Brown Residential College is located in between Newcomb Hall and McCormick Road on Monroe Hill. It is made up of a dozen interconnected buildings called “portals.” In each portal, the living units include two connected singles and one bathroom, as well as access to study rooms, lounges, and a communal kitchen. But what makes Brown so unique?

“Brown is a place where you can be who you really are.”
-Carl Trindle, former Brown College Principal

This might sound hokey, but it is completely accurate. Unlike other residential colleges, Brown does not have a single overarching ethos. Rather, Brown changes every year with its residents and focuses on building a community of people. Residents are especially diverse, with plenty of art and drama students, engineering and computer scientists, and philosophers and political science majors, and they do their best to make sure you fit in.

In Brown, activities always occur, from tea time to rap battles to Nerf warfare. Our lounges, the social nuclei of Brown, offer a haven for all kinds of shenanigans, be they productive or otherwise. Movie nights are a common occurrence, with films ranging from Fight Club to Pride and Prejudice. Other times, you can find residents performing impromptu concerts, having story time, playing video games, studying, or simply relaxing.

We run ourselves here, and our system of student governance has inspired other residential colleges nationwide. Brown residents wrote and will read this application. Our social co-chairs have a massive annual budget to organize and cater semi-formals, go paintballing, bake us cookies, and so forth. Hauntings--an annual haunted house for charity on Monroe Hill--is also planned, built, staffed, and executed by residents here. Our faculty liaisons keep Brown an intellectually stimulating environment by maintaining contact between teachers and students. All these and countless other positions are staffed by students.

Brown has associated professors and graduate students called faculty fellows. Our faculty fellows come and deliver informal lectures on a plethora of topics, which have recently included art, ethics of health care reform, and Burning Man. Additionally, faculty fellows and residents alike have the ability to teach short courses offered exclusively to Brownies. To give you an idea, some course topics in the past consisted of bioluminescence, coffee, self-defense, and the printed word.

We don’t force you to participate in all that Brown has to offer; this isn’t summer camp. However, once you’re here, hopefully you’ll want to join in on your own. Even if none of these activities tickle your fancy, Brown makes it easy to host your own events and reach out to others.

Then there are material benefits. If you live in Brown, you get a large room to yourself, air-conditioning, a prime location in central Grounds, ultra-neat public spaces, and our own dining room in Newcomb. But chances are you already knew that. That being said, we strongly discourage applying only because of these perks. Apply to live in Brown for atmosphere it has to offer.

How can you tell if Brown’ll be a good match? Our application is our calling card. Open it up and think about it. If you want to live with people who wrote these sorts of questions, apply. Apply, apply, apply. Conversely, if you’re put off by the application, Brown might not be for you. It isn’t for everyone. When filling out the application, we don’t care about your extracurricular activities or your GPA. Résumés are for jobs; we want to know who you are. Will you be involved? Do we want to live with you? What will you contribute to our wonderful microcosm? Be yourself.

Brown College is a community. That word gets used too often for that statement to have the kind of meaning it should. People who live here are proud to live here, and to identify with Brown’s unique place in the universe. The University of Virginia is a big place, and it’s a joy to have a place to call your own.

We’d love to meet you.
The following information will be used solely for administrative purposes.

Name: ________________________________

Sex: F M

Current Status: entering first year
entrering transfer
current UVa student
1 2 3 4 other
1 2 3 4 other

Student ID Number: ________________________________

Stable e-mail: ________________________________

Notification Address: ________________________________

Permanent Address: ________________________________

Phone Number: ________________________________

instructions

Please do not use your name, picture, or any other identifying material in your essays. If you
enclose any attachments with your application, make sure to label them with your Student ID Number
(not your SSN; your computing ID works as well) – but note that we cannot return any part of your ap-
lication to you.

You can submit your application by mail, e-mail, or in person. Please do not fax. If you are submitting
by e-mail, please compile your application in a single pdf file.

mail: UVa Housing: Residential College Program
BROWN COLLEGE at MONROE HILL
Page - Emmet House Station #1
Charlottesville, VA 22904

e-mail: browncollege@email.virginia.edu

in-person: Housing office in the basement of Kent House by 5 pm

You must send your application by the appropriate deadline:

students entering UVa: 1st June 2012

current UVa students: 15th November 2012
question 1 – PARANORMAL ACTIVITIES

a. You are the universe observing yourself. What is your favorite holiday and why?
b. Sentient furniture is the dominant life form on Earth. Describe how your dream house chooses to arrange itself.

question 2 – FRIENDLY COMPETITION

a. You have taken yourself hostage. Write a list of your demands.
b. We live in a post-scarcity society. Make me an offer I can’t refuse.
c. You are racing a dogsled team to the North Pole. How do you win?
ID #: ________________________________ respond to one question in each of these sets

your space:
This space is yours. Use it as you wish.
question 3 – PROBLEM SOLVING

a. You are not and never will be King Arthur. How do you successfully remove the sword from the stone?
b. Which four dead historical figures would you want on your dodgeball team? Why?
c. Six was afraid of Seven because Seven ate Nine. What number is Forty-Seven afraid of and why?

question 4 – PERSONAL INFORMATION

a. After an unfortunate night in Vegas, your favorite professor has convinced you to teach a course to your peers. What would you teach about? Provide a lesson plan.
b. What is something you are proud of but would never put on your résumé?
question 5 – ARTISTIC SUPPLEMENT

a. You have just eaten sixty chicken nuggets, and your heart has stopped. Write an original love song or poem to yourself to make your heart beat again.

b. After re-evaluating your life, you decide to build a theme park. What is the theme of your park? Include a visitor map to showcase the attractions.

c. You are the director of a funeral home. Create a jingle or flyer to promote your business.

question 6 – WHY?

Brown is for the interesting and the interested. Why do you want to live in Brown? Do not feel limited by the space provided.

what happens next

You can find detailed information on the selections process at Brown’s website:

http://www.virginia.edu/browncollege

If you have any questions, please e-mail us at browncollege@email.virginia.edu

Selection results will be posted on the website at the following times:

students entering UVa:  8th June 2012

current UVa students:  December 2012