Courses Offered

West Virginia Governor's Honors Academy

West Virginia: Wild and Wonderful in a Remote World

July 11 - 25, 2026

West Virginia University

Meet Your GHA Faculty!

Andrew Allison



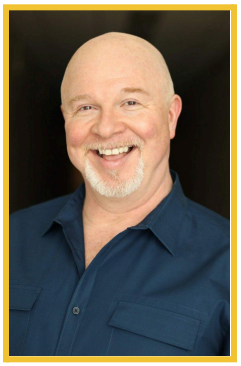
Dr. Andrew Allison is a post-doctoral fellow in business ethics with the WVU John Chambers College of Business and Economics. He earned his Ph.D. in Philosophy from the University of Calgary and a Master's in Philosophy from the University of Waterloo. His research is focused on the philosophy of money. He proudly hails from Galt, Ontario, though he is happy to have made his home in the green rolling hills of West Virginia.

Kevin Barry



Dr. Barry is a Teaching Associate Professor in the Department of Biology, and the Associate Chair for Advising, Recruitment, and Retention. He earned his Ph.D. in Biology from the University of Maryland, where he researched the role of phenology in interactions between native and invasive plants. He teaches classes across all levels of the undergraduate curriculum: Introductory Biology and Introductory Physiology for first-year students; Ecology and Evolution for sophomores; and Conservation Biology for upper-level students.

Lee Blair



Lee Blair is Associate Professor of Acting & Musical Theatre at WVU. His teaching emphasis is in comedy, musical theatre and auditioning. For WVU, Lee has directed *Cinderella, Cabaret, The Pirates of Penzance* among others, and with Tennessee Governor's School, Fairmont State University, and St. John's University/College of Saint Benedict (St. Joseph, MN). Professionally, Lee has directed for West Virginia Public Theatre, Greenbrier Valley Theatre and is a member of Actors' Equity Association and SAG-AFTRA.

Bramsh Qamar Chandio



Bramsh Qamar Chandio is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Chemical and Biomedical Engineering at WVU. Dr. Chandio' earned her PhD in Intelligent Systems Engineering from Indiana University Bloomington and Postdoctoral training from University of Southern California. Dr. Chandio's primary research focuses on developing machine learning and statistical tools for brain mapping using diffusion MRI, with applications in understanding neurodegenerative and psychiatric disorders.

Heather Cole



Heather Cole is a Teaching Associate Professor at West Virginia University, where she teaches for the Game Design and Interactive Media major. She advises the game developers club, directs the nonprofit game studio MonRiverGames, and leads both the International Game Developers Association Game Education Special Interest Group and West Virginia Chapter. She earned her MFA from Goddard College in Vermont and BFA (as well K-12 arts teaching certification) from Penn West Edinboro.

James Cole



James Cole is a Teaching Assistant Professor and adviser in the Department of Psychology at WVU with a specialization in Neuroscience. James earned his Ph.D. in Neuroscience from the University of Virginia Medical School, where he studied retinal development, degeneration, and circadian rhythms. At WVU, he teaches NRSC 101: Introduction to Neuroscience, PSYC 301/NRSC 201: Biological Foundations of Behavior, PSYC 427: Neuroscience of Sleep, and NRSC 431: Cognitive Neuroscience.

Sarah Dawn Cooper



Sarah Cooper is the Program Coordinator for the ASPIRE Office at WVU where she works with students applying for nationally competitive scholarships. She earned a BA in German, a BS in Visual Journalism, and an MA in World Languages, Literatures & Linguistics from WVU before attending a Slavic Studies Program in Bamberg, Germany. Having taught both English and German in the US and abroad, Sarah enjoys learning new languages, navigating international spaces, and exposing herself to new ways of thinking.

Charmaine D Souza



Charmaine D'Souza is a purpose-driven strategist, creative thinker, and Director of Operations at West Virginia University's Kendrick Center for an Ethical Economy. Her work brings together education, ethics, entrepreneurship, and leadership to create meaningful impact and help retain talent in West Virginia. With experience across business, policy, design, and partnerships, she is passionate about helping young people think critically and build thoughtful futures.

Gregory Dahle



Dr. Greg Dahle teaches sustainable living, sustainable urban forests, and arboriculture at West Virginia University. His research focuses on how trees grow and withstand environmental forces—essentially, why they stay standing during storms. Before academia, Greg worked as an urban forester in California, helping businesses, cities, and utility companies maintain healthy, resilient trees. His work bridges science and real-world sustainability, shaping greener communities for the future.

Acacia Daken



Acacia Daken is a voice and dialect coach, actor, and educator working internationally. Originally from Australia, Acacia has an MA in Acting and MFA in Voice Studies from the Bristol Old Vic Theatre School. She is currently an Assistant Professor of Voice at West Virginia University. Acacia's coaching spans theatre, film, television, and voiceover, with clients appearing in productions for Netflix, Amazon Prime, Apple TV+, and ABC Australia. Her work focuses on vocal empowerment, embodied technique, and inclusive practice.

