SUMMER AT SMITH
PRECOLLEGE PROGRAMS FOR EXCEPTIONAL YOUNG WOMEN

FOR ACADEMICALLY TALENTED YOUNG WOMEN ENTERING GRADES 9, 10, 11 AND 12 IN FALL 2018
Summer Precollege Programs at Smith College offer intellectually stimulating and unique opportunities for high school young women who wish to pursue their academic interests in the classroom and beyond. Every year these programs offer more than 200 young women the freedom to explore challenging and intriguing subjects, to strengthen their college applications and to sample the Smith undergraduate experience while living and studying with other motivated and ambitious students from around the world. Smith welcomes to these programs young women from many nationalities and diverse racial and socioeconomic backgrounds who together form an extraordinary intellectual community. The learning environment is hands-on, collaborative, exploratory, challenging and rich in role models. Smith faculty members offer personal attention in the classroom while encouraging students’ interests and passions and helping them develop new academic skills. Participants get a taste of college life on Smith’s beautiful 147-acre campus, with its traditional ivy-covered buildings, magnificent gardens and Paradise Pond. Students live together in college houses, and Smith undergraduates serve as resident supervisors and teaching assistants. All meals are served in the house dining rooms. The Smith campus is just steps away from downtown Northampton, Massachusetts, regularly cited as among the best college towns and best small arts towns in the country. Students take courses and workshops throughout each day and can choose from a variety of organized cultural, social, athletic and artistic activities at night and on the weekends. Here young women are taken seriously and inspired to excel—as scholars, scientists, writers, researchers and leaders.
The Summer Science and Engineering Program (SSEP), now in its 29th year, is a unique four-week residential program that will give you a taste of both college life and college-level science. You will attend small classes taught by top-notch faculty members from Smith and nearby colleges, and you will learn what it’s like to be a working scientist. Central to the SSEP program is a dynamic learning environment that is hands-on, cooperative, investigative and challenging. Our instructors will ask a lot of you, yet give you plenty of room to grow and discover your interests. From distillation and PCR analysis to coding and robot design, SSEP courses are rigorous and relevant.

SSEP participants report that they return to high school with more confidence and ability in the sciences. Best of all, this is your chance to get to know other young women—from all over the country and around the world—who are as interested in science as you are.

Past courses include Microcontrollers and You: An Introduction to Arduino; Introduction to Python Programming; Designing Intelligent Robots; Designing and Building Drones; The Chemistry of Herbal Medicine; Your Genes, Your Chromosomes; Fighting Infections Using Soil Bacteria; Biomedical Ethics; Global Young Women’s Health.

“To see only women pursuing science was very empowering”
**Writing**

"My class helped me step out of my comfort zone and encouraged me to begin writing a longer project that I may never have attempted otherwise."

**YOUNG WOMEN’S WRITING WORKSHOP / JULY 8-21 / $3,000**

This unique, writing-intensive workshop focuses on you, the writer. Small classes help you develop your interest in writing, tap into your creativity and advance your writing skills in a variety of areas from screenwriting and poetry to fiction and memoir writing. Each class has an emphasis on generating new work. Working with published authors, participants lay the groundwork for developing a strong writing portfolio and learn the steps involved in publishing their work.

Past courses include Writing in Response to Art; I-Fiction; Poetry; Memoir; How to Generate and Revise New Writing; Young Adult Fiction; Screenwriting; Playwriting.

**History**

"I really loved being able to talk with other young women about history, art, politics, civil rights, body image and many other topics."

**HIDDEN LIVES: DISCOVERING WOMEN’S HISTORY / JULY 22-AUGUST 4 / $3,000**

A training ground for women’s history enthusiasts, this program allows you to explore the lives and legacies of American women through an immersive research experience. You will learn about women who have altered the course of American history through reform, mobilization, cultural interventions and outright rebellion. We will explore the lives of Gloria Steinem and Sylvia Plath, visit art museums, try on period clothing and visit local historic sites like the Emily Dickinson homestead. Smith College is situated in the Pioneer Valley, which has a rich history of activism from abolition to reproductive justice to LGBT rights. During this program, we will spend time in the archives and examine documents that chart the history of these movements. You will gain archival research skills and college-level experience in this hands-on exploration of women’s lives.
This one-week program is for rising high school juniors and seniors who are beginning to look at colleges. You will learn to successfully navigate the complicated college application process and gain a competitive advantage when applying to colleges. Your instructors will be Smith’s own professional admission staff as well as visiting admission officers from other top-ranked colleges and universities. Learn to write a college-level essay, to ace a college admissions interview and to give an introductory speech. Along with getting to know the Smith campus, you will visit Mount Holyoke College and UMass Amherst. The program will give you a new confidence during interviews and help you to feel comfortable talking about yourself and your achievements. You will also come away with a better idea of the type of college or university that might be a good fit for you.

