THE GATEWAY SCHOLARS PROGRAM
AT BRANDEIS UNIVERSITY

PROGRAM OVERVIEW
The goal of the Gateway Scholars Program is to prepare high-performing and talented international students for the rigorous standards of coursework at Brandeis University. The Gateway Scholars Summer Program consists of Welcome Week, which is a compulsory preparatory week that provides important groundwork for academic expectations at Brandeis, followed by a six-week intensive academic program.

PROGRAM BENEFITS
SUPERIOR ACADEMIC PERFORMANCE:
Gateway Scholars often outperform other international students at Brandeis, and are highly accomplished. Many Gateway Scholars have high GPAs, many are on the Dean’s List, and many become members of the Phi Beta Kappa Honors Society.

ACADEMIC AND SOCIAL ADVANTAGES:
Gateway Scholars have weekly one-on-one meetings with an academic tutor throughout their freshman year to systematically improve their work for writing-intensive classes like Composition and the University Writing Seminar. They also have the support of Upperclassmen Buddies, American undergraduates who help familiarize Gateway Scholars with the social aspects of life at Brandeis and in the Boston area.

THE GATEWAY SCHOLARS SUMMER ACADEMIC PROGRAM:
COURSE DESCRIPTIONS
In this six-week academic program after Welcome Week, Gateway Scholars take three intensive classes in critical reading, analytical writing, and oral communication skills through the study of short fiction, non-fiction, and various academic texts.

CRITICAL READING IN THE HUMANITIES AND THE SOCIAL SCIENCES
This course prepares Gateway Scholars for the high level of critical reading that is expected at Brandeis. Students learn effective reading strategies for tackling difficult material and how to analyze challenging academic texts. In the process, students dramatically increase their academic vocabulary, improve their analytical skills to interpret and critique texts, and reach a greater understanding of American and Western cultural norms and controversies.

ANALYTICAL WRITING
This course prepares Gateway Scholars for the high level of analytical writing that is expected at Brandeis. Students learn how to summarize a text effectively, recognize the elements of good academic writing from paragraph structure to thesis development, and select and use evidence to produce effective analysis. Students learn how to construct a convincing argument in a 4-page final paper, which will go through multiple stages of pre-drafts and revisions. In the process, students learn how to close-read and analyze texts to identify patterns of thought to isolate for critique. Students then learn how to structure a written argument in the most effective way and develop the rudiments of style. Apart from constructing a straightforward argument, students also learn about satire, which is a form of expository writing which uses humor and irony to make strong social criticisms. Students will also try their hand at playwriting; drama is a literary genre that is rich and rewarding, and students learn how to interpret meaning in different ways to transform prose into action.

ACADEMIC ORAL COMMUNICATION
This course focuses on strategies to improve important aspects of students’ oral communication skills in an academic setting, including effective classroom participation, effective presentation skills, good pronunciation, intonation and diction, as well as positive interactions with instructors, advisors and peers. Students are expected to participate actively in class discussions, ask questions, and contribute viewpoints effectively in class. Activities include listening to weekly guest lectures, learning and practicing listening strategies, and taking part in a weekly practicum.

PROGRAM DETAILS
Gateway Scholars Program Summer 2015

Welcome Week: 29 June – 3 July
Six-week Intensive Academic Program: 6 July – 14 August

PROGRAM SCHEDULE
Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday
9.00am – 4.00pm
The three academic courses are usually followed by guest lectures from Brandeis professors, office hours with course instructors, study time, or special performances in the Boston area.

Thursday
3-hour Practicum Session for Academic Oral Communication

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT:
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