Geoffrey Foster



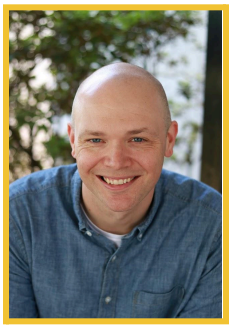
Geoffrey Foster is a PhD student in the Education Theory and Practice Program at WVU. He graduated with his Masters in mathematics at WVU in 2025 and did his undergraduate work at Bethany College. He focuses his research on mathematics preservice teachers as well as preservice teachers and their views on data literacy.

Steven Frisch



Dr. Frisch is a Professor of Biochemistry and Molecular Medicine at the WVU Cancer Institute. His contributions include the discovery of anoikis, a programmed cell death process that suppresses tumor metastasis, as well as discovery of two novel tumor suppressor genes. He also studies the age-dependence of cancer.

James Froemel



James Froemel is an actor and storyteller specializing in Appalachian tall tales. A four-time winner of West Virginia's "Biggest Liar Contest," he has performed at the National Storytelling Festival and led storytelling workshops for community and professional organizations. He serves as Associate Director of Recruitment for the West Virginia University College of Creative Arts and Media.

Amy Gentzler



Dr. Amy Gentzler is a Professor in the Psychology Department at WVU. She was trained in social psychology and developmental psychopathology. Amy and her lab study people's emotional development, often focusing on how youth think about and pursue happiness. Their lab also studies factors that affect people's emotional development such as children's attachment to parents or teens' use of social media. They are excited to share the science of relationships and emotions with WV high school students!

Terese Giobbia



Dr. Terese Giobbia is Associate Professor and Coordinator of Art Education. She received her Ph.D. degree in Art & Design Education from Northern Illinois University and earned a BS in Art from the University of Wisconsin-Madison's School of Education. Her research interests include art, design and technology education in PreK-21 school curriculum; Fashion as Public Art; and the hybrid identity of American youth as seen through their clothing. Dr. Giobbia's book chapters, books, and articles on curriculum, instruction and assessment have appeared in numerous international and national publications.

Terry Gullion



Dr. Terry Gullion is a Professor in the Bennett Department of Chemistry and a Fellow of the American Physical Society. He received his Ph.D. in Physics from the College of William and Mary. Dr. Gullion teaches courses in physical chemistry at the undergraduate and graduate levels. His research focuses on the development and application of solid state NMR spectroscopy. He is perhaps best known for his NMR studies of the chemical composition of insect wings.

Dogukan Guner



Dr. Dogukan Guner is a Teaching Assistant Professor in the Department of Mining Engineering at WVU. His work focuses on rock mechanics, geomechanics, underground excavation, ground control, mine design, and geomechanical modeling. He is dedicated to advancing engineering education through applied, research-informed teaching that incorporates modern computational tools, practical problem solving, and real world mining applications. His research combines experimental investigations and numerical modeling to better understand rock behavior and support safer and more efficient underground engineering systems.

Heather Harris



Dr. Heather Harris is the Curator of Education at the Art Museum of West Virginia University and a Service Assistant Professor of Art History and Museum Professions. Her research focuses on collaborative processes in art museum education, especially in long-term and multi-visit projects. At the Art Museum, she designs curriculum-integrated experiences for PK-12, undergraduate, and graduate students. She also creates inclusive and accessible programming for WVU's faculty, staff, and students, as well as the broader community.

Dan Hollis



Dan is both an award-winning professor of media at Marshall University and an award-winning journalist. He was named the (2012) West Virginia Professor of the Year by the Carnegie Foundation and has earned each of the three major awards for teaching Marshall University bestows. His creative work focuses on telling West Virginia stories. He has earned an Emmy Award from the Ohio Valley Chapter of the National Academy of Television Arts and Sciences (2023) and three Edward R. Murrow region 8 awards (2017, 2018 and 2020). This is his 25th year with the Academy.

Tyler Hollis



Tyler is a first-year chemistry graduate student at West Virginia University. His research focuses on utilization of solid-state NMR to understand the structure of various metal-organic frameworks and their interactions with chemistry warfare agent analogs.

Cody Hood



Cody is a Teaching Assistant Professor in the School of Mathematical and Data Sciences at West Virginia University. In 2021, he earned his Ph.D. in Mathematics with an emphasis on Research in Undergraduate Mathematics Education, focusing on student understanding of the definite integral in application contexts. He received his Bachelor of Science in Mathematics in 2013 and his Master of Science in Mathematics in 2015, both from WVU. Cody is a coach for the West Virginia National Math Team, where each year 20 of the state's top-performing high school students travel to Penn State for a national math competition. He has taught at the Governor's Honors Academy since 2014 and looks forward to continuing to share his knowledge and to learning even more. In addition to relishing his time at GHA, Cody has a particular interest in running, as well as statistical and data analysis, with a special emphasis on fantasy football.

