The Hofstra Gifted Academy (HGA) offers an eight-week Saturday morning program that enriches the lives of academically gifted students by expanding their scope of experience and introducing other creative outlets. Our outstanding instructors engage students with stimulating and interactive activities in mathematics, science, and the humanities, while nurturing and supporting their varied interests and abilities.

COURSE SELECTIONS
Students choose one class from each of the three sessions. The appropriate grade levels for each course precede the course title. We strongly encourage you to register your child for age-appropriate classes only.

COURSE CHANGES
If there are any course selections that you wish to change, please call 516-463-7400. We will do our best to accommodate your request.

HGA PROGRAM FEE
The HGA program fee is $485 per semester. This fee covers eight weeks of instruction and program activities. Note: A $25 early registration discount is available if you register by February 22.

DIRECTIONS TO BRESLIN HALL
From Hempstead Turnpike: Turn onto California Avenue (David S. Mack Public Safety and Information Center on the corner). After you pass Au Bon Pain on your right, enter the second parking lot on the right. Drive past the security booth to the back of the parking lot; Breslin Hall is on your right. All classes are held on the second floor.

Room Assignments
All classes are held on the second floor of Breslin Hall on Hofstra’s South Campus. Listed below are the instructors for the Hofstra Gifted Academy and their assigned rooms.* Students should be dropped off at the door of their first class at 9:30 a.m. and picked up at the door of their final class at 12:30 p.m.

Gina Beyer Room 217
Colleen Burke Room 209
Lauren Coniff Room 216
Larry Jones Room 208
Dominique Monaco Room 205
Amarilis Morel Room 206
Valerie Waxman Room 202

*Instructors teaching in Rooms 200 and 203 will be determined at a later date.

FIRST DAY OF CLASS
On the first day of class, please arrive at your child’s first classroom at 9:15 a.m. to pick up a student ID card. If you are unaware of the location of your child’s first class, please ask a staff member to assist you, or call 516-463-7400 prior to the first day of class.

STUDENT ID CARD
The student ID card should be worn every week so that the instructors can verify which classes the students should be in. If the ID card is lost or has incorrect course information on it, please call 516-463-7400, and a new card will be issued.

DROP-OFF and PICKUP POLICIES
All students should be dropped off by 9:30 a.m. at their first class and picked up at 12:30 p.m. at their final class. Students must be dropped off and picked up at the door of the classroom. Students are not allowed to leave the classroom without a parent/guardian. If you need to pick up your child early, please advise the instructor beforehand.

SNACKS
Please provide your child with a snack and drink. Students will take a snack break during their second class. DO NOT send your child with any snacks that contain peanuts.

ABSENCES
There are no make-up classes. If your child is absent, the material missed will be given to them the following week.

COURSE REGISTRATION
If your child has already been accepted to HGA, please complete the registration form, indicating your course preferences (one course per session), and return with payment to:

Hofstra Gifted Academy
Attn: Jessica Dease
Oak Street Center, 255 Hofstra University,
Hempstead, NY 11549-2550

If your child has not yet been accepted to HGA, please visit ce.hofstra.edu/forms to apply.

For more information, visit ce.hofstra.edu/youth or call 516-463-7400.
K1 | Young Mathematicians – Instructors TBA, Room 200
This program develops a solid foundation in basic concepts of math, including sorting, graphing, patterns, time, addition, subtraction, and money. Students learn by using hands-on manipulatives, so the concepts being developed have a concrete base.

K1 | Beginner Spanish – Amarillos Morel, Room 206
Bilingual/Welcome! Students dive right into an introduction to the Spanish language. Topics include numbers, letters of the alphabet, days of the week, months of the year, and holidays. Taught through storytelling, interactive technology, and hands-on activities, students learn how to read, write, and speak Spanish, and are introduced to Spanish culture.

2-3 | Calling All Meteorologists – Valerie Waxman, Room 202
Meteorology is a science that deals with the atmosphere, weather, and weather forecasting. In this course, students become budding meteorologists and investigate Earth’s atmosphere to answer challenging questions such as how fog and dew are created, or why thunder follows lightning. Topics include Earth’s climate, season changes, the water cycle, and weather maps.

2-4 | Mastering Measurements and Dominating Data – Colleen Burke, Room 209
In this course, students learn to think like mathematicians, problem solve, and develop a deep conceptual understanding of measurement and data. We explore the metric system’s simple base-10 design and why that makes it so easy to use. Students also explore the many tools both mathematicians and scientists use to measure the world around us. Students discover how different forms of measurement, including geometric concepts, time, and money, are utilized in the real world. We also study different types of graphs in order to learn how to organize, analyze, and interpret data.

2-4 | Exploring the Human Body – Instructors TBA, Room 203
Each day, students learn about the functions of a new body system and spend time analyzing how each body system works. Students explore how the heart pumps the blood, the eyes see, and the ears hear, to name a few.

4-6 | Writing Funny Fiction – Larry Jones, Room 208
The development of comedic characters is the focus for students’ original compositions. How do you know when a story is funny? In this course, we explore the elements of fiction that make a story amusing. Students learn how to select topics that will make their stories funny and how to use humor to engage and entertain the reader. Additionally, students have a chance to see how other writers approach humor, as we explore the work of humorists like Mark Twain and Will Rogers.

6-8 | Exploring Art – Gina Beyer, Room 207
Students explore different topics in history through simulations and interactive experiences. Putting themselves into the stories, students learn about topics such as the adventures of Robinson Crusoe, through Ellis Island, and the sinking of the Titanic. Students will experience what it was like for people during those times to travel and then compare and contrast their viewpoints with those of their classmates.

