



Brown Acronyms – Bear Lingo

.5 or Point-Five	"Point-Five" is the colloquial designation for an undergraduate student who completes degree requirements in December rather than May. For example, a student who was scheduled to graduate in May 2012, took a one-semester leave, and finished in December 2012 would be considered '12.5 or Twelve-point-five.
ABC/NC	A grade option of ABC/No Credit. The other grade option is S/NC, or Satisfactory/No Credit. Students may choose their grade option for most courses. A few courses are mandatory S/NC.
ACP	Academic Priorities Committee
ADOCH	A Day on College Hill. A two-day program offered in campus in the spring for students who have been admitted to Brown and are trying to decide if Brown is the right place for them.
AM	Artium Magistri (Master of Arts degree)
AMS	The Warren Alpert Medical School (*this acronym should never be used on websites or public facing correspondence)
Banner	Brown's secure student information system, which includes student course registration, grades, and contact information.
BCBI	Brown Center for Biomedical Informatics
BCSC	The Brown Center for Students of Color
BDH	Brown Daily Herald, the student newspaper
BearBucks	Debit account linked to a student's Brown ID Card. Used for on-campus payment for laundry, copying, printing, Brown Pharmacy, Campus Market, Bookstore and Computer Store, etc. See the Bear Bucks entry under Financial Matters this page.
Bears' Lair	Satellite fitness center located in the Graduate Center E residence hall.
BMFA	BioMed Faculty Administration
BMFP	BioMed Finance and Planning
BMFPO	BioMed Facilities Planning and Operations
BMHR	BioMed Human Resources
BMRA	BioMed Research Administration
BPI	Brown Physician's Inc.
BrUOG	Brown University Oncology Research Group
Bursar	The Bursar's Office manages the billing and collection of student accounts. http://www.brown.edu/bursar
CARE	Center for Animal Resources and Education
CareerLAB	Careers and Life After Brown = CareerLAB, Brown's center for career development and services.
CAS	Committee on Academic Standing. The most general responsibility of the Committee on Academic Standing is to monitor the academic progress of undergraduates, to ensure that candidates for the baccalaureate degree have met all degree requirements, and to inform students whose progress toward the degree is deficient. The Committee also hears petitions from students regarding readmission from academic suspension,

	admission to several concurrent degree programs at Brown, and exceptions to academic regulations.
CCC	College Curriculum Council
CCC	College Curriculum Council
CGS	Council of Graduate Schools
CME	Continuing Medical Education
Concentration	What other schools call a "major." Explore all Brown concentrations on Focal Point at brown.edu/go/focalpoint .
Course load	The standard course load is 4 courses per semester, fall and spring. Almost all courses equal one credit. There are a few courses that are half-credit (0.5); examples include Orchestra and Applied Music. Full-time students may enroll in 3 to 5 course credits, but may not enroll for more than five Brown credits in a semester.
CPR	Course Performance Report
CRC	Curricular Resource Center
CTR	Advanced Clinical Translational Research
DCP	Dissertation Completion Proposal
DEP	Dissertation Extension Proposal
DGS	Director of Graduate Studies (same as GPD)
DIAP	Diversity and Inclusion Action Plan (DIAP)
DOF	Dean of the Faculty
DOL	Department of Labor
Double-concentrating	Completing two concentrations as an undergraduate student -- for example Economics and Visual Art, or Development Studies and Political Science. Two is not better than one! The Brown Curriculum affords students both freedom and obligation to pursue their passions; sometimes those passions fall in two academic areas and lead to a double-concentration. Students must fulfill the requirements of both concentration programs. Many concentrations limit the number of courses that can be counted toward multiple concentrations (e.g., you may be able to "double count" only two); students should inquire about such policies with both concentrations. The names of students' concentrations do not appear on diplomas.
DPHB	Department of Psychiatry and Human Behavior
EEOB	Ecology, Evolution and Organismal Biology
ESRP	Enrollment Satisfied, Requirements Pending (formerly ETRP or TP status)
ETD	Electronic Theses Dissertation System
FEC	Faculty Executive Committee
FERPA	Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act
Flex Points	Part of a student's Meal Plan. See Dining Services.
GEF	Graduate Education Fund
GISP	Group Independent Study Project. A group of students, with a faculty advisor, may develop credit-bearing courses that are not a regular part of the Brown curriculum. Students create a curriculum, syllabus and reading list for the semester-long course; a formal application and proposal is submitted for consideration by the College Curriculum Council (CCC). The Curricular Resource Center assists students in proposing GISPs.