Bridget Jamison



Bridget is the Instruction & Public Services Archivist at the West Virginia & Regional History Center, the archives and special collections of WVU Libraries. She works with students and instructors who want to incorporate archival materials into their projects and classes and with researchers who visit from all over the state, region, and beyond. She is passionate about shape-note music, historic newspapers, and genre fiction.

Cathleen Johnson



Cathleen Johnson is the Executive Director of West Virginia University's Kendrick Center for an Ethical Economy, Kendrick Chair of Economics, and Associate Professor of Economics. Her work advances ethics and economics education across West Virginia, with a focus on economic literacy as a means to human flourishing. She is passionate about helping students and educators think critically about prosperity, leadership, and the future of the Mountain State.

Maureen Kaddar



Maureen Kaddar is a Teaching Associate Professor in WVU's School of Theatre and Dance where she teaches a variety of dance techniques as well as yoga, wellness, partnering, dance composition, and dance history, and where she choreographs for dance concerts and musicals. Prior to teaching in higher education, Maureen traveled internationally with the Paul Taylor Dance Company.

Susan Jennings Lantz



Dr. Susan Jennings Lantz, Teaching Associate Professor of Business Communication and Coordinator of the WVU Campus Read, advances interdisciplinary inquiry and critical thinking at WVU. She emphasizes helping students think deeply and communicate clearly. In the John Chambers College, she teaches Business Communication and has led study abroad programs in Brazil and Bahrain, taught in China, and served as a Provost's Living-Learning Fellow. She also organized the Campus Read since 2016, engaging the campus with prominent authors and ideas. Lantz has worked across multiple university units and published in several outlets. Outside work, she enjoys discussing books and pop culture with her family.

Miriam Leary



Dr. Miriam Leary is an Associate Professor in Exercise Physiology, a large pre-health program, within the School of Medicine. She teaches undergraduate and graduate courses in exercise physiology, cardiovascular physiology, and exercise nutrition. Dr. Leary is a Registered Clinical Exercise Physiologist and her expertise centers on cardiovascular and vascular physiology. Outside of work, she enjoys resistance training and staying active to keep up with her two young sons.

Christopher Lituma



Dr. Chris Lituma is an Avian Ecologist at West Virginia University. He teaches Vertebrate Natural History and Ornithology. He fell in love with birds as an undergraduate. His research focuses on a variety of issues including songbird responses to non-native invasive insect pests, birds as potential vectors of tick-borne diseases, and plant pathogens, and bird responses to forest management and timber practices at local and landscape scales. Some focal species include Golden-winged Warbler, Cerulean Warbler,

Wood Thrush, Eastern Whip-poor-will, and Ruffed Grouse.

Britton Cody Lumpkin



Dr. Cody Lumpkin is an assistant professor of English at Marshall University, where he teaches courses in film, Appalachian literature, and creative writing. His writing has been published in *Prairie Schooner*, *Tar River Poetry*, *Third Coast*, and *New Orleans Review*. He also co-hosts the podcasts *Herdcon Bookchats* and *Giant Bombs*.

Ashton Marra



Ashton Marra is a Teaching Associate Professor at West Virginia University, where she teaches news writing, video storytelling and community-focused journalism. She has worked in nonprofit, public and commercial media newsrooms in New York City, Ohio and West Virginia, and her reporting has appeared nationally on NPR and PBS, as well as "Good Morning America."

Brenden McNeil



Brenden has taught Climate System Science, Environmental GIS, and Remote Sensing at WVU since 2008. He explores the world for fun and research with boots, bikes, boats & skis, as well as virtually with lasers and fancy cameras mounted on towers, drones, planes, and satellites. His high-school aged kids think he is obsessed with trees, and they are not wrong.

Sean McWilliams



Sean McWilliams is a Professor of Physics and Astronomy and the Director of the Center for Gravitational Waves and Cosmology. He researches a variety of topics related to Einstein's theory of General Relativity, including black holes and gravitational waves, and he was part of the LIGO team that first directly observed gravitational waves in 2015.

Joshua Meadows



Joshua Meadows is a Service Assistant Professor of Management Information Systems at West Virginia University and the Director of Data Driven WV, a student-powered consulting center that helps nonprofits, small businesses, and local governments solve real-world data and technology challenges. A first-generation college graduate from rural southern West Virginia, Joshua is passionate about creating hands-on learning opportunities that make education meaningful and accessible. His work focuses on applied analytics, digital opportunity, and using technology to empower Appalachian communities.

