acts include Kendrick Lamar, Doechii, Charli XCX, Chucky73, and Icona Pop. Wonder who's headlining next year?

## WHAT'S IN A NAME?

When it comes to campus activities, finding clubs that call to you is part of the fun.



Ready to Challah for Hunger? Thinking you might Rather Be a Giraffe? (Who wouldn't?) Learn more about all of the 200+ clubs that make Brandeis uniquely Brandeis.

[BRANDEIS.EDU/FUN](http://BRANDEIS.EDU/FUN)



# KAOS KIDS. POWER PILATES.



**Yup!**

YOU CAN DO THAT  
AT BRANDEIS.



# ANIME, ARCHERY, AND AVIATION.



EMILY

# “I thought to myself, ‘OK, why not?’”

**BEFORE I ARRIVED AT BRANDEIS,** I really didn't know what I wanted to do on campus and what clubs I wanted to be a part of. But when I got here, I realized the possibilities — people at Brandeis do all kinds of things.

Brandeis has an involvement fair every semester, which is where students can learn about and join different clubs. My friend ended up at the booth for \*QUADBALL,\* which is a full-contact, gender-inclusive sport. Think of it as a combination of rugby, basketball, and dodgeball. I thought to myself, 'OK, why not?,' and the next week I went to a practice. Everyone was just so kind. My kind of people.

At first, it can feel kind of ridiculous, but once you get the hang of it, it's a really good time! We play against other schools, and we're going to nationals this year. But what I really love is that it's gender-inclusive. On the quadball team, I can be myself, more than I've ever been able to on an all-women's sports team. There are rules in place so that everyone — men, women, trans people, nonbinary — can play on the team. And that's really beautiful to me.

I'm (also) a Pride Rep at the Gender and Sexuality Center. We do a lot of training, and we work with the Brandeis community to help people feel heard and accepted. When I applied to be a Pride Rep, I didn't know that much. I knew I'd have a lot to learn.

And that's what's really cool about the program — so much of it is about learning how to consider other people's needs as well as your own, and how to care for people while also caring for yourself. Learning about ourselves while also helping other people. Those are both so important.

Shenanigans



**WILSON** “I was in the Brandeis Mountain Club. I love to hike, so it was a really good opportunity for me to continue my hobby and meet other active people who I vibe with.”



**ETHAN** “You don't have to go to every single club meeting to be involved. Even if you haven't been around for a while or you've been busy, you're still welcome.”



**ANGEL** “You get to be part of things you're interested in. And maybe try some things you're not really sure about.”

FULL-CONTACT QUADBALL AND GENDER/SEXUALITY ADVOCACY OPEN EMILY'S EYES TO A WORLD OF POSSIBILITIES.



**\*QUADBALL FOR ALL!\***  
Learn more about why Brandeis is all in on quadball, and how we're creating a truly inclusive and welcoming sports culture.  
[BRANDEIS.EDU/QUADBALL](http://BRANDEIS.EDU/QUADBALL)



