BRANDEIS UNIVERSITY
The Heller School
FOR SOCIAL POLICY AND MANAGEMENT

MASTER OF ARTS IN SUSTAINABLE INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT
KNOWLEDGE ADVANCING SOCIAL JUSTICE
Applying the power of knowledge to advance social justice in the world

At the Heller School, students and faculty are intensely focused on solutions to economic, social and environmental problems affecting poor and vulnerable communities in every corner of the world. Driven by a passion for helping others, our students choose Heller because we have global reach and resources, an exceptional faculty of recognized social policy experts, and a shared commitment to producing research and policies that promote more equitable societies.

For Heller students, the passion for change has already been ignited; our graduate degree programs give them the skills and tools they need to bring that energy to the problems facing individuals and communities in the United States and around the world.
SID AT HELLER:

Building a better world

Sustainable development should result in supporting people to improve their conditions throughout the world, by alleviating poverty, recovering and conserving the earth’s ecosystems, and reducing morbidity and mortality from preventable diseases. Focused on these real-world problems, Heller’s Master of Arts in Sustainable International Development program takes a holistic and innovative approach to the theory, practice and history of development throughout the world. Courses in residence at Heller are complemented by a practicum in which students gain hands-on experience in making change real.

With more than 140 students in residence and many others working in the field, the Heller SID program is among the world’s largest and most diverse graduate development training programs. In our student community, more than 100 different languages are spoken and more than 60 countries are represented, which makes for a vibrant and authentic educational experience. With well over half of our students coming from middle- and low-income nations, we offer an unparalleled exchange of ideas and perspectives — as well as a shared passion for making a difference in the world.

Founded in 1994, the SID program is the first of its kind in the world to present its curriculum within a global liberal arts and human development framework. With experienced faculty at Heller and committed international partners around the world, SID offers students a chance to study and work with experts, join a global network of development practitioners, and learn how to make an impact and advance social and environmental justice.

Dual and Joint Degrees

+ MA/SID and MS in International Health Policy and Management
+ MA/SID and MA in Coexistence and Conflict
+ MA/SID and MA in Women’s, Gender and Sexuality Studies
+ MA/SID and Master of Business Administration
+ MA/SID and Northeastern University JD
+ MA/SID and Northeastern University LLM
The Heller SID program at a glance

FIRST YEAR IN RESIDENCE
The first year of the Heller SID program offers a curriculum that builds a foundation of knowledge and skills within an integrated and interdisciplinary environment rooted in the social justice mission of Brandeis University and the Heller School.

+ Multidisciplinary core courses in development management; history and theories of development; applied economics and ecology; climate change; gender; ethics; and human rights.
+ Electives covering a choice of interests offered at Heller as well as throughout Brandeis and at other Boston-area universities.
+ Individual Learning Plans built around course offerings that foster breadth and depth at the master's level in development theory, planning, policy and practice.
+ Self-reflection on students' professional goals and the purpose and impact of their professional lives in development.

SECOND YEAR
Second-year students can choose either to continue their studies with advanced coursework or apply their skills and knowledge through a field practicum. The program culminates with the production of a scholarly professional master's paper and a presentation of students' work at the annual capstone seminar.

+ Practicum — Students work in the field with a recognized development organization for six months, doing professional-level work in policy or management or as part of a project team. Students deepen their professional experience by focusing on a development problem or issue through a case study for the master's paper.
+ Alternative Practicum — Students may opt to take courses and conduct supervised field research with partner universities in China, Ghana, Thailand or India, focusing on such issues as climate change or poverty-reduction policies and learning from experienced professionals leading development efforts in their home countries.
+ Advanced Study — An additional year of coursework and independent study in residence enables students to build upon the foundational knowledge gained in the first year. Students will deepen skills in critical thinking, library and desk research, and professional writing while taking a range of development courses.
+ Second-Year Specialization — A specialization can be completed through a three-month practicum in the field and an additional semester of intensely focused coursework. Specializations are available in development management, gender, and environmental conservation.

RANKINGS
Heller School
+ Most Coverdell Fellows in the Nation: No. 3, The Peace Corps, 2014
THE TOOLS YOU NEED TO EFFECT CHANGE THAT MATTERS

The SID curriculum comprises foundational courses in sustainable development theory, strategy, management and policy, augmented by elective courses suited to each student’s particular interests. Individual Learning Plans foster both breadth and depth, allowing students to delve into specific subjects while still receiving well-rounded training in the most important skills for a successful career in sustainable development policy and practice.

SAMPLE SID COURSES

Global, regional and national trends that shape development challenges and opportunities evolve continuously. To accompany these changes, Heller’s SID faculty refine and update our curriculum on a regular basis. Actual course offerings may vary from one academic year to the next, yet all offer relevant and current knowledge, taught by practitioners and professionals with extensive experience in the development field.

+ Core Courses for Sustainable Development — Foundational courses in planning, implementing, monitoring and evaluating sustainable development projects, with an emphasis on poverty, environmental conservation, economics, gender, human rights, ethics and governance.

+ Development Theory and Management — Courses cover subjects such as history and paradigms of aid, advocacy, communications, fundraising, working with NGOs, and practical approaches for addressing key development issues facing communities and nations.

+ Economics — Courses encompass agricultural and economic policy issues, cost-benefit and cost-effectiveness analyses, environmental economics, globalization, energy, the economics of climate change and microfinance.

