

Planning Your Liberal Education



A Guide for New Students

SUMMER 2012



Office of the Dean of the College
Brown University
Providence, Rhode Island

CONTENTS

Welcome from the Dean of the College	1
Liberal Learning at Brown	2
The Year at a Glance	6
Getting Started: Things To Do This Summer	8
Things To Keep in Mind When Choosing Courses	11
Course Placement in Select Departments	13
Getting started in biology	13
FAQs about chemistry	15
Information about engineering	16
Course placement in mathematics	17
Information about Spanish language courses	17
Working with Your Advising Partners	19
A Note from Meiklejohn peer advisors	20
Calendar of advising sessions and registration deadlines	21
Academic Policies	22
Degree requirements	22
Course load policies	22
Progress toward graduation	22
Summer school policies	23
Transfer credit policies	23
Pre-college transfer credit	24
Enrollment requirement	25
Leaves of absence	26
Online Textbook Ordering	27
Summer Deadlines Checklist	28

Welcome from the Dean of the College



Dear Class of 2016,

You were admitted to Brown in part because we believe that you have the talent, the creativity, and the drive to make the most of the open curriculum—to design a course of study that reflects your own interests and ambitions. We expect you to be bold enough to take academic risks but open enough to listen; ambitious enough to think big but careful enough to plan. At Brown, in other words, we want you to develop a more committed, engaged, and intentional relationship with your own learning. We have created this guide, *Planning Your Liberal Education*, to help you on your way.

In the guide you will find both principles and practical advice. We begin with “Liberal Learning at Brown,” an essay that lays out the purposes of a liberal education and some important goals for you to keep in mind as you design and build your own curriculum. To inspire you further in your planning, we include some thoughts by a recent graduate, Mica Fidler '12, who reflects on the shape of her own curriculum as it unfolded from her first year to the last. We also include information about tasks you will need to complete this summer and about course placement in certain departments. We close with some useful advice about working with your advising partners and about Brown’s academic policies. You will probably want to take notes on many of these pages and discuss them with your advisor once you arrive at Brown.

As a convenience, you will see that we have summarized all of your summer tasks—with deadlines—in a checklist at the back of this guide. Please note that your first deadlines are coming up fast: You need to activate your Brown email account by Friday, June 1. The online lottery for first-year seminars opens the following Monday.

I hope you find this guide helpful as you dream about the beginning of a new phase of your life and your learning. In the meantime, I send you my very best wishes for a productive summer, and my hopes that all your plans will be inspired.

Yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, which reads "Katherine Bergeron". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a horizontal line above the name.

Katherine Bergeron
Dean of the College
Professor of Music

Liberal Learning at Brown

A liberal education implies breadth and depth: basic knowledge in a range of disciplines, focused by more concentrated work in one. These goals are common to all liberal arts institutions, but at Brown they have a special context. Our open curriculum ensures you great freedom in directing the course of your education, but it also expects you to remain open—to people, ideas, and experiences that may be entirely new. By cultivating such openness, you will learn to make the most of the freedom you have, and to chart the broadest possible intellectual journey, not just during your first semesters but through your entire time at Brown.

What does it mean to be broadly educated? The first Western universities conceived of the liberal arts as seven distinct modes of thought, three based on language (grammar, rhetoric, and logic), and four on number (arithmetic, geometry, music, and astronomy). While this structure has changed over the centuries, the basic concept has endured. A modern liberal arts education is still defined in terms of a core curriculum comprised of several areas of knowledge. At Brown, rather than specifying these areas, we challenge you to develop your own core. Over four years you will sample courses in the humanities, the social sciences, the life sciences, and the physical sciences. But the real challenge is to make connections between those courses, using the perspective gained from one discipline as a window onto the next. The most significant social, political, and moral issues of our time require the ability to think from multiple vantage points, and Brown's curriculum affords you the opportunity to develop just this sort of nuanced perspective.

At the end of your sophomore year, you will choose an academic concentration, where you will develop that perspective in the context of one discipline or department. This is, in effect, what “concentration” means. Deepening your knowledge of a field implies understanding the range of ideas, and the methodological differences that define it. All concentrations have requirements to ensure that students have covered the basics. But you will of course bring your own perspective to that field through your independent projects, and all the other work you will do both inside and out-

side the classroom. A human biology concentrator who has taken several courses in anthropology will see things differently from one who is entirely focused on medicine; a mathematics concentrator will have a different perspective depending on whether he or she has spent time studying an instrument or teaching in the local public schools. The challenge, once again, is for you to make the connections. And that means striving above all to develop the full range of your intellectual capacities during your four years at Brown.

How should you go about expanding those capacities? Below are a few goals to keep in mind as you plan your course of study.

Work on your speaking and writing

Writing, speaking, and thinking are interdependent. Developing a command of one of them means sharpening another. Seek out courses, both in and out of your concentration, that will help you to improve your ability to communicate in English as well as in another language. Whether you concentrate in the sciences, the social sciences, or the humanities, your ability to speak and write clearly will help you succeed in your college coursework and in your life after Brown.

Understand differences among cultures

Your future success will also depend on your ability to live and work in a global context. And that means knowing as much about other cultures as you do about your own. Brown offers a wealth of courses and international experiences that will help you develop a more self-conscious and expansive sense of how different cultural groups define themselves through social, aesthetic, and political practices. Working with international students and teachers on the Brown campus can make you equally aware of the challenges of communicating across linguistic and cultural barriers. Fluency in a second language, coupled with time spent studying abroad, will sharpen your sensitivities, enlarge your sense of geography, and prepare you for leadership in an increasingly interconnected world.

Evaluate human behavior

Knowing how individuals are socialized and express their identities can lead to deeper insights about the nature of human organization, the sources of political power and authority, and the distribution of resources. The study of race, gender, ethnicity, and religion can help you think more deeply not only about yourself, but also about the social institutions that serve to define our very notions of self, together with the policies and institutions that maintain them.

Learn what it means to study the past

Understanding how people and institutions have changed over time is fundamental to a liberal education. Just as you should expand your cultural breadth, so should you also develop your historical depth. Coming to terms with history involves far more than learning names and dates and events. It means understanding the problematic nature of evidence, and the distance that separates the present from the past. It also means thinking critically about how histories themselves are written and who has the power to write them.

Experience scientific inquiry

Evidence is also a central aspect of scientific inquiry. The interpretation of natural or material phenomena requires a unique combination of observation, creativity, and critical judgment that hones your inductive reasoning, sharpens your ability to ask questions, and encourages experimental thinking. Understanding the nature of scientific findings, along with their ethical, political, and social implications, is also critical to an informed citizenry. As you plan your course of study, look for opportunities to experience direct, hands-on research.

Develop a facility with symbolic languages

Symbolic languages make it possible to think abstractly across many disciplines. Linguistics, philosophy, computer science, mathematics, even music are among the disciplines that have developed symbolic systems to make theoretical assertions about their objects of study, or to imagine alternate realities. Courses in these areas will teach you what it means to conceptualize systems and structures that have the potential to reframe our notions of time and space.

Expand your reading skills

Studying written texts, interpreting graphs, and evaluating systems and codes are all forms of analysis that belong to the more general category of “reading.” Learning how to read closely makes you aware of the complex nature of expression itself, where the mode of expression is as important as what is expressed. Gaining experience with close reading—across many genres—may be one of the most important things you will learn to do in your four years at Brown.

Enhance your aesthetic sensibility

A liberal education implies developing not just new ways of reading but also of seeing, hearing, and feeling, based on exposure to a range of aesthetic experiences. Courses in the visual and performing arts, music, and literature will deepen your understanding of many kinds of expressive media, past and present, and the kinds of realities they aim to represent. Developing your own creative abilities in one or more art forms will deepen your self-understanding and enhance your ability to appreciate the work of others.

Embrace diversity

Achieving excellence in liberal education requires a commitment to diversity in the broadest sense. This means embracing not only a range of intellectual perspectives, but also a diversity of people. Brown's diverse educational environment offers you the opportunity to think broadly about the nature of complexity itself, and to learn how to participate productively in a pluralistic society. The Brown curriculum features hundreds of courses that offer you a chance to enlarge your perspectives in just this way. Seek experiences inside and outside the classroom that will challenge your assumptions, and allow you to develop a more open and inclusive view of the world and your place in it.

Collaborate fully

Learning never happens in isolation, and the quality of your experience at Brown will depend on your ability to collaborate fully with others: with teachers, with fellow students, with advisors and mentors of all kinds. Be as bold in seeking guidance as you are in pursuing your educational aspirations. Begin developing your network of collaborators early, and work to stay connected with those teachers, advisors, and peers who have meant the most to you. Visit office hours not just to expand your understanding of course material, but to get to know your teachers as people. Reach out to faculty at other events, or over lunch or coffee. Work on research projects or independent studies with professors whose interests match your own. And make use of the many offices and centers that can support you in reaching your academic goals. By taking charge of your education in this way, you will enrich your teachers' and mentors' understanding as much as you will expand your own capacity to learn, not just here at Brown, but in many other environments, and for many years to come.

Apply what you have learned

Your general education at Brown will be enriched by the many kinds of work you do beyond the classroom. Real-world experiences anchor intellectual pursuits in practical knowledge and help you develop a sense of social and global responsibility. Internships, public service, and other community activities both on campus and beyond Brown not only have the potential to strengthen your core programs; they also can strengthen your moral core, by showing you how and why your liberal studies matter. Looking beyond the horizon of your immediate interests and sharing your knowledge and talents with others can expand intellectual and ethical capacities that will make it possible for you to lead a full and engaged life, or, in the words of the Brown charter, "a life of usefulness and reputation."