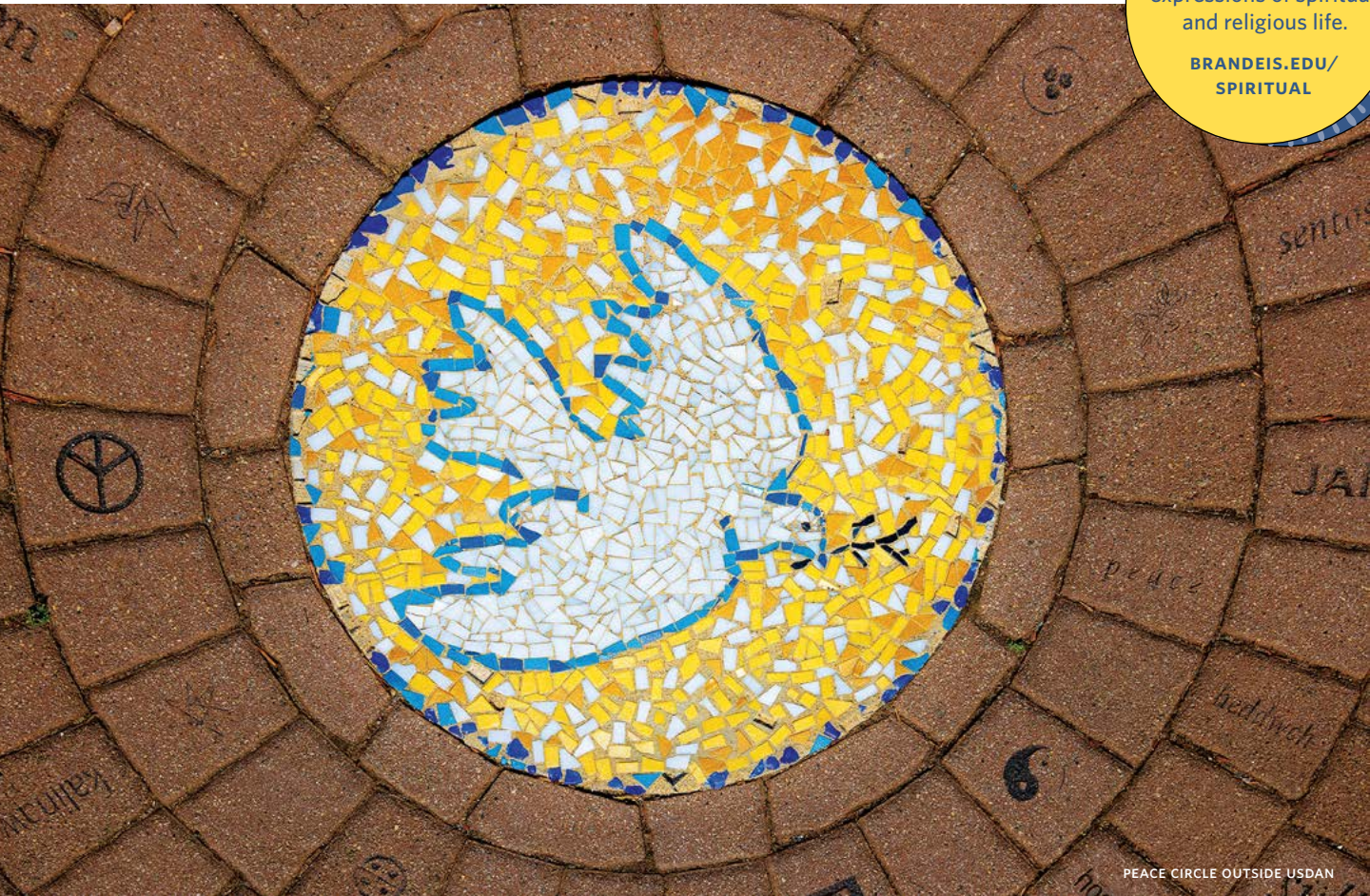


# A (spiritual) space to call your own.

A SAFE COMMUNITY TO CELEBRATE HOWEVER IT IS THAT YOU DEFINE YOUR FAITH.

Brandeis fosters and supports all expressions of spiritual and religious life.

[BRANDEIS.EDU/SPIRITUAL](http://BRANDEIS.EDU/SPIRITUAL)



PEACE CIRCLE OUTSIDE USBAN



**WILSON** "I'm agnostic, by which I mean that I'm interested in every religion. Brandeis provides for people from different faiths and cultures, and I think that's a really special thing."



**SHOSHANA** "I come from a very strong Jewish community. This campus is an environment where people can really explore their religion and identity in a way they might not have had an opportunity to in the past."



**ETHAN** "Sometimes when I get stressed out and need a break, I go to the Bethlehem Chapel. It's been valuable to me. I'd go to pray or just take some time to relax or meditate."



**GREG** "I wouldn't consider myself religiously Jewish, but ethnically (I am). I follow similar morals and beliefs. I've gone to meditation club, which is a nice place to just decompress and have time for yourself to rejuvenate."



# Our Jewish roots

Brandeis is a nonsectarian institution animated by a set of values rooted in Jewish history and experience. These values are a source of enduring vitality and pride, and they are a quality that further distinguishes our university.

REVERENCE FOR LEARNING

CRITICAL THINKING, INCLUDING SELF-CRITICISM

MAKING THE WORLD A BETTER PLACE THROUGH ONE'S ACTIONS AND TALENTS



*Taking care of my mind, body, and soul.*

**REBECCA** "There is space on campus for all sorts of religious groups, and for people who identify however they want to identify and practice whatever they want to practice. As someone who doesn't identify with a specific religion, it's really nice — it's almost a sense of peace."