Paul Miller



Dr. Paul Miller is a Teaching Professor in Physics and Astronomy. He teaches and coordinates the first semester of physics for STEM students and teaches conceptual physics. Paul has 27 years of teaching experience between high schools and West Virginia University. He has worked with students and teachers at all levels. His interests include physics education, informal science education, plasma physics, and physics demonstrations.

Colleen Moretz



Colleen Moretz is Associate Professor of Fashion Design at WVU. She earned her MFA from Marywood U. and a BS in Fashion Design from the U. of Delaware. Her creative scholarship explores sustainable design processes, including zero-waste, transformation, digital textile printing, and upcycling. A former buyer and entrepreneur who launched her own bridal brand, Moretz brings industry experience into the classroom. Her award-winning designs have been recognized by the Int.l Textile and Apparel Assoc. Her research and teaching focus on integrating sustainability and innovation into fashion design education.

Bill Nese



Bill Nese is a graduate student in the C. Eugene Bennett Department of Chemistry. His intent is to earn a PhD in the area of Physical Chemistry. His doctoral research focuses on NMR structural analysis of nerve agent analogs absorbed into metal-organic frameworks. When not researching, Bill helps to prepare for and run WVU's Children's Chemistry Show (a demo show for all ages) held annually in December.

Linda Nield



A Rhode Island native, Dr. Linda S. Nield earned her MD from Dartmouth Medical School in 1990. Since 1993, she has been on faculty at the WVU School of Medicine, and is currently the Associate Dean for MD Admissions, Professor of Medical Education and Pediatrics, and the Co-Director of the Pediatrics Residency Rural Scholars Program. Dr. Nield has mentored hundreds of students over the past four decades, especially those pursuing a career as a physician.

Oluwatobi Odeleye



Dr. Oluwatobi (Tobi) Odeleye is an Associate Professor in the Department of Chemistry at West Virginia University (WVU). She is a chemical education researcher, and her research interests focus on various factors that influence students' attitudes towards chemistry and STEM fields in general. She believes that the classroom environment and the teaching practices employed by instructors play essential roles in influencing student attitudes towards chemistry, which research has shown can impact student retention in STEM fields. She is a strong advocate of learner-centered classrooms and continues to investigate ways to make her classroom environment learner-oriented

Julie Hicks Patrick



Julie is a lifespan developmentalist and Professor of Psychology. She studies physical, emotional, cognitive, and social wellbeing among families at mid- and late-life. Although her Appalachian/West Virginia roots run about 5 generations deep, she was born in Ohio. Like her own kiddos say, "I wasn't born here, but I got here as quick as I could!"

Khrystyna Pelchar



Khrystyna Pelchar is pursuing a PhD in Political Science at West Virginia University. Khrystyna's research interests include comparative politics, democratic governance, security, and cooperation. She co-authored the publications in the journal Problems of Post-Communism and a PONARS policy memo. In her upcoming dissertation, Pelchar will use Ukraine's Prozorro and Dozorro systems to illustrate the effectiveness of institutional changes aimed at achieving European Union accession.

Michael Sherwin



Michael Sherwin is a multimedia artist exploring scientific, cultural, and historical interpretations of the natural world. He has won numerous grants and awards for his work and has exhibited and lectured widely. Sherwin earned an MFA from the University of Oregon in 2004, and a BFA from The Ohio State University in 1999. Currently, he is a Professor of Art in the School of Art and Design at West Virginia University.

Guilherme Pereira



Guilherme Pereira is a Professor of Robotics at West Virginia University (WVU). He received his bachelor's and master's degrees in electrical engineering, and his Ph.D. in computer science from the Federal University of Minas Gerais (UFMG), Brazil. Prior to joining WVU, he was a professor at UFMG for 14 years. He has also held visiting scientist positions at the University of Pennsylvania and Carnegie Mellon University. At WVU, he directs the Field and Aerial Robotics Laboratory and chairs the Robotics Engineering Curriculum Committee. Dr. Pereira is a certified instructor for FANUC and Universal Robots.

Devin Smart



Dr. Devin Smart is an environmental historian and Assistant Professor of History at West Virginia University. He received the Outstanding Teacher Award from WVU's Eberly College for 2023-24, and he was also a Faculty Fellow with the Honors College in 2021-22 where he developed a course on the history of climate change. Dr. Smart also spends much of his free time running, hiking, and cycling in the woods of West Virginia, and he is looking forward to the experiential learning portions of his GHA class that will be set in the forests in and around Morgantown.

Douglas Squire



Doug Squire is a Charleston native and a Nitro High graduate. He attended GHA in 1998 at WVU and has taught at GHA since 2011. Having earned both his BA and MS in mathematics from WVU, Doug was on the mathematics faculty at WVU from 2006-2021. In 2010, he won the Eberly College of Arts and Sciences Outstanding Teaching Award, and in 2011, he won the WVU Foundation Award for Outstanding Teaching. Later, he was a Master Instructor and an Instructional Coach at The Art of Problem Solving. He is coauthor of the textbook Applications of Calculus. He currently teaches at George Washington High School in Charleston. He likes to play racquetball, ski, travel, and he is a huge WVU fan. Let's go Mountaineers!

