

JOINT BA/MA PROGRAMME INFORMATION SHEET

GRADUATE INSTITUTE OF INTERNATIONAL AND DEVELOPMENT STUDIES, GENEVA (HEREAFTER
THE GRADUATE INSTITUTE, GENEVA)
&
WELLESLEY COLLEGE

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THE PROGRAMME

[The joint programme](#) provides students with the possibility to begin their Masters at the Graduate Institute, Geneva during their fourth year of Bachelors studies. During this fourth year of studies, students will spend one semester at each institution and benefit from the mutual recognition of credits for the entire academic year. Students can therefore obtain both degrees in five years as opposed to the regular 6 year period.

Years 1, 2 and 3	BA at Wellesley College
Year 4	BA + MA: Autumn Semester at the Graduate Institute, Spring Semester at Wellesley College
Year 5	MA at the Graduate Institute

Candidates will be nominated to the Graduate Institute by Wellesley College.

MA STUDY PROGRAMMES

The Graduate Institute offers the following [Master Programmes](#):

- 2 Interdisciplinary Masters: Master in International Affairs, Master in Development Studies.
Prerequisites: 3 years study at bachelor level in Social Sciences
- 5 Disciplinary Masters: Master in Anthropology and Sociology of Development, Master in International Economics, Master in International History, Master in International Law, Master in International Relations/Political Science.
Prerequisites: 3 years study at bachelor level in a relevant discipline. In particular, admission to the programmes specialising in law and economics require a solid background in these fields of study (the GRE test is required for the Master in International Economics).

Details of the curriculum and course offerings of each programme are available on the [Institute's website](#). For the interdisciplinary masters, BA-MA students are exempted from the compulsory courses which take place during the second semester, and in addition will not partake in a capstone project, nor will they be required to choose a specific track. For general information on the Graduate Institute, [click here](#).

TUITION FEES AND FINANCIAL AID

Tuition fees for the fourth year of study (Autumn Semester at the Graduate Institute and Spring Semester at Wellesley College) are paid directly to Wellesley College. Students will be required to pay regular tuition fees of **8'000CHF** to the Graduate Institute for their final MA year.

Students are eligible to apply to the Graduate Institute for financial aid for this second year, and should do so during the [initial application process](#).

While the Institute is affiliated to the US Direct Loan program, unfortunately the US regulations consider any program, of which part is being given in the US, as ineligible. Private loan applications can, however, be certified through the Institute.

[Click here](#) for full details on the Institute's tuition fees and financial aid options.

ADMISSION PROCESS

Applications should be submitted via a **dedicated application form**, the link to which will be provided to nominated candidates by their home universities. Candidates to this programme should, therefore, **not use** the application form on the Institute's [admission pages](#) but are advised to consult all the other general information on these pages. Please refer to Annex 1 for the complete list of supporting documents required.

The application deadline is January 15th (for programmes beginning in September of that same year).

Admission decisions are communicated before the end of March.

FRENCH COURSES

The Institute wishes to ensure that students with a limited or no knowledge of French can develop their French language skills during their studies. Accordingly, French courses and French placement tests are organized at the Institute. In this respect, students will be classified into 3 groups:

1. Students with little or no prior knowledge of French are required to attend a three-week intensive French course, before the start of the first semester. This course will be followed by weekly classes during the first semester at the Graduate Institute. It is recommended that the students continue to take French lessons during the second semester at their home university. At the beginning of the third semester in Geneva, students are required to take a French placement test. In case of failure, they will have the opportunity to pursue weekly classes during their third semester and retake the placement test at the start of the fourth semester.
2. Students with a basic knowledge of French must register for a French placement test at the time of their online application. This will take place during the first week of the academic year. Students who fail this placement test will have to attend a weekly French course organised by the Institute, free of charge, during the first semester. It is recommended that the students continue to take French lessons during their second semester in their home university. At the start of the third semester at the Graduate Institute, students will have to sit a French placement test. In case of failure, they will have the opportunity to take a weekly course during their third semester and to take a placement test again at the start of their fourth semester.
3. The above conditions do not apply to students whose mother tongue is French, or who have a secondary or post-secondary diploma totally taught in French, or who have spent a minimum of one academic year studying at university level completely in French, or who can produce a French language certificate equivalent to a DELF B1 level.

Further information is available on our [website](#).

STUDENT VISA

Most non-EU citizens require a visa to enter and study in Switzerland. A visa request should be filed with the local Swiss embassy further to receipt of the confirmation of admission. **Please note that it can take up to 3 months to process visa applications.** Additionally, all non-Swiss students must apply for a residence permit on their arrival in Geneva. Residence permits are issued by the Office Cantonal de la Population (OCP).

Full details and instructions regarding the visa and residence permit procedures will be provided to admitted students.

HOUSING

Admitted students may apply for a room at the [Institute's Student Residence](#), for the Autumn Semester of the first year in Geneva.

LIVING EXPENSES

1'800CHF – 2'000CHF per month will allow for a modest student lifestyle in Geneva. A [Monthly Student Budget](#) estimate compiled by the Graduate Institute's Students Association (GISA) provides an overview of living costs in Geneva. You will also find a lot of information regarding [life in Geneva](#) from our website.

Joint BA/MA Degree Programme List of Application Supporting Documents

The following documents must be uploaded onto your online application once nominated by Wellesley College.

- Motivation letter describing why you wish to study at the Institute (approximately 800 words, in English or French)
- Curriculum vitae/resume (in English or French)
- Copies of official transcripts to date (duly stamped by Wellesley College).
- Any previous university diplomas and qualifications obtained
- French language certificate(s), if applicable
- Copy of passport or ID/personal details page
- Two academic references:
Please provide the names and professional e-mail addresses of two academic referees. The Institute will write to these referees to request recommendation letters.
It is the candidate's responsibility to check online whether referees have submitted their recommendation letters within the deadline, and to send them a reminder if necessary.
- Portrait photograph (headshot)
- **Applicants to the MA in International Economics Programme**
GRE (Graduate Record Examination) general test results
ETS Institutional code: 2258, Department:1899
Your GRE results are **mandatory** and essential for the evaluation of your application. (Whilst waiting for the official certificate, please submit your results page downloaded from ETS's website.)

The Institute's admission office provides technical support and information to applicants throughout the process. The International Programme's Office is also available to provide candidates from partner institutions with information and advice on all aspects of their studies and life in Geneva.

*Admitted students from Wellesley College are exempt from the condition of presenting their Bachelor's Degree to enrol at the Graduate Institute but will be required to present their **original transcript** and **original High School diploma** on their arrival.*