Orientation 2017: Thriving at Brown

Welcome to Brown!

Christina Paxson
President of Brown University
Professor of Economics & Public Policy
Deans’ Briefing for Master’s Students

Shayna Kessel,
Associate Dean of Master’s Education & Interim
Associate Dean for International Graduate Students
Getting to Know Us…

- Thomas Lewis, Associate Dean, Academic Affairs, Professor of Religious Studies
- Beth Harrington, Associate Dean, Graduate and Postdoctoral Studies, BioMed
- Vanessa Ryan, Associate Dean, Student Development

Want to meet? See website for open office hours or email.
Getting to Know Us…

- Maria Suarez, 
  Associate Dean, Student Support

- Marlina Duncan, 
  Associate Dean, Diversity Initiatives & Assistant Vice President for Academic Diversity
Getting to Know Us…

- Ethan Bernstein,
  Director of Administration and Operations

- Bev Ehrich, Graduate Student Program Coordinator at CareerLAB

- Peter Baron,
  Assistant Director of Financial Aid
Your Cohort

- 524 first-year master’s students
- Selected from 5,186 applicants

CONGRATULATIONS!

- In total: Almost 900 students enrolled in master’s programs
58% of incoming graduate students are master’s students who enroll in one of 29 master’s programs.
Welcome, International Master’s Students!

28 countries
199 international students
325 domestic students

Countries with the most master’s students (after U.S.):
- People's Republic of China
- India
- Turkey
- Hong Kong
- Canada
- Singapore
- Taiwan
- Saudi Arabia
CONVOCATION

Brown’s 255th Opening Convocation
Tuesday, September 4, 2018

Students should report at 3:30 pm to College Street
(just outside the gates)
Brown’s Mission is to...

... serve the community, the nation, and the world by discovering, communicating, and preserving knowledge and understanding in a spirit of free inquiry, and by educating and preparing students to discharge the offices of life with usefulness and reputation...
Thriving in Community
Know the Rules

- Academic and Student Conduct Codes
- Graduate School Handbook
- Faculty Rules
Academic and Student Conduct Codes

Regulations for meeting your academic requirements responsibly

- To avoid the risk of plagiarism and falsification/augmentation:
  - Cite your sources
  - Collaborate – but ask how
  - Pay attention to copyright regulations

- Research regulations on:
  - Studying people, animals or things
  - Environmental health and safety, hazardous materials
  - Dishonesty or misconduct
  - Patent and invention
Academic and Student Conduct Codes

Do not engage in:

- Disruptive behavior
- Actions that result in physical harm
- Sexual misconduct
- Harassment on the basis of difference
- Abuse of drugs or alcohol
- Actions that fail to comply with the directive of a University official

Possession and use of firearms, gunpowder, ammunition, explosives,..., are not allowed on campus

Note: Ignorance is not an excuse!
Ethics: More Than ‘You Shall Not’

- Researchers have obligations to:
  - Themselves
  - Research subjects (animals or humans)
  - Other researchers
  - The institution where research is taking place
  - The community in which the research is being done
  - Funders of research
  - Society as a whole

- Honesty and integrity will affect your work’s impact
  - Clarity of your research: data quality, record keeping
  - Reporting, crediting, and publishing
Ethics: Training Opportunities

- Federal Responsible Conduct of Research Training Requirement
- Appropriate online (CITI) training
- Departmental Workshops
- Academy in Context dinner-seminars
- Ask questions. Talk with peers and mentors

*Brown University is a member of Collaborative Institutional Training Initiative, which offers ethics training.*
The Nuts and Bolts of Brown
Basics for a successful first semester
Key People in Your Department

- Department chair
- Director of Graduate Studies
- Department administrator
- Your fellow students
OGPS is home to five biology departments and 14 clinical departments, and is affiliated with eight diverse teaching hospitals in and around Providence.

- Help and Support: Dean Harrington and Staff
- Funding Opportunities
- Resources for Students writing Fellowship Applications
- Policies and IDP requirement
- Upcoming Events Page
- Sign up to read the Weekly Update on Fridays
OGPS @ 91 Waterman Street
Program Handbook

- Every graduate program is required to have one
- Clear outline of milestones (degree requirements)
- Deadlines for completion of requirements
- Evaluation procedures
  - Students receive an annual letter of evaluation from their programs
Program Structure

- Every program has a structure that dictates the number of classes students are required to take each semester.
  - History: Fall = 4 classes, Spring = 4 classes
  - Computer Science: 2 classes each semester for four semesters

**Follow the structure!**

When in doubt, talk to your Director of Graduate Studies or your program administrator!

→ Deviating from the program structure can cost you additional tuition, cause problems with your visa, or prevent you from graduating.
  - Adding or dropping a course
  - Changing the grading option from credit to audit
Finding essential information

Gateway for Graduate Students

For quick access to:

• “Who to Ask” list
• Policies
• Dates and Deadlines
• Resources
• Forms
• Commencement information
Staying Current

- Graduate School emails
  - Targeted and infrequent – read them
- Today@Brown
  - Centralized email system used across Brown
  - READ IT! Or miss events, programming and free food!
- Monthly E-Newsletter
- Twitter @BrownGradSchool
  - #fellowship for grant news and announcements
- Facebook at Brown Graduate School
  - Highlights events and YOUR accomplishments
Resources and Support