Angela Uriyo



Dr. Angela Uriyo is an Assistant Professor of Fashion Design and Merchandising at WVU. She received her BSc and MSc from Virginia Tech, and Ph.D. from the University of Missouri-Columbia. Her research and teaching center on *Regenerative Design Innovation*, which means creating fashion in ways that help both people and the planet. This framework emphasizes transforming materials and narratives into enduring value by minimizing waste, extending product life cycles, and integrating emotional and cultural memory. Through her scholarship and award winning pedagogy, she promotes sustainable practices, ethical entrepreneurship, and circular design models.

Lauren Wamsley



Lauren M Wamsley, MPH, has been the Director of Outreach and Recruitment for the MD degree at the WVU School of Medicine since 2013. Born and raised in Tucker County WV, she earned her Bachelor's degree and MPH from WVU, and she has committed her career and volunteerism to improving the lives of the people of WV. Ms. Wamsley has extensive experience in advising pre-medical students and providing outstanding mentorship to students throughout the country.

Matthew Wilson



Dr. Matthew (Matt) Wilson is a Professor of Animal Sciences in the Davis College of Agriculture and Natural Resources. He received his Ph.D. in Physiology of Reproduction from Iowa State University. He is the Director of the WVU Alliance for Regenerative Livestock developing predictive algorithms to determine dry matter intake using machine learning, studying feed and water use efficiency, and the impact of grazing on soil health. He is involved in work to train service dogs for US military veterans in need, and helps train US Army Special Forces Medics in animal agriculture and has a developing focus on agricultural development internationally.

Intensive Courses

These courses are intended to address GHA students' greatest academic strengths and interests and should take the students into the depths of the subject matter. Intensive courses meet 2.5 hours daily **(1:30-4 pm)** for ~10 days and culminate in a final project that will be presented at the Academic Showcase on Saturday July 25, 2026 (9-11:30 am).

Each student will be enrolled in **one of the 10 available** Intensive Courses (labeled I-1 through I-10) for the duration of GHA. Intensive course information is provided in the table below.

Course Identifier	Course Instructor (Field), Institution	Intensive Course Title - Brief Description (Each course is offered once and for the full two weeks of GHA.) Intensive Course Meeting Days = July 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, & 17; and July 20, 21, 23, & 24)
I-1 **1:30-4 pm** **G21 LSB (Downtown)**	Kevin Barry (Biology), WVU	**Where is Home? Where Wild Organisms Live and Why** - Where do you consider "home"? How about the "home" of the wild animals and plants that live near you? Come learn where animals and plants live, and why they live there. We will also observe and identify organisms in the wild. *Some class meetings will involve outdoor walking tours/hikes. Dress appropriately for the weather (e.g., sneakers, hat, sunglasses, sunblock/bug spray) and bring a water bottle. Would like to visit the following with his students. Will need van & driver. ● Tuesday July 14 - Core Arboretum ● Monday Jul 20 - Mason-Dixon ● Tuesday Jul 21 - Coopers Rock
I-2 **1:30-4 pm** **2514 (Art Ed) Creative Arts Center (Evansdale)**	Terese Giobbia (Art & Design), WVU	**CACHE-Me If You Can Design Challenge!** - Attention all pathfinders and seekers!! Dive into this unique GPS project by designing Art-CACHE Travel Bugs for placement into a Canoe Kiosk you paint and install in a designated public space in West Virginia. Learn how to create your own GEOCACHE webpage allowing you to track visits and public feelings about the art sculpture after they have located the Art-CACHE. Discover techniques used in designing and painting the canoe kiosk art sculpture that will house the Art-CACHE; how to design and manufacture an Art-CACHE Travel Bug and how to design a GEOCACHE webpage to track views of the sculptures and public feelings about the art. As geocachers find the art, you will be able to log into the location online and see how different communities react to the art over time. Introduces students to the painting styles and techniques of Appalachian artists and includes trips to the Smithsonian to experience a GEOCACHE adventure and the public space where the structure and Art-CACHE Travel Bug will be placed.
I-3 **1:30-4 pm** **442 Evansdale Crossing - Media Innovation Center (Evansdale)**	Ashton Marra (Media), WVU	**Sounding the Future: Producing the GHA Narrative Podcast** - In a remote world where digital innovation allows us to connect from anywhere, what happens to our "Wild and Wonderful" roots? This project-based immersion course teaches you to become a narrative architect, using professional audio technology to document the vision of West Virginia's future leaders – you and your GHA classmates! You will produce your own 5-to-8-minute conversational and/or narrative podcast episode for a GHA-wide anthology titled "The Appalachian Exchange: Dispatches from the Digital Frontier." You'll hunt for stories by interviewing GHA peers to explore how your generation is using digital tools to honor and preserve Appalachian culture – at GHA or in