**ANGEL** "I don't really identify religiously, and I completely agree. I've been to Muslim Student Association events and Jewish-affiliated events. The religious organizations here are really open to students who don't identify with a specific faith."

## A PLACE FOR EVERY BELIEF

Our inclusive community welcomes students from all backgrounds and beliefs, with numerous spaces and faith communities on campus:

- Catholic Chapel (Bethlehem Chapel)
- Center for Spiritual Life
- Dharmic Prayer Space
- Goldfarb Library Meditation Room
- Heller-Brown Prayer/Meditation Space
- Hillel
- Jewish Chapel (Berlin Chapel)
- Muslim Prayer Room
- Protestant Chapel (Harlan Chapel)





DIVERSITY OF BELIEF AND INCLUSIVE PERSPECTIVES SHAPE TWO DIMENSIONS OF SHOSHANA'S BRANDEIS EXPERIENCE.



## SHOSHANA

“(It’s) allowed me to explore ... my religious culture, customs, traditions, and values.”

### \*THE JEWISH EXPERIENCE AT BRANDEIS\*

Whether it’s our community-wide, everyone’s-invited Shabbat dinner each Friday, our academic calendar built around Jewish holidays, or our variety of on-campus kosher dining options, here at Brandeis, we support our Jewish community members in every aspect of campus life.



Nick, the best person on Sherman kosher staff!

### HOW INCLUSIVE ARE RELIGIOUS AND SPIRITUAL LIFE AT BRANDEIS?

There are lots of opportunities here for people to get engaged with religion — and, in a larger sense, spirituality. Hillel is a great example. Programming is open and inviting to anybody in the faith, or not in the faith, which is awesome.

Last year, I was the religious life coordinator on the Hillel Student Board. I thought a lot about making sure that Jewish religious involvement on campus was accessible to anyone, regardless of their knowledge or background. How can this program or event or speaker reach as many people as possible who are interested? It was always on my mind.

Things like \*SHABBAT DINNER\* every single Friday night in Sherman Function Hall, hosted by Hillel. Everybody’s invited to hang out with friends and eat good food. The cultural experience of celebrating with the larger Jewish community has allowed me to explore and enjoy my religious culture, customs, traditions, and values in a new way. Those Friday dinners have provided me with a sense of belonging to the Jewish community, but also the broader Brandeis community.

### HOW HAS THAT DIVERSITY OF PERSPECTIVE IMPACTED OTHER ASPECTS OF YOUR TIME HERE?

I’m studying Biology and HSSP (Health: Science, Society, and Policy), which is a popular major that’s split into a BA section and a BS section. And depending on which section you are in, you have wildly different focuses. So for example, I’m Biology/HSSP, but I know people who are Politics/HSSP, Legal Studies/HSSP, Philosophy, Journalism, Neuroscience. And it makes the entire major have a really great comprehensive look at what health science and health policy can do.

In classes where the two sections overlap, it’s people coming into the same room for the same major from way different perspectives. Everyone’s using their own experiences to talk about how they relate to health, science, society, and policy. And you walk away from every single class with a very different perspective and a very different idea than when you started the class. That’s really cool.



**WILSON** “There are spaces here on campus for most of the popular religions in the world. For example, the Dharmic Prayer Space — people can use it to meditate, but they can also use it to pray.”



**REBECCA** “If you’re from any type of spiritual background, Brandeis has something to offer. It’s something that I don’t think I would’ve found anywhere else. Brandeis really welcomes that and is open to students really exploring those themes.”



**GREG** “I’ve gotten a bit more spiritual and a bit more attuned with my own self. I’ve had really thoughtful, meaningful conversations about Judaism, spirituality, and the intricacies of why people believe what we believe.”





BASEBALL

BASKETBALL

CROSS COUNTRY

FENCING

SOCCER

SOFTBALL

SWIMMING AND DIVING

TENNIS

TRACK AND FIELD

VOLLEYBALL

**Compete**

**LAYING DOWN THE LAW**

Brandeis is home to 19 NCAA Division III varsity athletic teams. Pick your sport.

Brandeisians are a collaborative bunch — but that doesn't mean we don't love to win.  
[BRANDEIS.EDU/JUDGES](http://BRANDEIS.EDU/JUDGES)

# Varsity: Go, Judges! Intramural: No judgment.

WHATEVER YOUR GAME, YOU'LL FIND IT AT BRANDEIS.

