Brown School of Public Health

At the Brown University School of Public Health, students learn public health by doing public health. This mission motivates our four academic departments and 11 nationally-renowned research centers and institutes. We are constantly expanding, and attract $50 million in annual external research funding that supports our more than 100 faculty and 275 undergraduate and graduate students. Our faculty are dedicated to training innovative researchers and scholars who can collect, analyze, and apply data that informs public policy and scientific inquiry. We also embrace Brown University’s ethos of service to others. Graduates from our programs go on to fulfilling careers in education, service, policy, and practice in the fields of public health. Our work impacts populations and communities both locally and globally, and has the potential to improve the health and well-being of millions.

Distinctly Brown

Brown welcomes and challenges independent, creative, diverse, and courageous thinkers to collaborate, innovate, and explore with life-changing and world-changing impact. Brown serves the community and the world through ideas, passion, and constructive irreverence that lead to lives of purpose and positive consequence.

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Vincent Mor, PhD, is a health services researcher specializing in aging, chronic disease, and long term care. Over the past two decades 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. Doctoral students in Health Services Research are integrated into Dr. Mor’s NIA funded Program Project, Shaping Long Term Care in America, serving as research assistants and conducting dissertation work using the Project’s data.

“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.”

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

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About Health Services Research at Brown

The doctoral program in health services research offers training in research methods to advance population health by focusing on organizational characteristics of health care systems and providers; economic forces that shape consumer and provider behavior; and the policy environment in which these relationships exist. The competency-based curriculum provides students with a strong analytic foundation and general health services research orientation. Students may select an emphasis area in pharmaceutical health services research, organizational sociology, or health economics; or select a general health services research track.

Major areas of faculty research include long-term care, pharmaceutical health services, quality measurement and improvement, Medicare and Medicaid policy, health disparities, and end of life care.

Degrees Offered

Doctor of Philosophy (PhD)

Requirements for Admission

Admission is open to those with a baccalaureate degree, although those with a master’s degree or post-baccalaureate experience 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. 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 December 15th for fall-semester admission:
http://brown.edu/academics/public-health/health-services-policy-practice/undergraduate

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

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

“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.”

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.