		any other part of your life. Would like to arrange out of class interviews. ● Monday July 20 - Van driver (MRB) and adult passenger (Dan Hollis) are needed to transport three GHA participants to EVC at 4:15 pm for interview with a GHA podcast class member. Also, the GHA podcast member will remain behind during class and an RA must remain with the student and instructor. ● Thursday July 23 - Students remain behind to finish editing their podcasts. 5:30 pm pickup.
I-4 **1:30-4 pm** **415 Brooks (Downtown)**	Brenden McNeil (Geology & Geography), WVU	**Webcam Windows on the Wild Wonderful Seasons of West Virginia** - Come explore the changing seasons of the WVU Arboretum from a remote webcam, and IRL with fieldtrips. Along the way, gain some valuable skills in image analysis and knowledge about the important role of WV forests in mitigating climate change. *Some class meetings will involve outdoor walking tours/hikes. Dress appropriately for the weather (e.g., sneakers, hat, sunglasses, sunblock/bug spray) and bring a water bottle. Would like to visit the following with his students. Will need van & driver. ● Monday July 13 - Core Arboretum ● Tuesday July 14 - Core Arboretum ● Wednesday July 15 - Granville Fire Station, and then Arboretum
I-5 **1:30-4 pm** **G51 & 103 White Hall (Downtown)**	Sean McWilliams (Physics & Astronomy), WVU	**Cosmic Explosions!** - In 1054, a dying star in our Milky Way exploded in a supernova that briefly may have outshone the Moon in the night sky. When a pair of black holes collide, they emit more energy in gravitational waves than the amount of energy emitted in light by every star in the Universe, combined. There are events happening regularly, in our own galaxy or the wider Universe, that are so intense and cataclysmic that they are hard to imagine, and yet we know that they occur, and we understand a great deal about them through a combination of astronomical observation and fundamental physical principles. In this course, we will explore what we know and what we don't yet know about these remarkable phenomena.
I-6 **1:30-4 pm** **3000 Reynolds Hall (Downtown)**	Joshua Meadows (Management Information Systems & Supply Chain), WVU	**AI-Powered Entrepreneurship** - What if you could go from idea to startup in just two weeks? In this course, you will use cutting-edge AI tools to design, build, and pitch your own app or startup idea. You don't need to know how to code. AI will help you move quickly from concept to prototype while you learn how real entrepreneurs build companies. Working in teams, you will identify a real problem, create a digital solution, and present your startup at a final Demo Day. If you enjoy technology, creativity, and big ideas, this course will show you how AI is changing the way the next generation of founders builds the future
I-7 **1:30-4 pm** **5006 Creative Arts Ctr (Evansdale)**	Michael Sherwin (Art & Design), WVU	**Sunlight & Signal: Imaging Appalachia in a Remote World** - What does "Wild & Wonderful" look like through your eyes? In Sunlight & Signal, you'll explore West Virginia through digital photography and cyanotype, a historic, sun-developed printing process that turns your images into striking blue works of art. Using your own personal photographs, meaningful objects, and new photographs made around West Virginia University, you'll create work that reflects your lived experience of Appalachia. This course blends hands-on experimentation, critical thinking, and creative storytelling. You'll learn how to edit and present your work for both physical display and online platforms

		producing images that move beyond stereotype and offer an authentic, student-driven perspective on West Virginia today.
I-8 **1:30-4 pm** **913 ESB (Evansdale)**	Guilherme Pereira (Mechanical, Materials & Aerospace Engineering), WVU	**Robotics for the Industrial Appalachia** - In this hands-on course, you'll learn how industrial robotic arms operate and how to program them to perform real tasks used in today's factories. You'll work in a state-of-the-art robotics lab, tackling challenges inspired by industries across West Virginia, from manufacturing to agriculture. The course wraps up with a final project where you design a practical robotic solution to a real problem faced in the Appalachian region. If you're excited about robotics, automation, and engineering solutions that make a difference, this course is for you. *Course is limited to 15 students.
I-9 **1:30-4 pm** **302 Brooks (Downtown)**	Cody Hood (Mathematical & Data Sciences), WVU (replacement for Douglas Squire)	**Advanced Topics in Competition Math and Discrete Math** - Is math easy for you? Do you want more of a challenge in your math classes? If so, this class is for you. We will examine many advanced mathematical topics in this class. We will focus our study on math that shows up in high school math competitions, including discrete math, combinatorics, sets, logic, and even some calculus topics much more difficult than those in a standard high school math curriculum. Finally, we will look closely at some casino games and the math behind them.
I-10 **1:30-4 pm** **G141 & 1125 South Ag Sci (SAS) (Evansdale)**	Angela Uriyo & Colleen Moretz (Fashion Design & Merchandising), WVU	**From Commodity to Keepsake: Feedsacks, Crazy Quilts, Fashion, and Appalachia in a Remote World** - What happens when an ordinary object becomes something worth keeping? In this course, students will explore how Appalachian families turned feedsacks, fabric scraps, and everyday materials into garments, quilts, and keepsakes filled with memory, creativity, and care. Through sewing, printing, embroidery, collage, and digital design, students will experiment with transforming common materials into a project of their own. Along the way, they will also examine how Appalachian culture is shared today through videos, online archives, and digital storytelling. The course invites students to think like makers, researchers, and cultural storytellers as they create a final keepsake that connects West Virginia's heritage to life in a connected world.