On our courts, tracks, and playing fields, just like in our classrooms, Brandeis pursues excellence by fostering an inclusive community where students are empowered to be their full, authentic selves. That's why we were the first school in the UAA to formally support transgender athletes, committing to inclusive participation practices and fair play for all through the Transgender Student Inclusion Policy.





DODGEBALL

FANTASY FOOTBALL

FLAG FOOTBALL

FUTSAL

INNERTUBE WATER POLO

PICKLEBALL

POKER

POOL

SENIOR CELEBRATION KICKBALL

SOCCER TENNIS

SQUASH

WATER BATTLESHIP

# Play

## PLAY WITHOUT PREJUDICE

Want to play for fun, not for keeps? We also have 30 intramural leagues and tournaments throughout the year. Pickleball, anyone?



**ETHAN** "Sports help grow the community. You may go to a game and see people you've never seen before. Y'all may connect over knowing the game, enjoying the game. Brandeis keeps you pretty busy — it can be hard to find free time to meet new people. So at a game, you can have a conversation, hang out, and just build relationships over a shared mutual interest."



**GREG** "Athletics are on a spectrum at Brandeis. On one end, we have people who are really dedicated and take up sports as their primary focus. On the other end, people are doing stuff for fun. There are lots of ways to participate in athletics here, whether you're looking to do something casual or something more serious."



**WILSON** "I go to the gym every day. That's how I relax and relieve stress."



**SHOSHANA** "There's a really big gym culture here. I go multiple times a week. Normally, I prefer swimming over weights, but there's a new initiative called fem hours at the Gosman weight room, and I think it's really nice. Twice a week, the room is open for female-identifying people only."





WITH SUPPORT, EXPLORATION, AND A LITTLE HELP FROM HIS FRIENDS, ETHAN DISCOVERS A WHOLE NEW BALLGAME.



ETHAN



“To play the sport I love ... is just amazing ... this school has introduced me to a whole new way of life.”

**HOOP DREAMS AND MORE**

I'm on the basketball team. To play the sport I love at a top academic school is just amazing. Brandeis has helped shape me into a great student-athlete. But more than that — this school has introduced me to a whole new way of life. I've discovered new interests, new ideas, and learned new things about myself and others. I'm going to museums, thrifting, donating food, all while getting a top-tier education from amazing professors.

**FINDING BALANCE AND SUPPORT**

I had some concerns about the academics, which are pretty rigorous. But the professors are very helpful. You can ask them anything, go to office hours, just email them. My advisor checks in with me every week. She's helped me in a lot of ways.

And then there are my classmates. There was one point when I had a family situation, and a person I didn't know at all emailed me: "Hey, I haven't seen you in class. Is everything OK? Do you need the notes or anything?" And they gave me the notes and just helped me throughout the rest of the semester. For a person to randomly help me out of nowhere like that really showed me what type of community this is.

**A COMMUNITY THAT'S HERE TO HELP**

I knew a couple of people who were community advisors in residence halls last year, so I applied and they selected me. If residents need anything, you're there to help. We plan events for the residence halls and people come out and interact and have a good time. When people have questions or are struggling, and they look to you for help — that's really fulfilling.



**ETHAN** "There are so many groups to join and new people to meet. I go to club meetings whenever I have a chance. BBSO (Brandeis Black Student Organization). Yoga Club. Chess Club. Sometimes there are game nights. Every time I go, it's a fun experience."



**REBECCA** "I've also gone to Chess Club! It's not something I'm really into, but it's fun to play once in a while!"



**ANGEL** "Brandeis has been really helpful in terms of resources. I had a mentor, we have undergraduate group study tutors and departmental peer advisors. They're all instrumental in helping students get adjusted."



**EMILY** "Everyone is really accessible. I can send an email to my advisor, and I'll probably hear back in an hour. And if you can't get that specific person, there are a million other supports. You'll be able to find someone."



**WILSON** "I've been to pretty much all of the basketball games — it's my favorite sport on campus. I think the best part is the crowd — the people who go to games are pretty enthusiastic. And it's fun to watch because we're on par with the schools that we're playing against. (I've gone to a few tennis matches too, but we pretty much just obliterate every other team.)"