Student profile: Mica Fidler '12

When I finished high school, I thought I knew what “history” meant: a collection of events from the past that serves to inform the present. As soon as I began perusing Brown’s course catalog, however, I quickly discovered that there was much more to “history” than I had thought. There are departments of History of Art and Architecture, Africana Studies, American Studies, Ancient Western Asian Studies, Anthropology, Classics, East Asian Studies, English, Geological Sciences, Music, Religion, and many others—each of which offers its own perspective on what it means to study history. Activities beyond the classroom offer the same diversity. When I arrived here, I knew I wanted to do some kind of teaching in the Providence community, but the Swearer Center for Public Service had nearly a dozen tutoring groups working with different populations across the city. Given this wealth of opportunities, in my first semester I chose to take a class in each of my four major interests: theatre, education, literature, and language. (I chose Mandarin Chinese.) Before I knew it, these interests had begun to expand and combine in ways I never expected.

For example, in high school I had played the lead role in many Shakespeare productions, and I hoped to replicate those experiences at Brown. However, with each new play I found myself increasingly drawn to the other side of the stage—to the broader creative vision expressed by the production. In the fall of my sophomore year, I had the opportunity to explore my own vision as the director of a full-scale musical production, leading a cast and crew of twenty students. The following summer, on a recommendation from one of my Education professors, I began to explore the connections between education, theatre, and social justice by working at a non-profit group based in Washington, D.C. The organization, called City at Peace, helps high-school students create original musicals based on their own experiences and uses this process to promote conflict resolution. City at Peace showed me how theatre can foster personal growth and social change, and I might never have discovered this connection without the broad theatrical opportunities at Brown and the advice of a devoted professor.

I have always loved languages, and at Brown I discovered that the study of language, too, had a broader reach than I had previously known. On recommendations from my friends, I discovered courses like “Linguistic Anthropology” and “Literary Translation” which exposed me to a whole new way of understanding language. These courses also led to a range of new experiences. When the linguistic anthropology course ended, for example, I remained in contact with my professor and later helped her conduct field research in London about

the ways that different communities speak about religion. And that first course on literary translation? It pointed me toward an eventual concentration in Comparative Literature and a senior thesis in which I produced the first English translation of a recently published Congolese novel.

At Brown, surprises like this happen all the time. Reading Morning Mail (a daily email about University events) led me to a free Japanese Taiko drumming workshop; a flyer in the dining hall led me to a workshop with professional graffiti artists on the Main Green. One day, I spotted a notice about an information session for Learning Enterprises, an organization that sends college students to teach English across the globe. Soon I was combining my interests in language and education by teaching English in a small rural village in China.

There’s an improvisation game called “Yes And” in which actors join a scene one by one. Each actor who enters must add creatively to the scene by contributing a brand new set of circumstances, and all of the other actors must immediately incorporate, or say “yes” to, whatever the newest member proposes. Brown encourages all students to embrace this kind of creativity and collaboration, and in this sense, “Yes And” could be considered the motto for a liberal education at Brown. When you say “yes” to the person in your dorm from another state or country who asks you to get dinner at the Ratty; or to the free workshop you see advertised on the Main Green; or to the experiences offered by a professor, a course, or a club, you will be the beneficiary of many unexpected opportunities. Brown is designed for just this type of student: someone who is willing to explore with an open mind and eager to offer his or her own voice to the mix.

I learned very quickly at Brown that “history” can mean different things depending on one’s perspective, and my own history over the past four years bears this out. There is no single path that every Brown student is expected to follow. Our liberal learning policies and unique grading system foster a cheerful environment of non-competition and universal encouragement. We are a community of individuals, pursuing our own ideals with the full support and resources of the University. Whether you’re a tap dancer who develops a passion for Egyptology or a varsity athlete interested in Neuroscience, you will be encouraged to search for the connections between your various interests, to seek support and inspiration from both faculty and peer mentors, to test the depth of your intellectual commitments, and to say “yes” to the many exciting opportunities that are just waiting to be discovered.

Mica Fidler graduated with an A.B. in Comparative Literature (Literary Translation) in May 2012. She has been awarded a Fulbright English Teaching Assistantship in South Africa.

The Year at a Glance

Fall 2012

September

- 1 Sat First-year students move into residence halls
- 5 Wed Classes of the first semester begin
- 18 Tue Last day to add a course without a fee

October

- 2 Tue Last day to add a course (with a fee), change from audit to credit, or change a grade option declaration
- 8 Mon Long weekend. No classes; administrative offices closed; residence halls, dining open
- 19–21 Fri–Sun Family Weekend
www.brown.edu/familyweekend

November

- 6–13 Tue–Tue Pre-registration period for spring 2013 courses
- 21–25 Wed–Sun Thanksgiving Recess begins Wed at noon. Residence halls remain open; dining closed until Sunday dinner
- 26 Mon Classes resume

December

- 1 Sat Deadline for declaring a leave for spring 2013
- 8–12 Sat–Wed Reading period (optional and at the discretion of the instructor)
- 12 Wed Classes end for courses not observing the Reading period. Last day to drop a course or to file for an incomplete
- 13–21 Thur–Fri Final Examination Period
The last final exam ends at 5pm on Friday, December 21, 2012. Each course has an *assigned* exam date/ time; students must check in the Brown Course Scheduler for course-specific information before planning travel
- 22 Sat 9:00 am. Residence halls close and lock for Winter Break. Students for whom international residence or circumstance prohibits leaving campus during Winter Break should talk with Residential Life

Spring 2013

January

- 19 Sat Residence halls open
- 23 Wed Classes of the second semester begin

February

- 5 Tue Last day to add a course without a fee
- 16–19 Sat–Tue Long weekend. No classes; administrative offices, residence halls and dining open
- 20 Wed Last day to add a course (with a fee), change from audit to credit, or change a grade option declaration

March

- 23–31 Sat–Sun Spring recess. Residence halls remain open; dining closed until Sunday dinner

April

- 1 Mon Classes resume
- 16–23 Tue–Tue Pre-registration for fall 2013 courses
- 26 Fri–Tue Reading period (optional and at the discretion of the instructor)
- 7 May

May

- 7 Tue Classes end for courses not observing reading period. Last day to drop a course or to file for an incomplete
- 8–17 Wed–Fri Final Examination Period
The last final exam ends at 5pm on Friday, May 17, 2013. Each course has an *assigned* exam date/time; students must check in the Brown Course Scheduler for course-specific information before planning travel
- 18 Sat Noon. Residence halls close for non-graduating students
- 26 Sun Commencement

The full academic calendar for this year and several years into the future is on the University Registrar's website (<http://brown.edu/Administration/Registrar/>).

A note about final exams

The dates of final exams are fixed by the Registrar so that students will not be scheduled to take more than one exam at the same hour. Unless a course does not have a scheduled final exam, students are required to sit for the exam at the designated time.

The Dean of the College Office is solely responsible for determining whether a student's absence from a final examination is excused. To ensure equitable treatment of all students, students are excused from exams only for family or medical emergencies or for religious reasons. Students who are unable to sit for a scheduled exam for religious reasons must speak with a dean by mid-semester to arrange an alternate exam time. Please note that students' travel plans or special events are never an excuse for missing a final exam.

Finding final exam information

Information about final exam times is available in each course description in the Course Scheduler. Please take this information into account before making travel arrangements for the end of a semester. See page 10 for more information about locating and using Brown's Course Scheduler.

The exam group number assigned to a course does not change from one year to the next. The schedule of exam groups changes each year in order to rotate courses through the exam schedule.

Exam groups scheduled the last day of a semester in a given year move to the next-to-last day the next year, then to the second-to-last day, etc. Exam groups scheduled for the first day move to the last day in the next year.

Residence hall closing

Students are required to vacate their residence hall rooms 24 hours after their last final exam, but no later than the day and time indicated on the Residential Calendar (<http://reslife.brown.edu>). Students whose international residence or circumstance prevents them from leaving campus during winter break should discuss this with the Office of Residential Life as far ahead of the deadline as possible. Call 401 863-3500 for more information.

Getting Started: Things To Do This Summer

Brown's curriculum gives you considerable freedom, and considerable responsibility, to plan your education. This means you need to start thinking about your fall plan of study now. These pages describe major steps in the summer planning process. More information about each of these items is available online at <http://brown.edu/orientation> and at <http://brown.edu/college>. A summer deadlines checklist at the back of this pamphlet lists all applications and forms you need to complete.

DURING JUNE

Activate your Brown e-mail account

Beginning in early summer, Brown's Dean of the College Office will email you weekly at your Brown email address. These emails will contain important information about course offerings and lotteries, academic advising, and campus life issues. In order to receive these emails and to participate in summer course lotteries, you need to activate your Brown email account. You can do this by going to <http://activate.brown.edu> and following the instructions provided on the site.

You will need your Banner identification number in order to activate your electronic services. This number was assigned to you when you applied for admission to Brown. You can find your Banner ID by following the steps below.

1. Go to <http://selfservice.brown.edu/>.
2. Log-in with the username and password the Admission Office gave you.

If you have trouble recalling your username and password, please call 401-863-4357 (select option #3) or email CAP@brown.edu.

3. Click on the "Student and Financial Aid" tab.
4. Click on the "Registration" link.
5. Click on the "Registration Status" link.

Your BannerID will be displayed in the upper right corner. It starts with the letter B and is nine characters long.

