

### 3<sup>rd</sup> Session IDS Visual Art & Design Proposal Sample

***Complete & submit your own proposal for your visual art project to be completed before the end of the term.***

**Working Title:** Know Your Trees!

**Type of Project:** printmaking/public art

**Project Description:** My project: to turn the Brandeis campus into a makeshift arboretum. I want to combine the skills I've learned in Field Biology and printmaking classes to achieve this goal. I will select chunks of campus- starting with the road leading from the Village to Rabb, ID all the trees, and then attach semi-permanent labels with each tree's Latin and English names. Each label will be designed to include an element of woodblock print and will be handwritten. I want to laminate each label and attach them with wire or nails to each tree so that they stay as long as possible. This project will be ongoing throughout the semester so that I can label as many trees on campus as time allows. There are a wide variety of trees on this campus, but many go unnoticed; people tend to care more for things they know about than the ones they don't. So my goal is to draw attention to this beautiful element of our campus and foster a sense of ownership for Brandeis' wildlife (or landscaped-life) among the student body.

**Materials Required:** I will be using the laminating machine in the Student Activities office. As far as the budget goes, I do not have any other funding and also cannot afford to lay out money for reimbursement. I would need to work out a way to pay for these items without laying out the money myself.

**Faculty Contact:** Eric Olsen

**Project Statement:** Early last spring, I visited Boston's Arnold Arboretum for the first time. Walking among the different species of cherries, birches, beeches, and vines, I began to notice the subtleties of species variation in a way that had been previously sparked by the work my Fall 2011 Field Biology class had done. After examining each interesting tree in great detail, I returned back to Brandeis for the day and realized I had been completely spoiled by the presence of the arboretum's labels. Although I could identify a significant number of trees on campus, I wanted to know far more than was--and is--possible through the amount of information given about campus wildlife. (Continue explaining the inspiration for your

**Space:** Please refer to the campus map on my Tumblr page to see the areas of priority in the tree labeling process.

**Timetable:**

**Project Goals:**

1. Hone my own tree identification skills while sparking interest in tree ID in other students.
2. Practice my printmaking skills through the beautification of campus.
3. Help students become more aware and appreciative of the local environment; part of my project will involve including other students in the tree ID and labelling process.