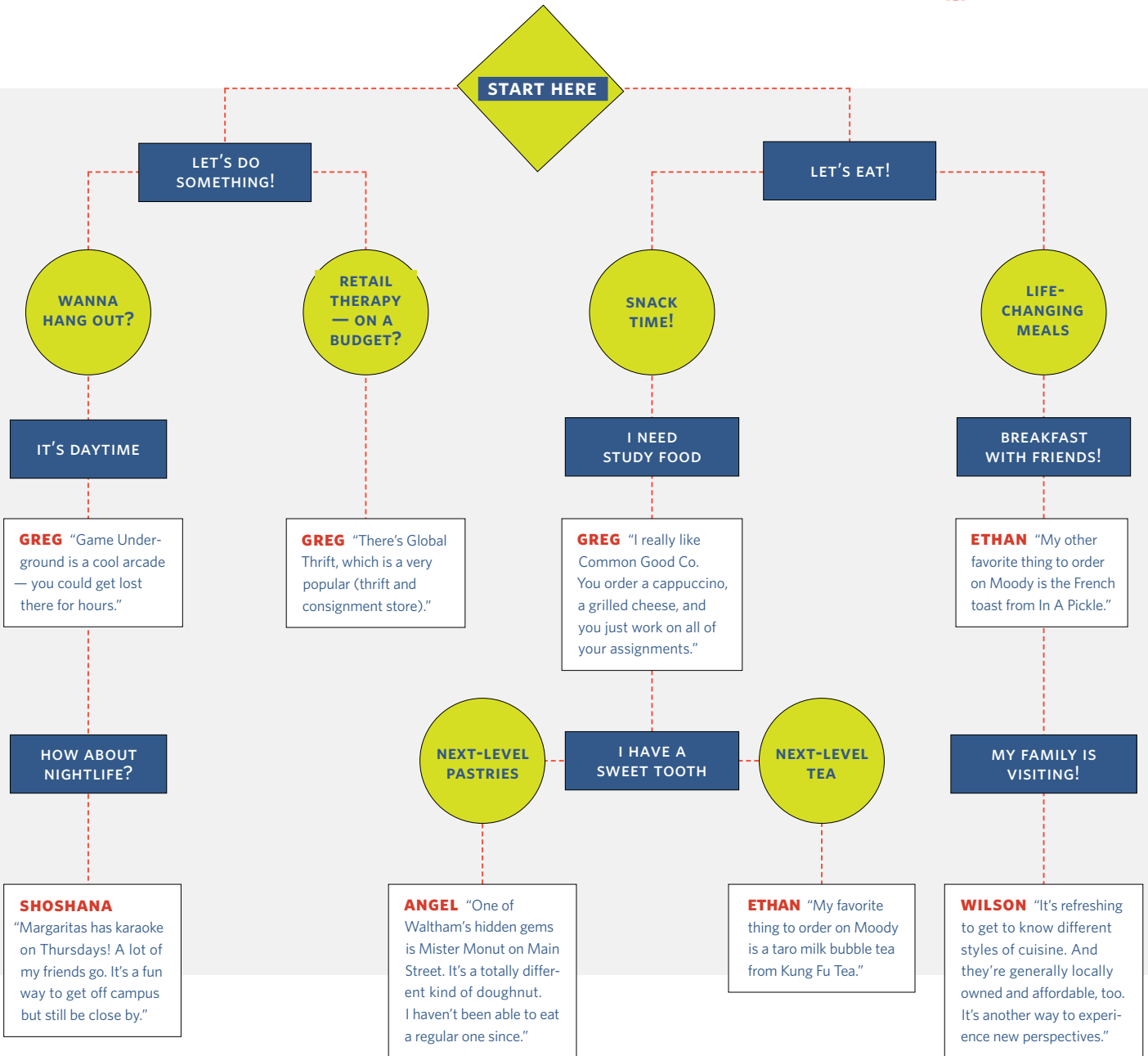
where I get to play a game I love



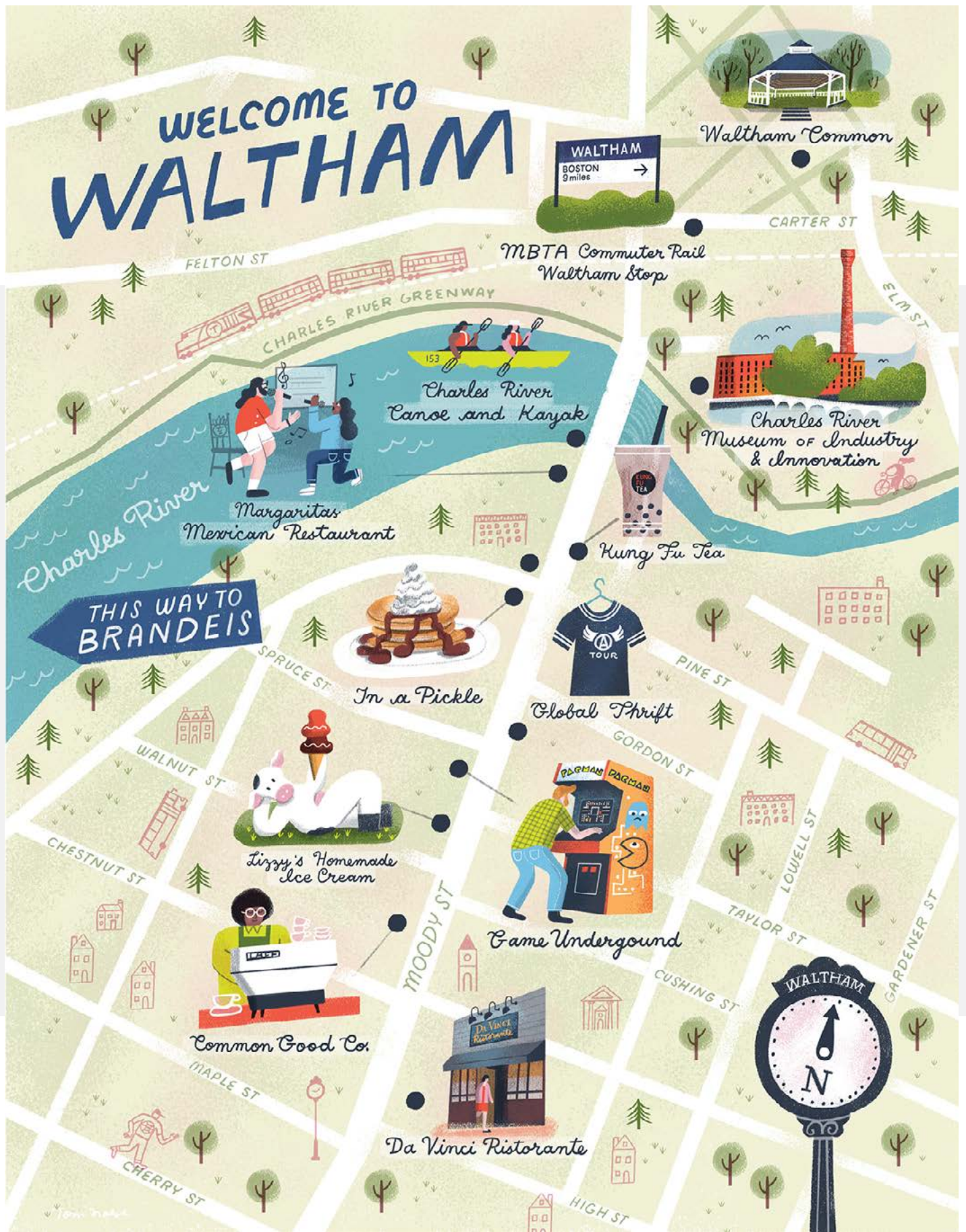
# The best of all worlds.

JUST NINE MILES FROM BIG-CITY BOSTON,  
WALTHAM IS A CLASSIC COLLEGE TOWN WITH  
LOTS OF CHARM — AND LOTS TO DO.

Sure, campus  
is a thriving hub of  
lectures, performances,  
club events, and more.  
But sometimes, the  
world beyond beckons.  
[BRANDEIS.EDU/BEYOND](http://BRANDEIS.EDU/BEYOND)



# WELCOME TO WALTHAM



WALTHAM  
BOSTON  
9 miles →

Waltham Common

MBTA Commuter Rail  
Waltham Stop

CHARLES RIVER GREENWAY

Charles River  
Canoe and Kayak

Charles River  
Museum of Industry  
& Innovation

Margaritas  
Mexican Restaurant

Kung Fu Tea

THIS WAY TO  
BRANDEIS

In a Pickle

Global Thrift

Lizzy's Homemade  
Ice Cream

Game Underground

Common Good Co.

Da Vinci Ristorante





REBECCA

## “Nature on a whole other level.”

**PART OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES MAJOR** is an applied learning experience. One of the options is to study abroad, and that was one of my goals for my time at Brandeis, and for my career. So last summer, **\*I STUDIED ABROAD\*** for eight weeks as part of the Tropical Ecology and Conservation program in Monteverde, Costa Rica.