GPA	Grade Point Average. Brown does not compute GPAs for students. See GPA Statement on the Registrar's page and additional information on the website of the Dean of the College.
GPD	Graduate Program Director (same as DGS)
GRE	Graduate Record Exam
GSIM	Graduate School Information System
HUG	Highly underrepresented groups (of students)
ISP	Independent Study Project. Many academic departments offer independent research or reading courses. Students may also initiate, design, and execute independent study projects with the help of faculty advisors. Brown students studying abroad have the option of crafting a Global Independent Study Project (GLISP) with a Brown faculty member.
LCA	Labor Condition Application
Lottery	Housing Lottery or Housing Selection. See the Housing entry under Life on Campus, this page.
MAT	Masters of Arts in Teaching
MCB	Molecular Biology, Cell Biology and Biochemistry
MCC	Medical Curriculum Council
MFA	Masters of Fine Arts
MMI	Molecular Microbiology and Immunology
MPA	Masters of Public Affairs
MPH	Masters of Public Health
NEURO	Neuroscience
NIH	National Institute of Health
NRSA	National Research Service Award
NSF	National Science Foundation
ODMA	Office of Diversity and Multicultural Affairs
Office hours	Blocks of time during the day that faculty or deans make available specifically for students to stop by for advice, assistance, or conversation. Professors typically post-office hours each semester on their websites, office doors and course syllabi so that students know when they are available.
OGPS	Office of Graduate and Postdoctoral Studies
OIP	Office of International Programs. This office manages study abroad opportunities for students.
OISSS	Office of International Student and Scholar Services
OMAC	Olney-Margolies Athletic Center. Location of recreational track and basketball/volleyball courts, and many varsity team locker rooms.
PATHO	Pathology and Laboratory Medicine
PDF	Postdoctoral Fellows
PDRA	Postdoctoral Research Associates
PDRF	Postdoctoral Research Fellows
PI	Principal Investigator
PLME	Program in Liberal Medical Education

PLME	Spoken as plee'-me or P-L-M-E, Brown's Program in Liberal Medical Education (PLME) combines undergraduate education (baccalaureate) and professional studies in medicine (MD) in a single eight-year program.
Ratty	The Sharpe Refectory, the main dining hall. Located on Wriston Quad.
Reading Period	Traditionally, Reading Period is a series of days before Final Exams begin used for additional study. Reading Period is optional and at the discretion of each course instructor. Some courses continue with instruction through Reading Period; others cease instruction of new material to focus on preparation for an exam or production of a final paper.
Registrar	A Registrar is an official keeper of records. The Registrar's Office at Brown maintains students' academic records, records course registrations, assigns classrooms, issues reports of grades and transcripts, and verifies student enrollment.
S/NC	A grade option of Satisfactory/No Credit, equivalent to Pass/Fail. Students may choose to take almost any course S/NC. Some courses are mandatory S/NC (meaning that S/NC is the only grade option available for that course).
SAS	Student and Accessibility Services
SCM	Scientiae Magistri (Master of Science degree)
Shopping Period	The first two weeks of Fall and Spring Semester, built into the academic calendar, during which students are expected to confirm pre-registration and/or explore new courses to finalize their course registration. Work is assigned and students are expected to keep up or to catch up if they join a course during Shopping Period. Course registration changes during this time are without charge; courses added after Shopping Period incur a fee for each change.
Swearer Center	The Swearer Center for Public Service
TA & TA II	Teaching Assistant
TSV	Total Support Volume
TWTP	The Third World Transition Program is a several-day program prior to general Orientation in the fall. Begun in 1979, TWTP has evolved to meet the changing needs of students while maintaining the values of self-reflection and open dialogue about difficult and complex issues. Available to all entering students, the uniqueness of TWTP lies in the commitment to talk about issues of race, gender, class, imperialism, heterosexism and homophobia with the incoming class of first-year students.
UHR	University Human Resources
USCIS	United States Citizenship and Immigration Services
Verney Woolley	Dining hall on the Pembroke Campus, located on the ground floor of the Morriss-Champlin/Emery-Woolley residential complex.
VW	Also "Vee-Dub." The Verney-Woolley dining hall, located on the Pembroke Campus.
WD	Workday

<https://www.brown.edu/campus-life/support/families/glossary-brown-university-terms-and-acronyms>