Your toolbox beyond the classroom (or lab!)
Student Support

- **Maria Suarez, Associate Dean for Student Support**
  Graduate School / Horace Mann 108
  - Personal or family emergencies
  - Medical and psychological concerns, leaves, referrals
  - Academic difficulty, stress, illness, concerned about a peer

- **Student Support Services**
  Graduate Center, 4th floor (Charlesfield & Thayer)
  - Personal or family emergencies
  - 24/7/365 administrator on-call coverage
  - Medical and psychological concerns, leaves, referrals

- **Student and Employee Accessibility Services (SEAS)**
  20 Benevolent St., 1st floor
  - Assists with physical, psychological, and learning disabilities
  - Shuttle service for students who have physical disabilities and who are injured
  - **Open until 6pm during the week and 12-4pm on Saturday, just for grad students**
Counseling and Psychological Services

J Walter Wilson (5th Floor)

- Saturday Hours for Grad Students only at University Health
- Shopping Period Walk-In Services
  No appointment needed in first 2 weeks of semester
- Urgent Care Clinician available for walk-ins
- Multi-lingual (counseling in English, Spanish, Portuguese, French, and Arabic)
- Student Care Coordinator assists in outside referrals
Other Resources for Support

- Health Services
  - Medical Care
  - BWell Health Promotion
  - SHARE Advocates (Sexual Harassment & Assault Resources & Education)
  - CAPS
    13 Brown Street

- Ombuds Office
  Ruthy Kohorn Rosenberg
  Ombuds@brown.edu
  Hillel (3rd Floor)

- Office of the Chaplains
  J Walter Wilson (4th Floor)
Writing Center

- Individual and group writing support
  - For experienced and inexperienced writers
  - Clarity and style
- Staffed by graduate students

- Help with all stages of writing process:
  - Writer’s block
  - Audience awareness
  - Argumentation
  - Organization
  - Grammar
  - Research skills
Support and programs for students whose first language is not English

Proactive assistance:
- Reading
- Oral communication
- Cultural style

Language Partners Program
Sampling of Resources

University Library
FLi (First-Generation and Low-Income) Center
Brown Center for Students of Color
Sarah Doyle Women’s Center
Office of Student Life
Office of the Chaplains and Religious Life
LGBTQ Resource Center
Swearer Center
Computing and Information Services
Athletics and Physical Education
Graduate Student Council: Your Voice

Officers

President: Alastair Tulloch

Master’s Advocate: Alexander Laferriere

International Advocate: Sophie Brunau-Zaragoza

VP, Advocacy: D’Ondre Swails

VP, Communications: Kaitlin Wilcox

VPs, Social: Sayan Samanta, Jack Krantz

Nominations: Christian Casey

Treasurer: Kara Lau

Technology: Ghoust Amjad

Role of the GSC

- Represent Grad Students
- Organize Events and Classes
- Support Student Initiatives
- Maintain Grad Student-Only Spaces
- Operate Community Listservs

GSC Panel Today:
Here at 2 pm
GSC Representatives

• Dynamic departmental representatives are always needed!
  • Vote at GSC meetings
  • Ensure flow of information to program peers and back to GSC

• Interested?
  • Stop by the GSC table at the Resource Fair or email the President at gsc_president@brown.edu
  • Meetings are on the 1st Wednesday of every month
  • 7pm in the Grad Center Lounge (Charlesfield & Thayer)

SOCIAL SATURDAY AT 8 PM: Whiskey Republic, 15 Bridge Street
Professional Development

Preparing you to make goals realities
CareerLAB

- Supports professional development
  - Academic positions
  - Non-academic options

- Complements faculty advising

- Services include:
  - Confidential counseling
  - Resume and CV critiques
  - Skills assessment
  - Job search programs
  - How to negotiate compensation
Connect with Brown Alumni

- BrownConnect
  - Online career networking program for alumni and students
  - Seek advice
  - Find career contacts

- Sign up for Brunonia

- Find affinity groups

- Join Brown’s LinkedIn groups
  - Life/Physical Sciences: grad students & alumni
  - Humanities/Social Sciences: grad students & alumni
Brown Executive Scholars Training

- BEST program provides 12 weeks of training
- Insight into higher education career options
- 8-10 students per year
- Mentoring by Brown administrators
- Application deadline: **Nov. 17, 2017**
Conference Travel Funds

- Master’s Students are eligible to apply
- Must present original work at conference
- Up to $650 per year
- Details on Graduate School website
- Apply through UFunds
Orientation Schedule

Next up – Gender Inclusion at Brown University
11:00 am pm – Campus Resource Fair in Sayles Hall
12:00 pm – Lunch!
Orientation Schedule

1:15 & 3:00 pm: Sessions on Advising, Distinctive Opportunities, Diversity & Inclusion & to take the Codes Course

2:00 pm GSC Panel in Salomon 101

3:40 pm 5th-Year Master’s Introduction to Graduate School - downstairs
Tours!

Walking Tours: Navigating Brown and Its History
Get to know the campus area while also learning about the University's historical relationship to slavery and the transatlantic slave trade
Departures at 3:45 pm and 4:20 pm
Meeting point: In front of Salomon, Main Green

Traditional Campus Walk
Includes information on the Greens, libraries, gym & other facilities on campus.
Departures at 4:00 pm and 4:35 pm
Meeting point: In front of Sayles Hall, Main Green
Welcome to Rene Davis, Title IX Program Officer

Policies and resources dedicated to creating and maintaining a safe environment, where healthy, respectful, and consensual conduct represents the campus cultural norm and gender-based harassment is not tolerated.