+ Ecology and Conservation — A focus on environmental impacts of development initiatives, integrating conservation with development, mitigating climate change, watershed management, tourism, renewable energy, trade and natural resources.

+ Social Development — Courses delve into topics related to social theory, democracy, governance, community participation, food security and nutrition, conflict, education, and land reform and social movements.

+ Ethics, Justice and Human Rights — Exploration of issues of applied ethics, human rights, religion, human development, indigenous peoples, and legal and policy frameworks.

+ Gender and Development — These courses explore the importance of gender-based analysis for education, globalization, environment, and reproductive and sexual health.
“Heller bears the tremendous responsibility of cultivating the world’s next generation of change agents. It meets this challenge by bringing together practitioners and thought innovators from around the globe for multiperspective, interdisciplinary learning.”

Maria Ezpeleta, MA SID’06, Program Policy Adviser, Oxfam America

**Tools and Applied Research Design for Development** — Building skills in designing and evaluating surveys, professional writing, interdisciplinary research, critical thinking and geographic information systems.

**ADMISSIONS AND FINANCIAL AID**

The Heller School seeks students who are committed to finding solutions to the world’s most pressing social and environmental problems. We intentionally select a diverse student body that reflects not only a variety of ethnic and cultural backgrounds but also a wide range of interests and professional and personal experiences.

To achieve this diversity, we offer a number of merit-based scholarships. These include scholarships for alumni of national service programs in the United States such as AmeriCorps and Peace Corps.

In addition, there are a wide range of SID-specific scholarships, including funding for international students. Nearly 100 percent of those who apply receive at least one form of financial aid.

**BRANDEIS AND BOSTON**

Brandeis offers faculty and resources on par with any world-class research institution. Our campus is a beautifully landscaped oasis within the historic city of Waltham, situated only nine miles from the cities of Boston and Cambridge — easily accessible via a short drive or a ride on the commuter rail. Featuring a unique blend of the modern and the traditional, classic New England charm and international sophistication, the region is also a dynamic center for industry and innovation, academia and medicine, and arts and culture.

**HELLER INSTITUTES AND CENTERS**

Schneider Institutes for Health Policy
+ Institute on Healthcare Systems
+ Institute for Behavioral Health
+ Institute for Global Health and Development

Institute for Child, Youth and Family Policy
+ Center for Youth and Communities

Institute on Assets and Social Policy

Sillerman Center for the Advancement of Philanthropy

Lurie Institute for Disability Policy
+ Nathan and Toby Starr Center on Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities
Fulfilling a commitment to social change

SID students depart Heller with the skills, knowledge and real-world experience that employers value. Most international students return to their home countries, where they work tirelessly to improve the standard of living in poor communities. Here is a small but representative sample of the career paths taken by recent SID graduates:

- **Arab Coalition for Darfur, Egypt**
  - **Manager**

- **Aspen Institute**
  - **Senior Program Associate**

- **Care International, Kenya**
  - **Governance and Advocacy Officer**

- **Catholic Relief Services, Philippines**
  - **Team Leader, Social Mobilization**

- **Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Angola**
  - **Health Specialist Surveillance**

- **China Corporate Citizenship Committee, China**
  - **Director of Public Relations**

- **Education Development Center**
  - **Curriculum Design Specialist**

- **Inter-American Development Bank**
  - **Environment and Infrastructure Field Coordinator**

- **Japan International Cooperation Agency, Japan**
  - **Country Officer**

- **Management Sciences for Health**
  - **Senior Business Proposal and Contract Specialist**

- **Orissa Rural Development and Marketing Society, India**
  - **Chief Executive**

- **Oxfam America**
  - **Development Associate**

- **Plan International, China**
  - **Program Coordinator**

- **The Presidency, South Africa**
  - **Researcher, Advisory Service**

- **The Rockefeller Foundation**
  - **Program Consultant, Strategy and Program Development**

- **Save the Children, Philippines**
  - **Program Officer**

- **UNHCR, Chad**
  - **Associate Resettlement Officer**

- **UNICEF, Uzbekistan**
  - **Program Officer, Social Policy**

- **United Nations Development Program**
  - **Program Affiliate**

- **United Nations Volunteers, Mali**
  - **Program Manager**

- **USAID**
  - **Technical Adviser**

- **World Bank, Colombia**
  - **Rural Development Specialist**
Heller Degree Programs
+ Master of Public Policy (MPP)
+ MBA in Nonprofit Management
+ MA in Sustainable International Development
+ MS in International Health Policy and Management
+ MA in Coexistence and Conflict
+ PhD in Social Policy

Dual and Joint Degrees
With Heller programs
+ MA in Sustainable International Development/MA in Coexistence and Conflict
+ MA in Sustainable International Development/MS in International Health Policy and Management
+ MBA/MA in Coexistence and Conflict
+ MBA/MA in Sustainable International Development
+ MBA/MS in International Health Policy and Management
+ MBA/Master of Public Policy

With Brandeis programs
+ MA in Coexistence and Conflict/MA in Near Eastern and Judaic Studies
+ MBA/MA in Jewish Professional Leadership

With other universities
+ MBA/MD from Tufts University School of Medicine
+ MBA/MBS (Master of Biomedical Sciences) from Tufts University School of Medicine
+ MA in Sustainable International Development/JD from Northeastern University School of Law
+ MA in Sustainable International Development/LLM from Northeastern University School of Law
+ MA in Coexistence and Conflict, University for Peace (Costa Rica)/MA in International Law and Human Rights