Broad-Based Courses

These courses are intended to expand students' knowledge base in areas that are not necessarily viewed as the individual's strengths or primary areas of interest and should be introductory. It is intended for students who probably do not have previous background in the subject. Broad-based courses meet four times for 75 minutes.

Each student will be enrolled in **four different** Broad-Based Courses **of the 22 available** (2 different courses per week). Broad-based course offerings are detailed in the two tables below. The first eight broad-based courses (B-1 through B-8) are offered twice, once during Week 1 (meeting July 13, 14, 16 & 17) and once during Week 2 (meeting July 20, 21, 23 & 24). The last 14 broad-based courses (B-9 through B-22) are only offered once and during either the first week (July 13-17) or second week (July 20-24) week of GHA.

Course Identifier	Course Instructor (Field), Institution	Broad-Based Course Title - Brief Description (Each course is offered twice and once each week of GHA.)

		Wk 1 = July 13, 14, 16, & 17; and Wk 2 = July 20, 21, 23, & 24)
B-1 (Wk 1) & B-1 (Wk 2) **9-10:15 am** **442 Evansdale Crossing - Media Innovation Center (Evansdale)**	Heather Cole (Art & Design: Game Design and Interactive Media), WVU	**Level Design Lite** - Explore the scenery, landmarks, and culture of Appalachia by creating your own digital game scene! In this course, you'll research a local historical landmark then use Unreal Engine to design a small, playable level inspired by your findings. You'll experiment with simple game mechanics (like platforming or movement based puzzles), environment design, and interactive storytelling, all while learning how research can be transformed into an engaging digital experience. By the end of the week, you'll have a playable micro-level to share with your classmates. No prior experience is needed, just your curiosity, imagination, and a willingness to play!
B-2 (Wk 1) & B-2 (Wk 2) **9-10:15 am** **G21 LSB (Downtown)**	James Cole (Psychology & Neuroscience), WVU	**Dreams: Health, Folklore, and Self** - Dreaming has been a cultural and psychological touchstone since the dawn of human history, but its underlying neural mechanisms remain a mystery. In this course, students will discuss dreams, where they come from, why they are so strange, and what they tell us about the human mind. By utilizing an interdisciplinary curriculum combining neuroscience, narratology, anthropology, and health sciences, students will analyze dreams both foreign and personal in a variety of academic frameworks.
B-3 (Wk 1) & B-3 (Wk 2) **9-10:15 am** **116 Woodburn (Downtown)**	Gregory Dahle (Natural Resources & the Environment), WVU	**Sustainable Urban Forest**s - We will discuss how trees help to make our urban areas a better place to live and how they provide numerous benefits beyond just shade. You will discover how to measure ecosystem benefits of urban trees using aerial imagery and web-based tools. Then apply your new skills to measure the ecosystem services of trees in their hometown or a chosen community. We will take at least one campus walk and directly explore the wonders of urban trees.
B-4 (Wk 1) & B-4 (Wk 2) **9-10:15 am** **438 (Podcast Studio), 440 (Think Tank), & 429 Evansdale Crossing) (Evansdale)**	Acacia Daken (Theatre), WVU	**The World of Voice Over** - Want to be the voice behind a commercial or animated character? This course explores the basics of voice over work and character development. Learn how to perform, record, and express with confidence in this fun, hands-on course.
B-5 (Wk 1) & B-5 (Wk 2) **9-10:15 am** **302 Brooks (Downtown)**	Dan Hollis (Journalism & Media), Marshall U	**Wild, Wonderful, Free, and Heard: Constitutional Rights in a Digital Appalachia** - Who decides what your rights mean when most everything you say, believe, buy, search or interact with, lives online? Wild, Wonderful, Free and Heard will be a fast-moving, discussion-driven seminar where you'll tackle the Bill of Rights and the 14th Amendment centered around topics your generation faces -- speech on social media, privacy in a surveilled world, religion and tradition in public life, equality in a digital age, your rights in school, and many others. Yes, we will talk about Supreme Court precedents, but we'll be more interested in your ideas. If you're ready to wrestle with big questions about freedom, enjoy respectful disagreement, hearing competing viewpoints, and thinking about what freedom should look like in the future, this class is for you.