Research Brown's course offerings

Each year, Brown offers approximately 2000 courses in forty different departments. Students are encouraged to build meaningful academic programs among several departments according to their developing interests. Use Focal Point, an interactive web tool, to help you investigate various intellectual pathways and explore how your personal interests might take academic shape. Visit <http://brown.edu/Administration/focal-point/> to try out Focal Point.

You can investigate specific course offerings using Course Scheduler, which you can access through self-service Banner. The Course Scheduler consolidates all course data into one intuitive user interface, allowing you to view course descriptions, enrollments, meeting times and location, instructors, registration restrictions, and links to Course Preview pages. An optional smart search feature allows you to view only those classes for which you immediately qualify, except those that are already fully enrolled or that require instructor permission. A final online browsing system you might want to try out is "MOCHA", which was created by Brown students: <http://mocha.cs.brown.edu>. For the most up-to-date course information, consult Banner.

Enter course lotteries (optional)

From June 4–18, and then again from June 25–July 9, you may enter online lotteries for first-year seminars and Curricular Advising Program courses. First-year seminars (FYS) allow students to explore interesting, often unusual topics that are of personal interest to the faculty who teach them. Many first-year seminars are also part of the Curricular Advising Program (CAP), which matches first-year students with academic advisors who teach one of their courses. Descriptions of 2012–2013 seminars and CAP courses are on our website at <http://brown.edu/college> under "Choosing Courses."

We will email you a link to the online lottery on June 4. The lottery does not favor students who enroll early in a given round, but we recommend that you participate in the first round to maximize your chances for being placed in your preferred FYS or CAP course. Be sure not to select any FYS or CAP courses that conflict with the time of other courses you definitely plan to take.

Complete advising questionnaire

This online form asks about your academic interests as well as your professional aspirations. We will use the information to match you with an academic advisor, so please be sure to complete the questionnaire by June 15. You can access the form at <http://brown.edu/college>.

Complete roommate questionnaire

Complete your roommate questionnaire by June 15 at <http://reslife.brown.edu/>. If you need special accommodations because of a documented disability, you will need to complete the form from Student and Employee Accessibility Services (SEAS) that was included in your matriculation packet. If you can't locate the form, call SEAS at 401 863-9588 (v/tty) or email them at SEAS@brown.edu.

Register for Chem100-web (optional)

The Chemistry department offers a free, online tutorial that helps incoming students review general chemistry. This self-paced tutorial is a great way to prepare for the chemistry placement exam, which all students enrolling in a chemistry course must take. Registration for the tutorial opens June 15 and closes August 15. The link is <http://brown.edu/go/chem100web>.

Apply to University-Community Academic Advising Program (optional)

The University Community Academic Advising Program (UCAAP) has been designed for students who want community service and social change work to be a central part of their Brown experience. UCAAP has three main components:

- **Institute on Service and Community** – All UCAAP students participate in a pre-orientation program that introduces them to the resources of Providence and the Swearer Center. The Institute strives to build a learning community dedicated to issues of social transformation, leadership skills, and the nature of service and social change. In 2012 the Institute will take place August 29-31. There is no additional charge to participate.
- **Academic Advising** – UCAAP participants are matched with academic advisors who provide course consultation and foster conversation about the connection of academic study to work and service in the community.
- **UCAAP Seminar** – UCAAP students participate in monthly programs that are designed to deepen the conversation about public service and activism. The

non-credit seminar enables individuals committed to community work to explore the values of community and social change work with other students, staff, faculty, and community members.

The application deadline for UCAAP is June 15, 2012. Information about UCAAP, and an online application, are available at <http://swearercenter.brown.edu/>.

Submit health history and Brown ID Card documents

You will need to take action in June to get the necessary information and materials for these forms, which are due on July 1. Both forms were included in your matriculation packet. Go to www.brown.edu/health for information about the required Health History forms.

Submit Meal Plan Contract Changes (optional)

All first-year students are enrolled in a 20 meals/week plan. Descriptions of all plan options and plan prices are available at <http://brown.edu/food/mealplans>. You may change to any available meal plan (except the Off-Campus Plan) online, from June 6 - Sept. 2, at <https://selfservice.brown.edu>. If you choose to stay on the 20-meal plan, you don't need to do anything. Questions? Contact Brown Dining Services, Box 1936, Providence, RI, 02912 (401 863-3343).

DURING JULY

Enter visual arts lottery (optional)

Visual Arts 0100, an introductory studio art course, is among the most popular courses at Brown. An online lottery in Banner Web registration for placement in this course begins July 15; check our website at http://brown.edu/Departments/Visual_Art/courses/ for more information about this course. Students unable to register through the lottery system should attend the first day of class that fits their schedule, in order to be put on a class-specific waiting list.

Submit course preference form

Around July 15, we'll send you an email asking you to fill out a course preference form for the fall term. You'll be prompted to list the four courses you are most likely to take, and another four courses in which you are highly interested. We need you to enter this information by August 6 so that we can get it to your advisor in time for your first advising meeting. It will help you and your advisor have a productive conversation about your first semester at Brown.

Submit letter to advisor

This mailing includes a copy of *Sons of Providence: The Brown Brothers, the Slave Trade, and the American Revolution*, a book that is our gift to you. The book is the basis of the letter we ask you to write to your academic advisor no later than August 1. This letter is also an opportunity for you to share your academic goals and interests with your advisor, who will read it prior to meeting with you during Orientation. Visit http://apps.college.brown.edu/first_readings/ for more information about the book and for instructions on submitting your letter to your academic advisor.

Submit Meal Plan Contract Changes (optional)

See page 9.

DURING AUGUST

Apply for pre-Orientation programs

In addition to UCAAP, which has a June application deadline, Brown offers two optional pre-Orientation programs: Excellence at Brown, and the Third World Transition Program. Students who wish to participate in one of these programs need to apply or register online. International students should plan to attend International Orientation. Details for all programs, including deadlines, are posted at <http://brown.edu/College/orientation/programs/>.

Complete online Code tutorial

This mailing includes an important letter about *Brown's Academic and Student Conduct Codes*, which explain Brown's rules on academic integrity and student conduct in and out of the classroom. All incoming students are required to complete an online tutorial about the Codes before they arrive on campus. We will e-mail you a link to the tutorial in June.

Email your Meiklejohn

In August, you will receive an online letter from your Meiklejohn peer advisor. You will be prompted to read and respond to the letter. This is also a good time to review the Summer Deadlines checklist to ensure that you've completed all the necessary steps in the summer planning process.

QUESTIONS? Email advising@brown.edu or call 401 863-9800. We're happy to help!

Check your Brown email during the summer! We will email you every week this summer, so please check your Brown account regularly.

Finding courses in Banner

When you arrive on campus in the fall, you will register for your fall semester courses. For now, you can investigate Brown's curriculum online using Brown's Course Scheduler. The Course Scheduler consolidates all course data into one intuitive user interface, allowing you to view course descriptions, enrollments, meeting times and location, instructors, registration restrictions, and links to Course Preview pages. An optional smart search feature allows you to view only those classes for which you immediately qualify, except those that are already fully enrolled or that require instructor permission.

To access the Course Scheduler, you must activate your electronic services. For activation instructions, see page 8 of this booklet. Once your services are active, log into Banner in the secure area. Select the Applicant and Student Menu. The Brown Course Scheduler option is located directly under the Registration link. You may search for fall 2012 by selecting the drop-down icon.

The Course Scheduler allows you to save courses that interest you in a weekly schedule. Placing courses in the cart will not register you for classes. However, once you place courses into your cart for a specific term and then log back in, they will be retained for future processing unless the course has been cancelled in the interim. During the registration period, the "Register Cart" feature enables you to register for up to five credits with a single click.

Textbook information for classes for which materials have been ordered through the Brown Bookstore will be available on or about July 1, 2012.

Refer to the "Help" button on the search criteria panel for a list of FAQ's to assist you in your course search and for other features available in the Course Scheduler.

Things To Keep in Mind When Choosing Courses

Choosing courses for the first semester of college study can be a daunting process at Brown. So many options are available in so many different areas that narrowing down one's course selection to four may initially seem impossible. This page offers some general advice on how to approach the task.

Building relationships with your professors

Getting to know your professors is a critical part of your Brown education. By the end of your first year of study at Brown, at least one faculty member should know you well enough to advise you on your academic choices. Bear this in mind as you choose your courses. While Brown faculty are committed to working closely with students, it is simply not possible for professors in large lecture courses to establish relationships with all of their students. Smaller, seminar-size courses are much more conducive to building strong relationships.

First-year seminars

To encourage first-year students to build strong advising relationships with faculty, Brown offers over 70 special seminars just for first-year students. These first-year seminars (FYS) are taught by Brown faculty in all areas of the curriculum, from anthropology to physics to literary arts writing. First-year seminars enroll a maximum of twenty students each, and students receive regular feedback on the work they produce for the class. Seminar faculty often serve as informal mentors for their students long after the class has ended.

Visit <http://brown.edu/college> for more information about the FYS course lottery and to read course descriptions of all 2012-2013 first-year seminars. Students register their preferences for first-year seminars in an online form between June 4 and June 18, and again between June 25 and July 9. FYS course descriptions are also available in the online Brown Course Scheduler and can be accessed by choosing the FYS designation under "Curricular Programs."

Writing Requirement

All Brown students are required to demonstrate that they have worked on their writing in their first two years of study. Taking a designated writing course is the easiest way to meet this requirement. First-year students are advised to enroll in one or more of the writing courses described below. These courses will improve your confidence when approaching writing assignments in other courses, and they may result in higher grades overall.

