

THE MA/SID SECOND YEAR

1. Introduction

After completing the first year in-residence requirements, students can select one of four options listed below for the second year:

1. Six-month practicum (one month can be off-site from the practicum organization)
2. Advanced study in residence
3. Second-year concentration
4. Classroom study at an international partner university with an associated field placement

MA/SID Program: Second-Year Track Options

Option	Year 1 (All students)	Year 2 (Each student must complete one of the following options.)	Conclusion (All students)
1	MA/SID year in-residence: Integrated sustainable development core curriculum of required courses and electives (minimum 32 credits, 16 credits per semester)	Practicum: Six months from September–February (24 credits)	Master’s paper, Capstone Seminar, and graduation
2		Advanced Study: In residence (minimum 24 credits)	
3		Second-Year Concentration: Three-month practicum (16 credits in concentration) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Coexistence and Conflict • Gender and Development • Environmental Conservation and Development • Management and Development 	
4		Alternative Practicum (24 credits): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Beijing Normal University-BNU, China • University of Development Studies-UDS, Ghana • Asian Institute of Technology-AIT, Thailand, or TERI, India • São Paulo State University, São Paulo, Brazil 	

2. Summary of MA/SID Degree Requirements

- Complete 32 credits and all required courses during the first year in residence (18 required credits and 14 elective credits.)
- Complete a program-approved track option in the second year, as defined above (Options 1-4)
- Complete a master’s paper and Capstone presentation focused on a sustainable development problem or issue

3. Planning the Second Year

After completing first-year in-residence requirements, students can select one of the following options for their second year:

- Six-month practicum
- Second-year concentration
- Advanced study in residence
- Classroom study at an international partner university with an associated field placement

Students identify an important development problem or issue to analyze that has implications for the world of sustainable development. They present their findings and recommendations in a master’s paper and panel at the Capstone Seminar, which is held typically in May of their second year.

Students who select the practicum option will base their master's paper on the work of their practicum organization. The paper is written under the supervision of their SID academic advisor, and must be written outside of their working hours.

Students who pursue a concentration in their second year may base their master's papers on the work of their practicum organization and draw on resources and coursework during their spring term in residence.

Students who do advanced study will draw on resources at the university or their previous professional experiences for their master's papers.

Students who choose to study at an international partner university will draw on their specific experience and the resources at the university to inform their master's papers. For information related to this option, students should contact the practicum coordinator (mpoor@brandeis.edu) for guidelines.