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 23.

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 lower level.

Room Assignments
All classes are held on the lower level 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.

Allison Amico  Room 20
Gina Beyer  Room 15
Colleen Burke  Room 14
Kathleen Gilmartin  Room 26
Larry Jones  Room 12
Bobbi Knight  Room 25
Dominique Monaco  Room 18
Amarillis Morel  Room 13
Valerie Waxman  Room 28

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.

Spring 2019 Hofstra Gifted Academy
Saturday, March 2-May 18, 2019
(No classes March 23, April 6, April 20, and April 27)
9:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.
Breslin Hall, South Campus
K1 | STEAM – Kathleen Gilmartin, Room 26
Science, Technology, Engineering, Art, Math. Students learn problem solving through hands-on experiments and projects as we create, build, test, and solve project-based, real-world problems through these five very important disciplines.

K1 | Beginner Spanish – Amarillos Morel, Room 13
Bilingual conversations. 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 to read, write, and speak Spanish, and are introduced to Spanish culture.

2-3 | Future Geologists – Valerie Waxman, Room 28
Future geologists learn about a new type of nonfiction text. We read and write narrative nonfiction, diagrams, and timelines, and much, much more!

3-5 | Web of Life – Bobbi Knight, Room 25
Students learn about ecology and developing an understanding of the interdependent web of life that plants and animals depend on for survival. Students study several life cycles that exist throughout the living world as they engage in hands-on experiments.

4-6 | Brick by Brick – Colleen Burke, Room 14
Students often wonder if they can take what they learn in their math class and use it in the real world. Well, in this course, the answer is always yes. Students discover how geometric concepts are applied in architecture. They also explore mathematical principles, such as the Pythagorean Theorem, and discover how they relate to the design and building of structures. Students use essential geometric concepts such as area, perimeter, and circumference, as well as learn to work backwards. This course engages students in important mathematical concepts such as the Fibonacci sequence, the golden ratio, symmetry in nature, and appropriate dimensions and measurement conversions. Parents! This is a very exciting way for you and your child to expand their geometry skills through real-world application.

5-8 | Modern American Fiction – Larry Jones, Room 12
F. Scott Fitzgerald, Ernest Hemingway, and William Faulkner defined fiction not only for mid-20th century America but indeed for the world. We consider some themes of the three writers, focusing on the right to a fair trial, the genre, and the role of the narrator. We also explore deductive reasoning by utilizing numbers as clues to solve mysteries. Students also learn to identify the parts of an atom. Students will be blown away by witnessing how matter can change, through both physical and chemical reactions. Let’s get our giggles ready!

5-8 | A Postmodern Mythology – Larry Jones, Room 12
Classical Greek mythology has informed medicine, law, and literature for some 3,000 years. Through the lens of the past, despite recent discoveries made in the present, we consider how our current generation chooses to education in these classics through his contemporary Percy Jackson and the Olympians series of novels. In addition to reading and discussing The Lightning Thief and its sequels, we consider their sources in the legends of Mesopotamia, The Trojan War, and Greek art and architecture. Students develop a greater understanding of the processes and reasoning aligned with scientific interactions.

5-8 | You’re the Jury – Dominique Monaco, Room 18
The main focus of the class is to increase the student’s understanding of the American judicial system, focusing on the right to a fair trial. A mock trial is held each week, and students learn the meaning of key words such as plaintiff, defendant, witness, and judge. Each week students examine the legal, ethical, and social issues involved in the case and make a decision. Guilty or Not Guilty? If there is a trial, the class will write and act out our own court case. Note: New court cases are discussed each semester.

5-8 | Energy and Matter – Bobbi Knight, Room 25
Students explore the different types of energy and form of matter. As students conduct research and experiments, they develop a greater understanding of the processes and reasoning aligned with scientific interactions.

5-8 | Run Your Own Company – Gina Beyer, Room 15
From the basics of the bottom-up model to the top-down approach, students explore the economics of being a business. We’ll walk through developing and protecting a idea, the manufacturing process, raising money for the business, marketing and selling, and the most important part – making a profit!

5-8 | Numbers, Patterns, and Shapes, Oh My! – Kathleen Gilmartin, Room 26
This program develops a solid foundation in basic concepts of math, including number-related work, sorting, graphing, patterns, time, addition, subtraction, and money. Students learn by using hands-on manipulatives, so the concepts being developed have a concrete base. Note: Test lessons are planned each semester.

5-8 | Calling All Ornithologists – Valerie Waxman, Room 28
What is Ornithology? Why do birds fly? Soil birds evolve from dinosaurs? What are the largest and smallest birds? What do they eat? Do they really fly south for the winter? Budding ornithologists explore, learn, and create birds.

2-4 | Where in the World? – Allison Amico, Room 20
Do your child you want to travel the world? See different lands? Celebrate different holidays? Learn about different cultures? Each week we “travel” to a different continent and learn about a different country. There’s no need to pack, just sit back and enjoy a world tour of stories and activities such as games, songs, crafts, and experiments.

2-4 | Plant and Animal Adventures – Bobbi Knight, Room 25
Students learn about the basic needs of living organisms and how their needs are met through the exploration of a series of biology-based topics, such as adaptations, biodiversity, and classification.

4-6 | Playwriting as Playmaking – Larry Jones, Room 12
The element of “what if” is central and essential to the origin of narrative, regardless of the genre, but especially to theater. In addition to responding to improvisational prompts, students survey plays by classic and contemporary masters such as Bertolt Brecht, Eugene Ionesco, Federico Garcia Lorca, Sean O’Casey, and August Wilson. The curriculum draws upon two remarkable texts, Making Theater by Herbert R. Kohl, and Playmaking by Daniel Judith Silber.

4-6 | Follow the Leader – Colleen Burke, Room 14
Students explore deductive reasoning by utilizing numbers as clues to solve mysteries. Students also develop their creativity through solving mystery and logic puzzles, as well as learn to work backwards. This course engages students in important mathematical concepts such as the Fibonacci sequence, the golden ratio, symmetry in nature, and elementary number theory.

5-8 | Historical Presidents – Dominique Monaco, Room 18
Students discuss American presidents and how they changed the face of America with their policies. Presidents such as Washington, Jefferson, Jackson, Lincoln, T. Roosevelt, FDR, JFK, Nixon, Carter, and Reagan are discussed. Students also review the election process to better understand how a president and vice-president are chosen.

5-8 | Conversational Spanish – Amarillos Morel, Room 13
Bilingual! (Welcome) Students with an interest in discovering 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 that are presented to family and friends during the final class.

5-8 | Making Theater – Gina Beyer, Room 15
Students study drama and the arts. Students also survey plays by classic and contemporary masters such as Bertolt Brecht, Eugene Ionesco, Federico Garcia Lorca, Sean O’Casey, and August Wilson. The curriculum draws upon two remarkable texts, Making Theater by Herbert R. Kohl, and Playmaking by Daniel Judith Silber.

5-8 | Run Your Own Company – Gina Beyer, Room 15
Students learn the fundamentals of managing a business and what it means to value its materials. They explore around how to generate the money we need, save enough money to buy the things we want, and grow the money we have. We cover budgeting, needs vs. wants, using money, earning interest, and investing, as well as different types of loans and credit cards.