English Department Courses

Brown's English Department offers a number of intensive writing courses designed to help students master the skills needed for university-level writing. Many first-year students benefit from enrolling in a section of English 0110, in which students learn the fundamentals of a variety of essay styles, or English 0130, which focuses on the research essay. Sections of both courses are limited to 17 students, and both courses are graded Satisfactory/No credit (S/NC). Other courses focus on journalistic writing (English 0160) and creative nonfiction (English 0180).

Writing-Designated Courses

Writing-designated courses provide students with feedback about their writing and opportunities to apply that feedback when completing writing assignments later in the course. Offered in nearly all departments, writing-designated courses are designated "WRIT" at the end of course descriptions. Keep an eye out for first-year seminars that carry the WRIT designation.

A complete list may be viewed in the class schedule by selecting "Writing-Designated Courses" in the Attribute Type section.

Writing Fellows Courses

Writing Fellows courses help students improve their written communication skills through intensive work with a Brown student, called a Writing Fellow, who has been trained in composition and pedagogy. Writing Fellows read drafts of student papers and meet in conferences with student writers to discuss their drafts. Students then revise their work and submit both versions (the original with the Fellow's comments and the revision) to their professor or teaching assistant.

Science and math courses

Brown offers a wide range of math and science courses that appeal to first-year students. Determining which math or science course is appropriate for a student's skill level is critical; no student wants to enroll in a course for which he or she has insufficient preparation. If you plan on taking math and science courses in your first semester, read pages 13–17 of this pamphlet and browse departmental websites to gather information about course availability and prerequisites.

- The Biology Department has comprehensive information about biology courses at <http://med.brown.edu/bug/>.
- The Math Department's *Course Placement Guide* can be accessed through their website at <http://math.brown.edu>.
- The Chemistry Department offers a free online summer tutorial that prepares students for the fall CHEM 0330 placement exam. Visit www.chem.brown.edu to learn more about chemistry courses and placement.

Liberal Learning courses

Liberal Learning (LILE) courses introduce students to the many ways of thinking and approaching knowledge that comprise a liberal education. LILE courses emphasize active student involvement; students are expected to contribute extensively through papers, projects, reports, and class discussion. Liberal Learning Courses are listed on our website at <http://brown.edu/college> and can be accessed in Brown's online Course Scheduler by choosing the LILE designation under "Curricular Programs."

Diversity Perspectives courses

Courses designated DVPS, for Diversity Perspectives, focus primarily or at least substantially on the knowledge and experience of groups that are underrepresented in traditional approaches to knowledge and learning. These courses examine the ways in which disciplines, histories, and paradigms of knowledge are reconfigured by the study of diversity-related intellectual questions. Diversity Perspectives courses are listed on our website at <http://brown.edu/college> and can be accessed in Brown's online Course Scheduler by choosing the DVPS designation under "Curricular Programs."

A note about Advanced Placement credits

At Brown, a number of academic departments recognize Advanced Placement (AP) examinations either for placement into an advanced course, and/or for satisfaction of a concentration requirement, and/or for credit toward the relevant policy. See the list of department policies at: <http://brown.edu/College/courses/ap.php>.

Changing course registration

Students may drop and add courses using the online registration system for the first two weeks of a semester without charge. During weeks three and four, course changes may be made in person at the Registrar's Office and are assessed a fee for each change. First-year students need the instructor's signature for each course change after the first two weeks of the semester. Courses may not be added after the first four weeks of a semester.

Course Placement in Select Departments

Getting started in biology

Brown's Program in Biology offers a wide range of courses for students with different levels of preparation in biology. Introductory courses, which are numbered between 0030 and 0200, include a range of interesting topical and broad-based courses. Intermediate level courses, numbered between 0201 and 0999, offer more focused study of the various subdisciplines in the biological sciences. These are the springboard for advanced level offerings, which are numbered 1000 or above.

Biology 0200: The Foundation of Living Systems is the required introductory course for the A.B. and Sc.B. programs in biology and human biology. Most students planning to study biology or who consider themselves pre-health will enroll in this course. Students with biology scores of 4 or 5 on AP (or commensurate scores on IB tests) place out of Biology 0200, and receive a concentration credit. Students who have not taken one of these tests may be exempted from Biology 0200 if they achieve a passing score on Brown's in-house Biology Placement Test. This test is offered at the beginning of both fall and spring semesters; check the Orientation Guide on the Orientation website for the time and location of the fall placement test.

Students who place beyond Biology 0200 have many options for Biology coursework in the first year. Some of these options (see below) include first-year seminars (FYS) and a set of half-credit courses (BIOL0150) that offer focused research opportunities for entering students. The latter courses can be taken in addition to a 4-course load.

Semester I biology options for first-year students (note some may require AP/Placement)

BIOL 0150B: Modeling and Statistics in Biomedical research (1/2 credit)
BIOL 0170: Biotechnology in Medicine
BIOL 0180: The Biology of AIDS
BIOL 0190F: Darwinian Medicine (FYS)
BIOL 0190E: Botanical Roots of Modern Medicine
BIOL 0190P: Development of Scientific Theories (FYS)
BIOL 0190R: Phage Hunters, I (FYS)
BIOL 0310: Introduction to Developmental Biology
BIOL 0380: The Ecology and Evolution of Infectious Diseases
BIOL 0400: Biological Design

BIOL-NEUR 0010: The Brain: Introduction to Neuroscience

Consult with advisor whether these are suitable:

BIOL 0410: Invertebrate Zoology

BIOL/ENVS 0490: Environmental Science in a Changing World.

BIOL 0530: Immunology

BIOL 0470: Genetics

BIOL 0480: Evolution

Semester II biology options for first-year students

Many students will take BIOL 0200 in their second semester. If you place out of BIOL 0200, consider enrolling in one of the following spring semester courses:

BIOL 0150A: Techniques and Analysis using DNA Based Biotechnology (1/2 credit)

BIOL 0150C: Methods for extraction and analysis of metabolites in medicinal plants (1/2 credit)

BIOL 0150D: Techniques in Regenerative Medicine: Cells, Scaffolds, and Staining (1/2 credit)

BIOL 0190H: Plants, Food, and People

BIOL 0190S: Phage Hunters, II (FYS)

BIOL 0320: Vertebrate Embryology

BIOL 0420: Principles of Ecology

BIOL 0500: Cell and Molecular Biology

BIOL 0510: Introductory Microbiology

BIOL 0800: Principles of Physiology

Students should consult with their advisor or with Dean Marjorie Thompson (Marjorie_Thompson@brown.edu; 863-3133), who oversees undergraduate biology programs, about which courses best fit their interests and skill level. *Please sign up for the Biology student email list here: <http://biology.brown.edu/bug/signup>.*

A note about chemistry

All biological sciences concentrations at Brown require some chemistry. If you plan on concentrating in any area of biology, you need to plan the best time to take CHEM 0330: Equilibrium, Rate, and Structure, the first course in Brown's standard chemistry sequence. Unless you enter with AP or IB Chemistry credit, you will need to take the online placement exam, and thus determine whether to begin with the prequel course, CHEM 0010.

The CHEM0330 placement exam is offered during fall orientation, and in January. Check information at the Chemistry Department website for more information about preparation in Chemistry.

Economics course requirements

Brown's concentration in Economics prepares students for employment in business, finance, and government and non-profit organizations. An Economics concentration is also excellent preparation for graduate study in business, law, and research.

If you plan to concentrate in Economics, you need to complete ECON 0110, 1110 or 1130, 1210, and 1620 by the end of your third semester. Students also need to take Math 0100 or Math 0170, or earn an AP score of at least 4 in BC calculus, prior to declaring the concentration. Go to <http://brown.edu/Administration/focal-point/> for more information about our Economics concentration.

A note about math

Mathematics is required for Biological Sciences programs; for specifics, check each program description at <http://biology.brown.edu/bug/concentrations.html>

AP credits (or the equivalent) are accepted in lieu of MATH 0900, 0100.

A note about physics

Physics is required for some, but not all, biological sciences programs. Preparation for health careers usually requires at least Physics 0300, 0400. (The Physics 0500, 0600 sequence is also available.) Students with a high school physics background sometimes take Physics 0040 prior to Physics 0030. We also accept ENGN 0300, 0400, instead of Physics 0030, 0040.

Transfer credit

With approval from the concentration advisor, students may transfer courses from approved programs of study abroad or in the U.S. that will count toward concentrations in biological sciences. Many biological sciences concentrators study abroad for a semester or more.

A note about grade options

Brown students may opt to take courses for a grade (A/B/C) or Satisfactory (S), even in the concentration. Judgment should be exercised in selecting the grade versus S option, since professional or graduate plans should be considered. Students may request Course Performance Reports if the S option is selected. Note that there are a few cases where S/NC is mandatory.

Pre-med/pre-health careers requirements

There is a group of courses that constitute requirements for gaining admission to various health careers programs (Medical, Dental, Veterinary, for example). For more information about these, please check <http://brown.edu/College/hco/> and the Health Careers Office facebook page. You can concentrate in any discipline and fulfill pre-health careers course requirements simultaneously. If you choose to concentrate in the biological sciences, you will find that some of the required courses overlap with these requirements.

Concentration Programs

There are a variety of concentration programs offered in the Biological Sciences at Brown. For detailed information on these programs, please visit <http://biology.brown.edu/bug/concentrations.html>.