I'd wake up every morning in the middle of the forest and see all kinds of different animals, and it was beautiful. Nature on a whole other level.

It wasn't a vacation, though. I was still taking classes for my Environmental Studies major, and they were intense. For my Tropical Ecology class, I was hiking almost every day, sometimes twice a day. Just going from my cabin to the dining hall was a whole hike in and of itself.

The curriculum allowed us to research a specific species within the tropics, and I studied glasswing butterflies. Specifically, I looked at site fidelity, sex proportion, and thanatosis, which is an anti-predator defense mechanism they use to protect themselves. (They'll kind of pretend they're dead after you handle them for a while.) To study these different ecological characteristics, I had to capture glasswing butterflies with a net and carefully handle them to identify their sex, and then time the thanatosis reaction. Butterflies are everywhere in Costa Rica, and not just one type, but a diverse ecosystem. It was so beautiful and really eye-opening. Time just flew by.

I also experienced different parts of the country and its culture while traveling with the other students in the program. It was crazy to see the biodiversity out there. Even just traveling around the different elevations, you could see changes in the environment and in the kinds of species inhabiting those areas.

Having that close interaction with nature made me realize how important it is that we connect with it. Here (in the U.S.), you can clearly see the line between human spaces and nature. I feel like I wouldn't have noticed that barrier or realized that it exists here if I never went to Costa Rica. Honestly, just being one with nature was so rewarding.

### **\*(A)BROADEN YOUR HORIZONS\***

Each year, over a third of Brandeis juniors leave campus for a summer, a semester, or a year to explore and engage with the many different landscapes, cities, cultures, and peoples the world has to offer. While abroad, they complete coursework, dive into academic internships, conduct research, build foreign language skills, and immerse themselves in something totally new.

→ Over 200 off-campus study programs in about 50 countries

→ 95% of Brandeis financial aid can be used for study abroad

Choose from a wide variety of abroad programs and locations at overseas universities and study centers, as well as interdisciplinary internship and field-based opportunities, including:

→ Brandeis in Mérida

→ Brandeis in Copenhagen

→ Galapagos Academic Institute for the Arts and Sciences

→ Cultural Identity, Social Justice, and Community Development in Valparaiso

→ Development Studies and Internship in Chiang Mai

Pura Vida!



A TRANSFORMATIONAL SUMMER BRINGS REBECCA A UNIQUE GLOBAL PERSPECTIVE.



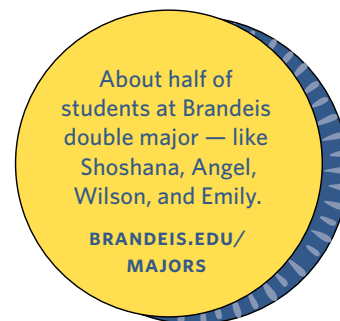


# Choose your adventure: majors and minors at Brandeis.

WE OFFER 43 MAJORS AND 51 MINORS HERE AT BRANDEIS.

Interdisciplinary courses that lead to new ideas, new depths of knowledge, and a breadth of new perspectives. A flexible curriculum that enables you to combine interests in completely different fields, develop multifaceted skills, and create disciplines all your own. Pre-professional advising programs designed to help you thrive in medicine, business, law, and education.

Brandeis is a place to pursue your passions — and discover new ones.



## MAJORS

African and African American Studies  
American Studies  
Anthropology  
Applied Mathematics  
Art History  
Biochemistry  
Biological Physics  
Biology  
Business  
Chemistry  
Classical and Early Mediterranean Studies

- Comparative Literature and Culture
- Computer Science
- Creative Writing
- East Asian Studies
- Economics
- Education Studies
- English
- Environmental Studies
- European Cultural Studies
- Film, Television, and Interactive Media
- French and Francophone Studies
- German Studies
- Health: Science, Society, and Policy
- Hispanic Studies
- History
- Independent Interdisciplinary Major
- International and Global Studies
- Latin American, Caribbean, and Latinx Studies
- Linguistics
- Mathematics

## DID YOU KNOW?

Many courses at Brandeis are also cross-listed, which means they'll earn you credits from two or more departments — Environmental Film, Environmental Justice is a cross-listed course that fulfills elective requirements for these majors and minors.

