

## SID Concentration

SID concentrations begin in the second year. Students must complete the SID first year in residence to receive a solid grounding in the program's holistic, integrated approach to development. Under this alternative, their second year is a concentration within a significant field of development. Second-year concentrations are offered in the following areas:

- Management and Development
- Gender and Development
- Environmental Conservation and Development
- Coexistence and Conflict Resolution (COEX)

Note that courses for the COEX concentration must be taken in the fall semester of the second year, while all other concentration courses are taken in the spring semester of the second year.

### *The SID Concentration Requirements*

Students must complete a three-month field practicum in the fall semester of the second year (12 credits) and one semester of coursework in residence in the spring semester (a minimum of 16 credits). Like all MA/SID students, concentration students write a second-year proposal, in which they identify a development problem or issue within the area of the chosen concentration. The proposal must be signed and approved by both the SID program director and the practicum coordinator prior to the start of the second year. For the concentration, students must:

- Enroll as a full-time student in the practicum course (HS230a)
- Complete a three-month field practicum in the fall of their second year (or spring of their second year for COEX concentration students)
- Complete a minimum of 16 credits in their concentration. All courses must be selected from the [approved course list](#). This list is updated annually.
- Produce a master's paper focused on the concentration and situated within the broader goals of sustainable international development.
- Present at the SID Capstone Seminar and participate in all Capstone events.

Upon successful completion of all requirements for the concentration, students will be awarded a certificate of concentration and the concentration will be noted on their transcript.

SID Concentration	
Term	Credits
Year 1—Fall	16 min; 20 max
Year 1—Spring	16 min; 20 max
Year 2—Fall (practicum)	12
Year 2—Spring	16 min; 20 max
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>60–72 CREDITS</b>

*(For COEX concentration, coursework is in the fall and the practicum is in the spring. Sixteen credits must be in the student's concentration.)*

### ***The SID Concentration Curriculum***

Each concentration has its own [approved list of courses](#) that is updated every year. Each course list includes a range of existing Heller courses, as well as options within other schools and programs at Brandeis. Consortium courses are also available that can be identified and taken as approved, with a limit of one course per semester. The concentrations are flexible and will be individually tailored for each student from a list of approved courses. The program must approve the students' individualized schedule for their concentration at the beginning of the fall or spring semester, depending on when courses are taken.

### ***The Typical Sequence for the Concentration***

Most concentration students complete the field practicum during the fall semester, from September to December. During the spring semester, students return to Heller and take a minimum of 16 credits. The COEX concentration requires that students take 16 required credits in the fall semester. COEX concentration students typically complete the field practicum and their master's paper in the spring semester of their second year.

### ***The Concentration, Practicum, Development Problem, and Master's Paper***

The three-month practicum experience is meant to inform the student's master's paper and to align closely with the SID curriculum frameworks. The practicum allows students to examine a significant problem or issue within the broader field of sustainable development through experiential learning. Students will use their practicum experience to develop a consultant's report (i.e., master's paper) in which they identify the development problem or problems the organization tries to address and how its programs or projects could be improved. (See page 20 for specific guidelines related to the consultant's report.) Concentration students may also write a research-based paper with permission of their advisor.

### **Advanced Study with a Concentration**

Advanced study students can do a concentration by completing the three-month practicum in the summer after the first year in residence and **16 credits in their concentration by the end of their second year**. In the fall semester of their second year, they must take a minimum of 12 credits, including taking the Advanced Study Seminar (HS338a). In the spring of their second year, they must take a minimum of 12 credits.

<b>Advanced Study with a Concentration</b>	
<b>Term</b>	<b>Credits</b>
Year 1—Fall	16 min; 20 max
Year 1—Spring	16 min; 20 max
Three-Month Summer Practicum	12
Year 2—Fall	12 or 16 min; 20 max*
Year 2—Spring	12 or 16 min; 20 max*
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>72–92 CREDITS</b>

*\*Sixteen credits must be in student's concentration. Students with a COEX concentration take 16 credits in the Fall and 12 credits in the Spring, while students with a concentration in Gender, Environment, or Management will take 12 credits in the Fall and 16 credits in the Spring.*