You don't need to declare a concentration until your fourth semester of study, so there is plenty of time for you to determine which course of study is right for you. Advisors, deans, and other resources are available to help you figure out which program is the best for your interests and needs.

For more information

The central resource and advising center for biology is the Biology Undergraduate Affairs Office. Visit the BUA website at <http://biology.brown.edu/bug> for the most current information about biology programs, courses, and resources for students, including research opportunities.

Business, Entrepreneurship, and Organizations

Business, Entrepreneurship, and Organizations (BEO) is a multidisciplinary concentration that focuses on innovation in commercial applications, financial markets and the marketplace, and management and organizational theory. Students interested in this area of study are advised to take the following courses in their first year of study:

- MATH 0090 or MATH 0200
- ECON 0110: Principles of Economics
- SOC 1311: Micro-Organizational Theory
- ENGN 0020: Transforming Society

More information about the BEO concentration is available at <http://brown.edu/Administration/focal-point/>.

FAQs about chemistry

What chemistry concentrations are available at Brown?

Students may earn either an A.B. or an Sc.B. in chemistry. The core for both degree programs is seven courses in general, inorganic, organic, and physical chemistry. The A.B. requires two electives in addition to the core, while the Sc.B. requires a year of independent study and several additional electives, including math and physics. Students may choose from three different tracks for the Sc.B. degree—a chemistry track, a chemical biology track, and a materials chemistry track. In addition, students may concentrate in biochemistry (offered as a joint concentration between Chemistry and MCB) and chemical physics (offered as a joint concentration between Chemistry and Physics).

What introductory classes do you offer?

The chemistry department offers two principal options for students interested in taking introductory chemistry. CHEM 0330 (Equilibrium, Rate, and Structure), is a one-semester course with both lecture and laboratory portions. It serves as the foundation course and entry point for all chemistry courses, and is intended for students who have a solid preparation in chemistry – at least one year, and preferably two years, of high school coursework. CHEM 0100 (Introductory Chemistry), by contrast, has no associated laboratory. It is designed for students with little or no background in chemistry.

Students who plan to take CHEM 0330 are required either to pass a short placement exam that will be offered online during the summer, to have successfully completed CHEM 0100, or to have scored a 4 or 5 on the AP Chemistry exam. The official AP test results must be on file with the Registrar's office. (Placement out of CHEM 0330 is generally appropriate only for students who have completed IB-Higher Level Chemistry exams, British A-level exams, or equivalent courses at another university.)

Who should take the CHEM 0330 placement exam?

Students who have not taken AP Chemistry (or scored below a 4 on the AP Chemistry exam), IB, or A-level exams in chemistry should take the placement exam.

How can I prepare for the CHEM 0330 placement exam?

Register this summer for Chemo100-web, a free, non-credit tutorial that helps incoming students review general chemistry. Chemo100-web covers stoichiometry, atomic and molecular structure, chemical bonding, solutions, chemical reactions, and thermochemistry.

Chemo100-web tutorial is offered only during the summer. It will be available June 15–August 15, 2012.

How do I register for the Chemo100-web tutorial?

Beginning June 15, incoming students with Brown usernames and passwords can register for Chemo100-web at <http://brown.edu/go/chem100web>. Registration will be open until August 15, 2012.

Completion of Chemo100-web tutorial is optional and does not replace taking the chemistry placement exam. The goals of Chemo100-web tutorial are to review general chemistry, help students prepare for the placement exam, and help students prepare for CHEM 0330 by giving a preview of selected CHEM 0330 topics such as equilibrium and acid and base equilibria. To learn more about Chemo100-web, contact Sandra_Russo-Rodriguez@brown.edu.

How do I register for the CHEM 0330 placement exam?

The online exam will be open from August 20–October 2, 2012. This placement exam is mandatory if you plan to take chemistry during your studies at Brown. The results of this exam will be available immediately and will determine your course placement in chemistry. You must score a minimum of 8 in order to enroll in CHEM 0330. If you score below 8, please enroll in CHEM 0100.

Please access the link through the secure student portion of self-service banner web <https://selfservice.brown.edu>. This is the same tool used to search for courses and to register during orientation.

I took IB/AP exams in chemistry. Can I place out of CHEM 0330 and start with CHEM 0350?

Students with British A-level exams, scores of 6 or 7 on the IB-Higher Level chemistry exam, or a grade of C or better in an equivalent college course at another university or college may start with CHEM 0350. They are also able to transcript transfer credit for CHEM 0330.

Students with scores of 4 or 5 on the AP exam in chemistry may enroll in CHEM 0330 without taking the placement exam. No course credit is awarded for the results of AP exams; AP scores are used for placement only.

I'm not sure I want to concentrate in chemistry. Must I take CHEM 0330 in my first year?

While it is possible to start the chemistry sequence in your second year and still complete all of the requirements for a degree in four years, it is best to take CHEM 0330 in your first year, if you are considering chemistry, chemical physics, or biochemistry as possible concentrations.

Can I do research during my first year?

You can start independent research with a faculty member at any stage of your time at Brown, but most students wait one or even two semesters. Numerous opportunities and funding sources are available for carrying out research over the summer. A significant number of chemistry concentrators graduate with more than the required 2 semesters of independent research experience.

What is the difference between an A.B. and a Sc.B.?

The department has identified 7 courses in general, inorganic, organic, and physical chemistry that constitute the core for both degrees. The A.B. requires 2 electives in addition to the core, while the Sc.B. requires a year of independent study and several additional electives, including math and physics.

There are three tracks for the Sc.B degree in Chemistry: the chemistry track, the chemical biology track, and the materials chemistry track.

In addition, there are interdisciplinary concentrations in chemical physics (co-advised with the Physics Dept.) and biochemistry (co-advised with the MCB Dept.).

Concentration Advisors:

Chemistry (all tracks)

Amit Basu: amit_basu@brown.edu

Biochemistry

J William Suggs: j_suggs@brown.edu

Arthur Salomon: arthur_salomon@brown.edu

Gerwald Jogl: gerwald_jogl@Brown.edu

Chemical Physics

Jimmie Doll: jimmie_doll@Brown.edu

For more information about chemistry at Brown, visit our website at www.chem.brown.edu.

Information about Engineering

Brown's School of Engineering offers concentrations in biomedical, chemical and biochemical, civil, computer, electrical, materials, and mechanical engineering. All of these programs are accredited by ABET and lead to a Bachelor of Science in Engineering (Sc.B.). In addition we offer a combined Sc.B. degree program with physics, and Bachelor of Arts degrees in engineering or environmental engineering. As part of the concentration in Business, Entrepreneurship, and Organizations (BEO), the School of Engineering offers an innovative and unique program in entrepreneurship and technology management.

All first-year engineering students are assigned an engineering advisor to help them design their academic program. Sc.B. concentrations in engineering have many requirements, so it's important that you work closely with your advisor to plan a course of study. If you want to concentrate in engineering, use the information below when putting together your course plan. At your first advising meeting, you will review your course plan and make any needed changes.

Information about Engineering

In the first semester, students typically take:

- ENGN 0030: Introduction to Engineering
- A math course (usually MATH0100, MATH0190, or MATH0200)
- Either CHEM0330 or a computer science course (CSCI0150, 0170, or 0190)
- A humanities elective

In the second semester, students typically take:

- ENGN 0040: Dynamics and Vibrations
- A math course (usually MATH0200 or APMA0330)
- A course from chemistry, biology, or computer science
- A humanities elective

Comprehensive information on engineering program requirements are published at <http://brown.edu/academics/engineering/content/program-guide>.

Course placement in mathematics

Brown's Math Department offers a number of overlapping calculus courses so that students with different math backgrounds will be able to find courses at the right level. The chart below describes math courses commonly taken by first-year students.

COURSE NUMBER	COURSE NAME	COURSE DESCRIPTION
Math 0050-0060	Analytic Geometry and Calculus	1st semester calculus spread over two semesters
Math 0090	Intro Calculus Part I	1st semester calculus
Math 0100	Intro Calculus Part II	2nd semester calculus
Math 0170	Advanced Placement Calculus	2nd semester calculus for students with Advanced Placement background
Math 0190	Advanced Placement Calculus (Physics/Engineering)	2nd semester calculus plus engineering topics. For students with Advanced Placement background
Math 0180	Intermediate Calculus	3rd semester multivariable calculus
Math 0200	Intermediate Calculus (Physics/Engineering)	3rd semester multivariable calculus plus engineering topics
Math 0350	Honors Calculus	3rd semester multivariable calculus. Requires Advanced Placement credit or written permission.
Math 0420	Intro to Number Theory	Ideal for students who want a taste of mathematics. No prerequisites.

For more information, consult the Math Department's online Course Placement Guide at <http://math.brown.edu/~res/DUS/Placement/>, where you will find answers to questions about the following issues:

- Choosing a calculus course
- Using AP credits to determine math placement
- Guidelines for students who have studied calculus outside the U.S.
- Placement beyond the calculus sequence
- Non-calculus math courses for first-year students
- The (optional) Brown placement examination

Information about Spanish language courses

The Brown Spanish placement exam

The Brown Placement Exam is a computer-administered test given during Orientation and the first week of classes. Students with previous coursework in Spanish must take the exam unless they earned a score of at least 4 on the Spanish AP exam or can present the appropriate recent SAT II score. Students who received an AP score

of 3 or under and have no SAT II score should take the Brown Placement Exam. Students with substantive non-academic contact with Spanish (living abroad, speaking Spanish at home) should also take the exam before entering a Spanish course.