Music  
Near Eastern and Judaic Studies  
Neuroscience  
Philosophy  
Physics  
Politics  
Psychology  
Russian Studies  
Sociology  
Studio Art  
Theater Arts  
Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies

## MINORS

- African and African American Studies
- Anthropology
- Arabic Language, Literature, and Culture
- Architectural Studies
- Art History
- Asian American and Pacific Islander Studies
- Business
- Chemistry
- Classical and Early Mediterranean Studies
- Climate Justice, Science, and Policy
- Comparative Literature and Culture
- Computer Science
- Creative Writing
- Creativity, the Arts, and Social Transformation
- East Asian Studies
- Economics
- Education Studies
- English
- Environmental Studies

Film, Television, and Interactive Media  
Finance  
French and Francophone Studies  
German Studies  
Health: Science, Society, and Policy  
Hebrew Language, Literature, and Culture  
Hispanic Studies  
History  
History of Ideas  
International and Global Studies  
Italian Studies  
Journalism  
Latin American, Caribbean, and Latinx Studies  
Legal Studies  
Linguistics  
Mathematics  
Medieval and Renaissance Studies  
Music  
Near Eastern and Judaic Studies  
Philosophy  
Physics  
Politics  
Psychology  
Religious Studies  
Russian Studies  
Sexuality and Queer Studies  
Sociology  
South Asian Studies  
Studio Art  
Theater Arts  
Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies  
Yiddish and East European Jewish Culture

# Schedule your visit, and get ready to write your own Brandeis story.



## THE BEST WAY TO GET TO KNOW BRANDEIS IS TO EXPERIENCE IT FOR YOURSELF.

There's no shortage of ways to get to know our campus, engage with our community, and envision yourself living and learning as a Brandeisian. Visit campus for a tour or information session, or engage with us online for virtual tours and information sessions.

Use the QR code to schedule your visit to campus. We can't wait to meet you.



### CONNECT WITH CURRENT STUDENTS

Brandeis student fellows come from all walks of life and every corner of the globe. Use the QR code to browse their stories for insider tips on everything from best classes to best cuisine, and use the "Connect" feature to get in touch!



### BRANDEIS.EDU/ADMISSIONS

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- [@BrandeisU](https://twitter.com/BrandeisU)
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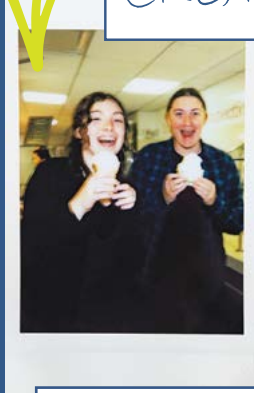
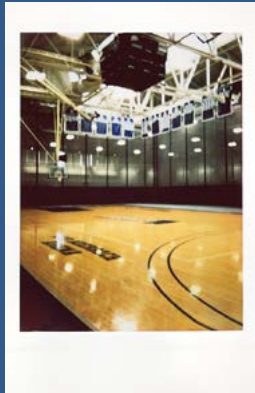
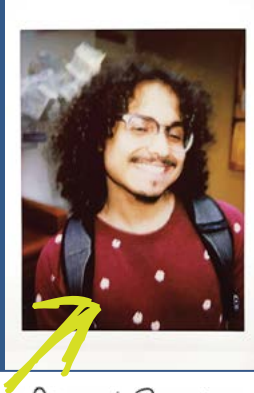
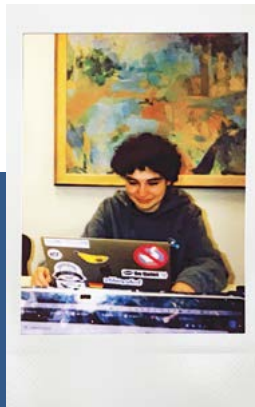
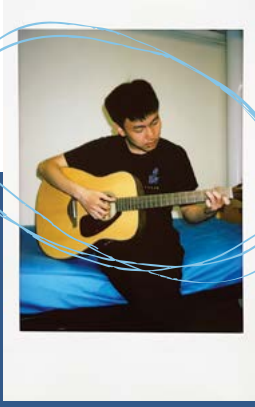


# Brandeis UNIVERSITY

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Waltham, MA 02453-2728

brandeis.edu/admissions

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ICE CREAM!

My friend Brandie in Slosberg ☺

connections magazine launch party