6-8 | Exposed to Art – Instructors TBA, Room 201
Exploring an expert investor’s participation in the financial markets and reinforce how demographics, timing, and ink profiles can all influence how someone invests. Students should have a basic understanding of bank accounts, interest, and stocks.

K1 | Reconstructing Fairytale – Instructors TBA, Room 200
Did the Big Bad Wolf really want to blow the piggy houses down, or did he simply have a cold? Did the Witch really want to put a spell on Snow White, or did she simply marry the potion recipe for a relaxin’ nap? In this course, students learn to familiar fairytales and stories, taking into account the perspective of the villain. Students develop their own version of these stories and, in some cases, tell the tale from the villain’s point of view.

K1 | Geology for All – Valerie Waxman, Room 202
Future geologists are invited to join us for a journey to the center of the Earth and learn how an earthquake happens, how to make quackoids, and how a fist is formed. Students learn about different geological phenomena each week through interactive experiments.

2-4 | STEM – Lauren Coniff, Room 216
Students learn about science, technology, engineering, and the development of thinking skills and the knowledge of scientific and mathematical concepts to engage in various STEM-related activities. We explore how to build furniture out of paper and construct a kindle out of wooden craft sticks.

2-4 | Math and Art – Instructors TBA, Room 203
Each week, students learn about a math concept, and then use it as the basis of a beautiful project. Topics range from coordinate planes and polygons to fractions and Fibonacci.

2-4 | Conversational Spanish – Amarillos Morel, Room 206
Bienvendido! (Welcome) Students with an interest in learning the Spanish language will enjoy this fun and exciting course. Topics covered include an introduction to conversations, verbs, popular phrases, and Spanish culture. Students create their own illustrated books written in Spanish and present them to family and friends during the final class.

4-6 | A Panopoly of Poetry – Larry Jones, Room 208
The course instructor was inspired and encouraged by the late Kenneth Koch to pursue a career as a poet and educator. Koch revolutionized teaching children to appreciate great poetry and to be fearless in writing their own poetry. This class looks to model the Elizabethan age of Shakespeare to the post-modern era of John Ashbery and the so-called New York School.

5-8 | Literacy and Propaganda – Dominique Monaco, Room 205
We explore how propaganda (i.e., Areopagitica, written, film, commercials, etc) affects/affected major political and social decisions within a historical context. We look at major themes of world propaganda to see how propaganda influenced decision-making. Additionally, we scrutinize the role propaganda plays on citizens and humanity at large.

6-8 | STEAM – Instructors TBA, Room 200
This class, students work together in hands-on ways to solve project-based, real-world problems. New projects and ideas will be explored for new and returning students.

K1 | Secrets of the Deep – Valerie Waxman, Room 202
Students are invited to dive deep into the ocean and explore sea animals. Each week, students are introduced to a new sea animal, and we analyze the animal’s anatomy, discover what it eats, and learn about its predators.

2-4 | Mysteries of Science – Instructors TBA, Room 203
How can we knock down a wall made of concrete? What do birds see? Can a statue’s shadow move? Students tackle one mystery at a time through exploration and experiments in an efforts to make the world a little more mysterious and a little more transparent.

2-4 | Poetry – Lauren Coniff, Room 216
Students explore different types of poetry – haiku, end rhyme, free verse, and sonnet – and learn to write their own poems using various poetic styles. This class is an opportunity for students to become creative and expand their knowledge of literature.

2-4 | Survival of the Fittest – Colleen Burke, Room 209
Here you ever wondered why pandas bears don’t live on Long Island? In this course, we explore different habitats and the animals that live there. Each week we study the amazing adaptations that allow animals to survive in different environments. We also dive into the mind of Charles Darwin and examine evolution. Students are sure to have a great time on our adaptation exploration!

4-6 | Ancient Greece – Dominique Monaco, Room 205
Students learn about the geography, achievements, daily life, and cultural characteristics of ancient Greece through primary and secondary sources. Also, students discover how Greece’s achievements will be a factor in influence for future civilizations.

5-8 | Character-Driven Fiction – Larry Jones, Room 208
Stephen King and Joyce Carol Oates are the two most prodigious and popular American novelists writing today. They and others employ and endorse a theory of character-driven fiction, wherein plot emanates from a problem or question posed to a protagonist. Other modern American writers whose works are considered include William Saroyan and Alice Munro. Students will be encouraged to submit their stories for publication in periodicals for young writers.

5-8 | Conversational Spanish – Amarillos Morel, Room 206
Bienvendia! (Welcome) Students with an interest in learning the Spanish language will enjoy this fun and exciting course. Topics covered include an introduction to conversations, verbs, popular phrases, and Spanish culture. Students create their own illustrated books written in Spanish and present them to family and friends during the final class.

5-8 | Business and Law – Gina Beyer, Room 217
Students explore the legal system and learn about the roles of different attorneys, the functioning of the court system, and the role of the jury. Students also have the opportunity to conduct a mock trial to determine if the person on trial is guilty or innocent. Students also have an opportunity to conduct a mock trial to determine if the person on trial is guilty or innocent.

6-8 | Do You Live Next Door to a Millionaire – Gina Beyer, Room 217
Based on the concepts explored in the best-selling book The Millionaire Next Door, this class covers simple spending and saving habits that can lead to more cash in the bank than most people earn in their lifetime. We look at the demographics of today’s under-achievers, tackle the critical money mistakes many people make, and dissect the basics needed for financial independence.

SESSION 1 — 9:30-10:30 a.m.
SESSION 2 — 10:30-11:30 a.m.
SESSION 3 — 11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.