Students may take the exam on a walk-in basis at the Educational Technology Center (ETC), which is on the second floor of Computing Information Services, located at 115 Waterman Street. Dates for the Brown Placement Exam are posted at the Hispanic Studies web page, http://brown.edu/Departments/Hispanic_Studies/ and at the virtual Language Resource Center site, <http://brown.edu/Departments/LRC/>.

After successfully completing an approved Spanish language course at Brown, students with a 4 or 5 AP score in Spanish may opt to transcript an additional, unassigned credit in Spanish.

**** Please note:** All Spanish Language courses are independent courses and there are not requirements to take subsequent courses in order to receive credit.

HISP 0100 is the introductory Spanish course appro-

ropriate for students with no prior exposure to Spanish. HISP 0200 continues basic Spanish, focusing on acquisition of communicative skills as well as cultural awareness. HISP 0110. Students who wish to complete the HISP 0100-0200 sequence in one semester may do so by enrolling in HISP 0110, Intensive Basic Spanish, for a two semester course credits. Students must have some previous knowledge of Spanish from high school or elsewhere and have scored below 340 in the Brown Placement Exam or below 450 in SAT II. Instructor's permission is required. HISP 0300 and 0400 are intermediate courses; HISP 0500 and 0600 are advanced courses that help students function at higher levels of proficiency in speaking and writing.

Note: A student who has a 4 or 5 AP score will also receive one unassigned credit in Spanish in addition to the credit received after successfully completing one of the courses listed.

ous, more specialized topics in Hispanic culture and civilization. Descriptions of all Spanish language courses may be found online in the Banner course catalog under "Hispanic Studies."

What do I do if I feel I am placed too high or low?

There is no perfect placement tool. If you feel that the Spanish course in which you placed is not appropriate, talk to your instructor or the supervisor of the course. More information about the different levels of Spanish language courses is available on our course preview pages at <http://courses.brown.edu/>.

Students who are unable to register for a course online because the course was already closed are encouraged to attend the first days of class in the section of their choice and follow the instructions provided by the instructor. Enrollment will shift during the first week or two while students work out their course schedules.

SPANISH COURSE	SAT II SCORE	AP SCORE	BROWN PLACEMENT EXAM SCORE
HISP 0730, 0740, 0750	750 & above	5 (literature)	651 & above
HISP 0600	670-740	5 (language)	571- 650
HISP 0500	600-660	4 (language or literature)	491- 570
HISP 0400	520-590		411- 490
HISP 0300	460-510		341 - 410
HISP 0200	400-450		241 - 340
HISP 0110 Intensive Basic Spanish*			Below 340
HISP 0100	300-390		Below 240
		3 or below: take Brown Placement Exam	

*Students familiar with Spanish or other Romance languages and with placement scores in the range of HISP100 and HISP200, that is, below 340 in the Brown Placement Exam or below 450 in the SATII, may be eligible to enroll in this 2-semester-in-one course. If interested, contact Prof. Nidia Schuhmacher or Ms. Heather Johnson, who will refer you to the faculty member in charge.

HISP 0730, 0740, and 0750 are more customized courses, all of them approximately at the same level, but with different emphases. HISP 730 and 740 serve as introductions to all periods of Latin American and Peninsular literature, and they are especially helpful to potential concentrators in Hispanic Studies. All students, including concentrators, are required to take either 730 or 740 before proceeding to 1000-level courses, and all concentrators, must have taken both 730 and 740 by the time they complete their concentration program at Brown. HISP 750 courses offer vari-

For more information

Please read the placement information on the Hispanic Studies website at http://brown.edu/Departments/Hispanic_Studies/. If you have any questions, you can speak with the departmental representative at the Academic Expo on Monday, September 3rd, from 4:00-5:30 p.m. in Sayles Hall (Main Green). You should also feel free to contact Prof. Nidia_Schuhmacher@brown.edu , Victoria_Smith@brown.edu, or Beth_Bauer@brown.edu.

Working with Your Advising Partners

Students need a strong network of advisors and mentors to engage fully and successfully in Brown's open academic environment. Our advising system provides you with the guidance you need to experience a liberal—and thus liberating—education.

As we explained in *Guide to Brown*, which you received when you accepted your admission, you will be assigned an academic advisor and a Meiklejohn student advisor who will help you plan a course of study and answer any number of questions you might have about life at Brown.

You will meet with your academic advisor and your Meiklejohn peer advisor on Tuesday, September 4, when you will settle on a plan for the fall 2012 term of study. Throughout the year, you will schedule meetings with your advisors to discuss how you are doing and to pre-register for the next semester's courses. (See the Calendar of Advising and Registration Deadlines on page 21 for the meeting dates.)

Your responsibilities as an advisee

As the primary architect of your Brown education, you will benefit from your advising relationship to the extent that you engage actively, express your thoughts and feelings candidly, and remain open to different points of view. Below are a few suggestions for making the most of the time you have with your academic and Meiklejohn advisors.

- Come to your advising meeting with some thoughts, written or not, about your academic hopes and plans for the semester. Be ready to explain why you are interested in a particular set of courses. Do they relate to one another? If not, what principles and motivations drove your selections?
- Bring a list of six or eight courses that you're considering. Ask your advisors what steps they would suggest you take to figure out which courses interest you the most.

- Sketch out a long-term plan — it doesn't matter how fuzzy! — that will help your advisors get a sense of where you might be headed, intellectually and otherwise. This plan could include future courses, but it could also include service work, study abroad, internships, and other opportunities that are not strictly academic.
- Take the initiative in meeting with your Meiklejohn peer advisor and your academic advisor. Visit your advisor's office hours, email your Meiklejohn from time to time, and ask for help! It's easy to get lost in the open curriculum if you don't allow others to accompany you on your journey, and far more rewarding when you do.

Your advisors' role

Your academic and peer advisors will serve as supportive critics, asking probing questions and suggesting alternatives you may not have considered. They are happy to address concerns or apprehensions you may have about particular courses or areas of study. They can also help you balance your course choices and construct a tentative plan of study for future semesters.

The advising network

Students come to Brown because they value the freedom afforded by the open curriculum; faculty and staff are drawn to Brown because it allows them to work with extremely bright and creative students. All kinds of people can serve as advisors for you as you chart your pathway through Brown, including the professors of your courses, the academic deans, staff in the academic centers, concentration advisors, student life professionals, and last but not least, Brown's Faculty Advising Fellows. Faculty Advising Fellows sponsor topic-based lunches and dinners throughout the year, and help students from all classes make connections between their academic activities and their lives outside the classroom.

The strength of your network will depend, to a large degree, on your willingness to take advantage of the full range of individuals available to offer you support, guidance, and good counsel.

A Note from Brown's Meiklejohn peer advisors

Dear Members of the Class of 2016,

Congratulations on your acceptance to Brown! Brown has a lot to offer determined individuals like yourselves, and Brown's Meiklejohn Peer Advisors are ready to help you get off to a great start. A Meiklejohn is a Brown undergraduate who works together with your academic advisor to help you become acclimated to the Brown curriculum. As your peer advisors, we're here to offer you advice on the subjects you're interested in, to let you know which classes you might regard as "life-changing," and which courses you might not. We're also here to answer all of your questions about general life at Brown or discuss any other concerns you might have.

Over the years, Meiklejohns have encountered and battled many of the pressing issues you might face as an entering student, including homesickness, choosing the right course load, finding shelter from New England weather, and seeking out late night munchies. Starting college can be overwhelming, and that is why we are here. Our experiences are now your resources, and we hope that you will let us know how we can help you!

In August, you will receive an online letter from the Meiklejohn who has been assigned to you. In the meantime, read this pamphlet and begin planning your course of study. Visit our website at http://brown.edu/Student_Services/Meiks/ to read about our program and the advising services we offer. Email us your questions at advising@brown.edu. We will reply as soon as we can.

We congratulate you again on your admission to Brown and look forward to meeting you this fall!

Sincerely,

Your Meiklejohn peer advisors

Calendar of Advising Sessions and Registration Deadlines

Tuesday, September 4

9:30 a.m.–10:30 a.m. Advisor's office or other announced site	Group meeting of first-year students with advisors (PLME students: 8:00 a.m. breakfast/group meeting)
10:30 a.m.–5:00 p.m. Advisor's office or other announced site	First individual meeting with first-year advisors (PLME students: 9:30 a.m.–5 p.m.)
5:00–11:59 p.m.	Online registration for first-year students Registration reopens Wednesday, September 5, at 8:00 a.m.
Wednesday, September 5	Classes begin for Semester I
Sunday, September 9	Group advising dinner with Meiklejohn in Sharpe Refectory 4:45–7:30 p.m.
Monday-Friday, September 10–21	Second individual meeting with first-year advisor
Tuesday, September 18	Last day to add a course without a fee
Tuesday, October 2	Last day to add a course, change from audit to credit, or change a grade option
Friday, October 19	Mid-semester deadline. Last day to change from credit to audit in a course.
Monday-Friday, October 22–November 2	Third individual meeting with first-year advisor
Tuesday-Tuesday, November 6–13	Pre-registration for Semester II
Wednesday, January 23	Classes begin for Semester II
Wed-Tues., January 23–February 5	Fourth individual meeting with first-year advisor
Tuesday, February 5	Last day to add a course without a fee
Wednesday, February 20	Last day to add a course, change from audit to credit, or change a grade option
Friday, March 8	Mid-semester deadline. Last day to change from credit to audit in a course.
Monday–Friday, April 1–12	Fifth individual meeting with first-year advisor
Tuesday–Tuesday, April 16–23	Pre-registration for Semester I, 2013–2014

Items in green font are among the firmest deadlines at Brown. Students can expect these deadlines to be strongly enforced and should retain copies of all documents pertaining to them.

