Distinctly Brown

Over 250 years since its founding, Brown remains committed to the values that define and sustain our record of excellence and influence in the world. Brown is a place where ideas, passion, and constructive irreverence lead to lives of purpose and positive consequence. Our students have opportunities to learn, grow, and explore amidst a supportive and distinguished community of scholars.

Steeped in Brown Traditions

The iconic Van Wickle Gates on the Quiet Green open only twice per year: inward for Convocation, when new students walk in and are welcomed by a gathering of the Brown community, and outward for Commencement, when graduating students process out past alums, family, friends and others. According to superstition, any Brown student who passes through the gates more than these two times will be cursed with bad luck.

Brown School of Public Health

The Brown University School of Public Health has three distinguishing features. First is an overarching approach that carries across our departments and 11 nationally-renowned research centers and institutes: we learn public health by doing public health. The enterprise has expanded since its founding in 2000 to support more than 200 faculty and 275 undergraduate and graduate students—and to attract over $56 million in annual external research funding. Second, we embrace Brown University’s ethos of service to others. Our work has impact on entire populations, with the potential to improve the health and well-being of millions. And finally, the School is focused on training professionals who can collect, analyze, and apply data that inform public policy. Graduates from our programs go on to fulfilling careers in education, service, policy, and practice in the fields of public health.

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Student Profile

LAWRENCE WERE
Recipient of the 2013 William and Flora Hewlett Foundation/IIE Dissertation Fellowship

Lawrence's research interests are the application of health economic theory and econometric methodology in causal estimation of the impact of health systems and policy reforms, and health insurance on health and economic outcomes within marginalized and high risk populations. For his dissertation research he is focusing on the impact of social health insurance on the health and economic outcomes of HIV+ pregnant women in Western Kenya. Not only is this research timely and relevant, but it has the potential to shape the social health insurance and HIV care policy in Kenya and similar developing economies in light of dwindling donor funding and government tax revenues, increasing healthcare costs, and burdensome out-of-pocket payments especially for the poor.

"The Health Services Research (HSR) PhD program appealed to me due to its focus on the application of theory and practice in health policy, and opportunities to work on interdisciplinary research with leading faculty in their fields and forge collaborations and synergy with fellow students."

Faculty Profile

VINCENT MOR, PhD, MED
Professor of Medical Science, Department of Health Services, Policy & Practice

Vincent Mor, PhD, Florence Pirce Grant Brown University Professor of Community Health, is a health services researcher who has specialized in aging, chronic disease and long term care, having been PI on over 30 NIH grants and numerous other Foundation and CMS grants and contracts. Over the past decade he has led a team of investigators examining the transformation of the long term care industry from focusing on custodial care to the present emphasis on specialized post-acute care. Health Services Research graduate students have been integrated into Dr. Mor's NIA funded Program Project, Shaping Long Term Care in America, serving as research assistants and doing their dissertation work using the data assembled under the project.

"The field of health services research has blossomed since I first became involved in it over 30 years ago. Our newly graduating doctoral students are in extremely high demand from high quality academic programs to private sector research companies. They are attracted to our students because of their strong quantitative backgrounds combined with real policy analysis experience that comes about from working with ongoing funded research projects in which students have important responsibilities."

Degrees Offered

Doctor of Philosophy (PhD)

Requirements for admission

Admission is open to those with or without relevant post baccalaureate training although those with a master's degree or relevant doctoral training are preferred. Regardless of disciplinary background, only applicants with a relevant master's degree may petition to transfer credits to count toward the doctoral degree.

Applicants are required to submit GRE exam scores (within five years). Other standardized tests (e.g., MCAT, LSAT) may not substitute for the GRE. Subject test scores can be submitted but are not required. TOEFL scores are required for a student whose native language is not English, but may be waived for those who hold a bachelor's or master's degree from a US institution.

Applications are due January 5th for fall-semester admission: http://brown.edu/academics/public-health/health-services-policy-practice/undergraduate

Financial Assistance link: http://www.brown.edu/academics/gradschool/courses-manual/phd-funding

Course Offerings link: http://brown.edu/academics/public-health/health-services-policy-practice/home/education/required-courses