FIELD STUDIES FOR SUSTAINABLE FUTURES / JULY 22–AUGUST 4 / $3,000

This program is for the environmentally conscious student who wants to explore her interest in conservation in a cohesive, directed way. As a participant, you will learn about sustainable living and environmental science and policy through a hands-on, interactive, project-based approach. Much of the program is conducted in the field, and you will engage in a variety of activities as you hike the forests of western Massachusetts, traverse various elements of a sustainably built challenge course, visit local farms and renewable energy facilities, and tour buildings constructed to conform to the highest environmental standards. “I liked the emphasis on sustainable agriculture. It was interesting to learn about the agricultural impact on the environment, especially in such a hands-on way.”

Sustainability

Applying to College

COlLEGE ADMISSION WORKSHOP / JULY 22–28 / $1,650

“I would recommend this program to anyone who wants to feel confident and prepared when applying to college.”

#Sustainability

#ApplyingtoCollege
Application Information
For more information and to submit your application, visit: www.smith.edu/summer.

WHO SHOULD APPLY
Summer Precollege Programs at Smith are open to academically talented young women who will enter grades 9, 10, 11 and 12 in fall 2018. Enrollment is limited to ensure a quality academic experience. The program’s selective admissions process is based on a student’s academic performance in middle or high school, a written essay and a teacher recommendation. Students must have a strong record of academic achievement, a high level of motivation and a willingness to explore.

APPLICATION PROCESS
Applications will not be reviewed until all materials (application, essay, recommendation, transcript and financial aid application, if applicable) have been received. It is the applicant’s responsibility to ensure that all materials necessary for a complete application are received by Summer Precollege Programs at Smith. Admissions are rolling until all programs are filled.

Financial aid is available on a limited basis. Applicants must submit a complete application with all materials by the listed deadline to be considered.

FEES
Fees vary by program. Program fees cover the costs of all organized program activities, housing, meals, classroom books, supplies, and field trips.

• Summer Science and Engineering Program: $5,800
• Young Women’s Writing Workshop: $3,000
• Hidden Lives: Discovering Women’s History: $3,000
• Field Studies for Sustainable Futures: $3,000
• College Admission Workshop: $1,650
• Application Fees: $50 April 23 and earlier, $100 after April 23.

FIELD TRIPS AND GETAWAYS
Field trips are a part of many precollege programs and included in the fees. Getaways are fun, optional weekend trips that may have an additional fee to participate. Visit the website below for additional information.

IMPORTANT DATES AND DEADLINES
• December — 2018 Program application opens.
• March 1 — Priority Deadline *
  To be considered in our first round of applicants, a complete application is due at this time.
• March 1 — Financial Aid Deadline
  All applicants requesting financial aid must submit a complete application by March 1. Incomplete applications will not be considered.
• March 31 — International Student Application Deadline. Applications and $100 international student application fee are due at this time. Incomplete applications will not be considered. For more information on required materials for international students, visit www.smith.edu/summer.
• April 24 — The $50 application fee increases to $100 on this date.
• June 1 — Last day applications will be accepted for domestic students. **

* After March 1, admission outcomes are determined on a rolling basis. Students are encouraged to submit a completed application as soon as possible. Programs are closed once they reach capacity.
** Applications are accepted through 11:59 p.m. Eastern Standard Time on June 1, 2018.

VISIT WWW.SMITH.EDU/SUMMER FOR ADDITIONAL DEADLINES AND DATES.

“It was an amazing course. The instructor was incredibly kind and encouraging of all of our work.” — 2017 Women’s Writing Participant
“I loved how we were able to do the experiments ourselves. We had access to technology that wouldn’t normally be available in a high school classroom.”
— 2017 Summer Science and Engineering Student

www.smith.edu/summer