Academic Policies

Effective academic planning requires knowledge of Brown's graduation requirements. These pages offer an overview of the most critical academic policies that all undergraduates should know. Please read them carefully and consult with an academic dean when you arrive on campus if you would like clarification on any of these points.

Degree requirements

At Brown, two baccalaureate degrees are awarded—the bachelor of arts (A.B.) and the bachelor of science (Sc.B). The degree awarded is determined by the chosen concentration program. In order to graduate with a Brown baccalaureate degree, students must meet the following requirements:

1. Be in residence at Brown for four semesters of full-time study during the fall and spring academic terms.
2. Successfully complete a concentration (major).
3. Successfully complete at least 30 courses.
4. Demonstrate proficiency in writing.*
5. Meet Brown's 8-semester enrollment requirement.

*Every piece of written work that students submit for Brown courses should meet baseline standards for effective written communication. A student whose work does not meet these standards is referred to the Associate Dean for Writing and Communication, who assesses the student's writing abilities and helps him or her work out a program to fulfill the requirement. This might entail taking an English course, enrolling in a Writing Fellows course, or working with a writing associate at Brown's Writing Center.

Course load policies

In the fall and spring terms of enrollment, Brown students may enroll in three, four, or five courses per semester. Normal expectation of enrollment is four. Registration for fewer than three courses requires spe-

cial permission through consultation with an academic or student life dean. No student may take more than five courses in a semester, including audited courses, which do not count toward the thirty-course requirement for graduation.

Progress toward graduation

Brown's rules regarding academic progress *are the most critical piece of policy information for students*. Failure to adhere to rules regarding adequate progress usually results in a permanent notation on a student's transcript. (Exceptions are noted below.) Falling below Brown's progress requirements arises from a number of causes. Our job is to make sure that you understand these rules and have the support you need to meet them.

As a general rule, Brown students are expected to complete four courses each semester. Enrollment in three, four, or five courses in a semester is considered full-time. Academic progress rules do allow students to pass three courses in a semester once every two years. The academic standing chart on the next page shows the number of courses students must pass each semester in order to stay in good academic standing.

Courses taken at Brown during the summer count toward a student's academic standing in the following semester. Summer courses taken elsewhere do not improve academic standing at Brown.

Students who fall below progress requirements may be placed on Warning or Serious Warning, which includes a permanent notation on the transcript. It is important to know that students can become so deficient in their course work that they may be suspended from the College for a specified time (normally one year).

Exceptions to the academic progress requirement are recommended by academic or student life deans when a student's individual circumstances, either academic or personal, warrant special consideration. We urge you to speak with a dean if you have any concerns about your ability to meet these requirements.

ACADEMIC STANDING

	Semester	Good Standing	Warning	Serious Warning	Suspension
First Year	I	3	2	1	0
	II	7	6	5	4
Sophomore	III	11	10	9	8
	IV	15	14	13	12
Junior	V	18	17	16	15
	VI	22	21	20	19
Senior	VII	26	25	24	23
	VIII	30	–	–	–

Summer school policies

Students may count as many as four Brown summer courses (or their equivalent, if summer courses are transferred to Brown) toward the baccalaureate degree. No more than the equivalent of two Brown courses will be transcribed for any given summer of enrollment.

Courses taken at Brown during the summer count toward a student's academic standing in the following semester. Summer courses taken elsewhere do not improve academic standing at Brown.

Courses taken elsewhere during the summer carry no enrollment credit. The only way to accelerate a graduation date with summer study is to successfully complete four courses in Brown's summer school and then request to have one semester of the enrollment requirement waived.

Transfer credit policies

Brown's transfer credit policies are complex, so please read the following information carefully. College courses completed before a student matriculated to a four-year college or university fall under one set of requirements; transfer credits for courses taken after a student has matriculated to Brown are governed by a different set of rules. (See Study Away Guidelines at <http://brown.edu/College/courses/Study-Away.php>.)

This section contains information about policies that are most commonly called into play when students wish to have pre-Brown courses from elsewhere transcribed to their Brown transcript as transfer credits. Students may be permitted to transfer credit to Brown, to the extent transfer credit is needed, beginning their sophomore year.

Note: Transfer students must accept all credit from eligible courses at their previous colleges and universities; however, transfer credit beyond the equivalent of 15 Brown courses is not permitted. Additional transfer credit for pre-college work (e.g., international certifications or courses taken during high school at a college or university) may be permitted as long as the total will not exceed the equivalent of 15 Brown courses. The number of transfer credits awarded is calculated on the basis of credit hours completed, not the number of courses taken at the other institution. Four semester credit hours, or six quarter credit hours, are required for courses to be considered the equivalent of one course at Brown, with the exception of Rhode Island School of Design (RISD) courses. RISD courses transfer one-to-one to Brown, whether they are 3-, 4-, or 5-credit courses. Students wishing to receive transfer credit for courses carrying fewer than four semester credits may petition to have credit hours from multiple courses combined to add up to the required four credit hours for each transfer credit. However, credit hours from pre-Brown courses cannot be combined with hours from courses taken after matriculation. A semester of fifteen semester credit hours, the normal “full load” at schools with 3-credit courses, will be permitted to transfer to Brown as four courses, our normal full load.

Community college courses do not qualify for transfer if the courses are taken after the student has enrolled at Brown. Credit for community college courses may be considered only if the student completed them before matriculating to Brown.

Distance learning/online courses *never* transfer to Brown.

Courses at other academic institutions may qualify for transfer credit on a case-by-case basis, but must be earned on an approved study abroad program or on approved study away at a four-year, accredited college or university in the United States.

Note: International students may be awarded transfer credit for approved study away at institutions in their home country.

Transfer policy on grades

Students must have earned a grade of “C” (not “C-”) or better in a course for it to transfer to Brown. If a course has been taken pass/fail, the student must provide evidence of the grade range that the previous school considered a “pass.” If the institution at which the student took the course considers a grade of “D” a pass, and the student took the course pass/fail, evidence must be provided that he or she earned a grade of “C” or better in the course when applying for transfer credit. “C-” does not meet required grade threshold for transfer credit. Grades for courses taken at other institutions of higher education are not entered on the Brown transcript.

When transfer courses are transcribed, a Brown transfer credit noted with grade “T” is listed, along with the term of study and the name of the institution. The credit is transcribed as unassigned credit; transcription of course credit as equivalent to a specific Brown course requires a student to submit departmental approval to the Registrar’s office.

Pre-college transfer credit

Many students complete courses and programs during their high school years that may earn transfer credit at Brown. These include:

- Advanced Placement (AP) exams (but AP credits do not increase course count)
- International Baccalaureate (IB) exams
- British A-Level exams (but not AS or O-level exams)
- Other national “13th-year” programs
- Courses taken at another college during the summer or school year while the student is still in high school
- Courses taken in the Brown Summer Session before entering Brown as a first-year student

Any of these experiences may be used to satisfy prerequisites for more advanced courses at Brown, whether or not the student formally receives transfer credit on his or her Brown transcript. Students who wish to use these experiences as course prerequisites should consult with the instructor of the Brown course they wish to take. Instructors can issue a course override so the student can register.

Not all of these experiences may qualify for course credit and/or reduce the number of semesters of enrollment required for graduation. Please see the guidelines that apply below.

AP exam credits may be used toward the eight semester enrollment requirement (see below), but they do not count toward Brown's 30-course graduation requirement. If a student applies for and receives one semester of advanced standing based on AP credit, he or she must nonetheless complete 30 courses in the remaining seven semesters. AP credits that are awarded upon admission will appear on a student's internal academic record. AP credits that require a student to take one or more designated Brown courses are added only if the student requests notation of the contingent AP credit. If AP scores are received after APs are processed in the summer preceding a student's arrival, the student must formally request addition of AP credits to his or her academic record. The Dean of the College website (<http://brown.edu/college>) has a complete list of AP exams recognized by Brown. The A to Z link will take you to the page from which you can access the list; click on "Advanced Placement Policies."

Students who wish to use AP scores for advanced placement must ask the College Board to send *all* of their results (i.e., from sophomore, junior, and/or senior years) to Brown by July 1st *when committing to attend Brown*. Brown will NOT have complete results for students whose AP reports are sent prior to senior year or prior to the student's commitment to attend.

Note: You cannot register for a course for which you have AP credit. If you do not want to receive AP credits, you must notify the Dean of the College Office during the summer. Once posted to a transcript, AP credit will not be removed.

Summer college courses taken before a student matriculates to Brown as a degree-earning student may qualify for course credit toward the 30-course requirement, but they do not qualify for enrollment credit.

International diplomas and certificates most commonly earned by our students are International Baccalaureate or A-Levels.

Qualifying exam results from approved courses are eligible for both course credit and enrollment credit. The results of international certification exams may be applied for no more than two semesters of advanced standing. Students who transcript international certification credits must accept the advanced standing that these credits earn. For this reason, Brown will not process such credits until a student's sophomore year, after he or she has had a full year to understand the implications of graduating in fewer than eight semesters. It should be noted that Brown does not grant course credit for AS-Levels or O-Levels, or AO-Levels.

A complete description of Brown's policies regarding pre-Brown credit may be found at <http://brown.edu/college> under "The Brown Degree." If, after reading these webpages, you have questions, consult with one of the academic deans in University Hall when you arrive on campus.

Enrollment requirement

A Brown education implies eight full semesters of college experience. For this reason, all Brown students must complete eight semesters of academic study in order to graduate. Students may earn credit toward this requirement by completing a full semester of study at Brown or at an approved college or university in the United States or abroad. AP exams and various international certification programs (A-level exams, International Baccalaureate, etc.) may also be applied to the enrollment requirement. For students who enroll as first-year students at Brown and who complete 30 or more courses in eight semesters at Brown, fulfilling the enrollment requirement is straightforward. Students earn one semester of enrollment for each full-time semester they are at Brown. If students do anything other than take eight sequential full-time semesters at Brown, fulfilling the enrollment requirement can get complicated and should be discussed with an academic dean.

Enrollment credit for transfer credits

Students who are granted advanced standing, Advanced Placement credits, and/or transfer credit for work completed at another college or university prior to enrollment at Brown may apply for up to four semesters of enrollment credit according to the following schedule:

Brown course credits	Advanced standing
3–6	1 semester
7–10	2 semesters
11–14	3 semesters
15	4 semesters

Enrollment credit for work completed outside Brown is awarded in full semester blocks only. We do not grant partial semesters of enrollment credit.

Once enrolled at Brown, students may petition to have credits from approved study away in the United States programs transferred to Brown. Such courses count toward the enrollment requirement only if they are transferred en bloc according to the above schedule.

Summer school courses do not count toward the enrollment requirement. However, students who successfully complete four summer courses at Brown, may petition to waive one semester of enrollment credit. Under no circumstances do summer courses completed elsewhere count toward the enrollment requirement.

Leaves of absence

Education is not something that begins or ends in the classroom, and for some students time away from college contributes more to personal development than any single year or semester at college. Many Brown students take a leave from the University to pursue internships, to participate in service work in the United States or abroad, or to engage in other work that complements their academic study. First-year students who think they might want to take a leave at some point during their undergraduate career should meet with an academic dean in University Hall to discuss their plans. It is essential that you understand how a leave may affect your academic progress and degree completion plans.

To learn more about these and other academic policies and procedures, please visit our website at <http://brown.edu/college>.

Online Textbook Ordering and Reservations Program

Students may order their course books online through the Brown Bookstore. Go to <http://bookstore.brown.edu> and click “BOOK RESERVATION” to access a complete list of textbooks and other academic materials required for Brown University courses. Select the books and other items you need, choose a method of payment, and your order will be prepared for pick-up, custom-boxed for ease of handling. If you decide to drop one or more courses, simply bring your books back (with receipt and your Brown I.D.) for a refund or exchange. See below for the Bookstore’s return policy.

All charged up!

All Brown students automatically have a \$2000 Bookstore Credit Line for use during the academic year. You can use your Brown charge card or personal credit card to purchase your books. The Online Book Box Program does require advanced pre-payment. We are sorry that declining balance is not available at this time.

Used is better!

Unless you specifically request new books, your order will be filled with as many used books as possible. Used books cost 25% less than new books, so order early and enjoy the savings.

It’s free!

This service is provided at no extra charge. We do all the work. You avoid the lines. Your Book Box will be ready for pick-up within 3 business days of placing the order. If you would like your books sent to your home address, simply state so. Shipping is a flat-rate fee of \$5.00 for FedEx or UPS Ground.

Textbook and course pack return policy

- An original receipt is required for all returns.
- Textbooks and course packs must be returned in original condition.
- For the first 2 weeks of classes, students have a maximum of three (3) days to return any textbook for a class in which they are enrolled. To return a textbook for a course in which the student is not enrolled, proof of dropped course is required for verification.
- For the second 2 weeks of classes, returns are excepted only for dropped courses and must be made within three (3) days of the date a course is dropped. Proof of dropped course is required.

Textbook rental program

The Bookstore has begun a text rental program, allowing students full semester rentals on select titles. Participation in this program can offer substantial savings.

Excluded items

Back orders and courses with no textbook adoptions are unable to be processed. Only books on hand at the time of your order can be reserved.

<http://bookstore.brown.edu/>
Campus Shop and Computer Store
244 Thayer Street, Providence, Rhode Island 02912
401-863-3168/800-695-2050

SUMMER DEADLINES CHECKLIST

Use this checklist to keep track of applications, activities, and forms you need to complete prior to your arrival at Brown. Required items are indicated in the left column. Contact information for each item is provided on the right. Between May 31 and August 15, University offices observe summer operational hours of Monday – Friday, 8:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. U.S. Eastern Daylight Time.

June due dates

	Due	Item	Whom to contact
<input type="checkbox"/>	1	Last day to apply for Excellence at Brown Program (online).	Writing Center Douglas_Brown_1@brown.edu 401 863-3524
<input type="checkbox"/> Required of all students	1	Activate Brown e-mail account (online).	Computing and Information Services http://brown.edu/cis CAP@brown.edu 401 863-4357 helpdesk
<input type="checkbox"/>	4	First-round lottery begins for first-year seminars and Curricular Advising Program (CAP) courses. Lottery closes June 18 at 5 p.m. (online).	Dean of the College http://brown.edu/college 401 863-9800
<input type="checkbox"/>	6	Meal plan changes available on Banner (online)	Brown Dining Services http://brown.edu/food 401 863-9800
<input type="checkbox"/> Required of all students	15	Academic interests questionnaire due (online).	Dean of the College http://brown.edu/college 401 863-9800
<input type="checkbox"/>	15	University Community Academic Advising Program application due (online). http://brown.edu/Departments/Swearer_Center/whatwedo/ADVISING_UCAAP.html	Swearer Center for Public Service http://swearercenter.brown.edu Alan_Flam@brown.edu 401 863-3638
<input type="checkbox"/> Required of all students	15	Roommate questionnaire due (online).	Residential Life http://brown.edu/reslife Res_Life@brown.edu 401 863-3500
<input type="checkbox"/>	15	First day to register for Chemo100-web, tutorial for CHEM 0330 placement exam (online).	Chemistry Department http://chem.brown.edu Sandra_Russo-Rodriguez@brown.edu
<input type="checkbox"/>	18	First-round lottery closes for first-year seminars and CAP courses (online).	Dean of the College http://brown.edu/college 401 863-9800
<input type="checkbox"/>	25	Second-round lottery for first-year seminars and CAP courses begins. Lottery closes July 9 at 5 p.m. (online).	Dean of the College http://brown.edu/college 401 863-9800

July due dates

	Due	Item	Whom to contact
<input type="checkbox"/> Required of all students	1	Health history documents due (online and paper forms).	University Health Services http://brown.edu/health Lynn_Dupont@brown.edu 401 863-7872
<input type="checkbox"/>	1	Parents Leadership Program form due (paper form).	Advancement Office 401 863-3666
<input type="checkbox"/>	9	Second round lottery for first-year seminars and CAP courses closes at 5 p.m. (online).	Dean of the College http://brown.edu/college 401 863-9800
<input type="checkbox"/>	15	Lottery to enroll in Visual Arts 0100 (VISA0100) begins. Lottery closes August 6 (online).	Dean of the College http://brown.edu/college 401 863-9800
<input type="checkbox"/>	20	Online registration closes for Third World Transition Program on this date, or when the number of student registrations exceeds 225. Additional students are put on a waitlist.	Third World Center http://brown.edu/twc TWC@brown.edu 401 863-2120 or 401 863-3637

August due dates

	Due	Item	Whom to contact
<input type="checkbox"/> Required of all students	1	Due date for letter to advisor in response to First Readings selection, <i>Sons of Providence</i> (submit online).	Dean of the College http://brown.edu/college 401 863-9800
<input type="checkbox"/> Required of all students	6	Fall semester course preference form due (online).	Dean of the College http://brown.edu/college 401 863-9800
<input type="checkbox"/>	6	Visual Arts 0100 lottery closes at 5:00 p.m. (online).	Dean of the College http://brown.edu/college 401 863-9800
<input type="checkbox"/>	15	Last day to register for Chem0100-web, the tutorial for CHEM 0330 placement exam (online).	Chemistry Department www.chem.brown.edu Sandra_Russo-Rodriguez@brown.edu
<input type="checkbox"/> Required of all students	20	Deadline for completing online tutorial: Brown's Academic and Student Conduct Codes. (Students receive an email to their Brown.edu account that includes a link to the tutorial.)	Dean of the College, Office of Student life Orientation@brown.edu 401 863-9800
<input type="checkbox"/> Required of all students	20	Read and respond to letter from Meiklejohn peer advisor (online).	Dean of the College http://brown.edu/college 401 863-9800
<input type="checkbox"/>	Aug 20– Oct. 2	CHEM 0330 placement exam (online.)	Chemistry Department www.chem.brown.edu Sandra_Russo-Rodriguez@brown.edu
<input type="checkbox"/>	30	Registration closes for International Student Orientation (online). This program is mandatory for all visa-holding students.	Office of Student Life http://students.brown.edu/IMP IMP@brown.edu 401 863-3145

September due dates

	Due	Item	Whom to contact
<input type="checkbox"/>	2	Last day to make meal plan change on Banner (online).	Brown Dining Services http://brown.edu/food 401 863-9800

Office of the Dean of the College
Brown University
Providence, Rhode Island
401 863-9800

MOHAWK windpower 

This piece is printed on Mohawk 100% PC White,
which is manufactured entirely with Green-e certified wind-generated electricity.