B-6 (Wk 1) & B-6 (Wk 2) **9-10:15 am** **4205 Reynolds (Downtown)**	Cody Hood (Mathematical & Data Sciences), WVU	**Introduction to Python: Building Skills for the Digital World** - By the end of the course, students will use Python programming and Raspberry Pi devices to design and build hands-on computational projects that bring coding to life. Through interactive, project-based learning, students will explore how software can connect with and control real-world hardware, gaining experience with inputs, outputs, automation, and data collection. Projects may include smart device setups, sensor-based systems, simple applications, and other creative technology solutions. The course is designed to provide an engaging introduction to programming, computational thinking, electronics, and problem solving while giving students practical experience with tools and technologies used across modern STEM fields.
B-7 (Wk 1) & B-7 (Wk 2) **9-10:15 am** **101 & 308 Woodburn (Downtown)**	Britton Lumpkin (English), Marshall U	**Appalachian Film** - This broad-based course will consider the key aspects of Appalachian film and analyze these works as cinema and as models for the students' own creative film ideas. Students will view and examine a variety of films made in Appalachian by Appalachians from different decades that will refine and sharpen their rhetorical and observational skills regarding film analysis through classroom discussion and viewing activities and will serve as inspiration as they practice and develop various aspects of filmmaking and film analysis.
B-8 (Wk 1) & B-8 (Wk 2) **9-10:15 am** **101 & 209 (lab) Clark Hall (Downtown)**	Oluwatobi Odeleye (Chemistry), WVU	**Chemistry of Change: Science and Technology in a Transforming Appalachia** - Are you just a *little* curious about science, but you think "That's not my thing"? This course is for you! Come and learn about foundational concepts in general science (and chemistry) and how they apply in your everyday life, and also throughout the world! *When in the chemistry lab room, students must be properly attired (e.g., jeans, t-shirt with short/long sleeves, and closed toe/heel shoes - sneakers are best!). Students (parent/guardian signature required) in this course must read, fill out, and sign three lab safety forms: Contact Lens, Release for Child Under 18 Years of Age, and Undergraduate Safety Rules. These forms will be available at check-in but students in this course are welcome to print out and complete these forms proactively.

Course Identifier	Course Instructor (Field), Institution	Broad-Based Course Title - Brief Description (Each course is offered once during either Wk 1 or Wk 2.) Wk 1 = July 13, 14, 16, & 17; Wk 2 = July 20, 21, 23, & 24)
B-9 (Wk 1) **10:45 am-12 pm** **G21 LSB (Downtown)**	James Froemel (Creative Arts & Media), WVU	**Mountains and Memory - Storytelling** - In this workshop, you will learn to craft and share engaging, memorable narratives inspired by Appalachian storytelling traditions and your own unique experiences. Guided by a four-time winner of West Virginia's "Biggest Liar" contest, you will explore how humor, reflection, and regional culture shape stories that connect with audiences, while gaining confidence telling your stories in front of a group.
B-10 (Wk 1) **10:45 am-12 pm**	Amy Gentzler (Psychology), WVU	**Relationships (Online and Offline) and Mental Health** - Do you want to learn about the science of relationships? This class will provide an overview of psychological science on close relationships, both offline and online. You will have several opportunities to gain insight into your own approaches to

1115 Life Science Bldg (Downtown)		relationships and to engage in activities and discussions with the class. By learning about healthier relationships, social interactions, and the use of online tools (social media, AI), you may be better equipped to adjust your own behaviors going forward.
B-11 (Wk 1) **10:45 am-12 pm** **201 ESB (Evansdale)**	Dogukan Guner (Mining Engineering), WVU	**Wild and Wonderful Below Ground: Understanding Rocks and Engineering the Underground** - The mountains of West Virginia hide a fascinating underground world shaped by both nature and engineering. In this course, you will explore how rocks behave, how underground spaces are designed, and how engineers work to keep them stable and safe. Through interactive discussions, demonstrations, and a guided virtual reality experience, you will examine how geology and engineering connect beneath the surface. If you are curious about how the world works below ground, this course will give you a new way to think about the landscape around you.
B-12 (Wk 1) **10:45 am-12 pm** **6322 Downtown Library**	Bridget Jamison (Libraries), WVU	**Mountaineer Metadata for West Virginia History** - Learn to be a digital archivist at the West Virginia & Regional History Center! Here we make physical items from the state's past available online in digital form, and we create metadata to make those items understandable and discoverable. In this course, you'll learn foundational archival skills as we make West Virginia history visible to the world.
B-13 (Wk 1) **10:45 am-12 pm** **308 Percival (Evansdale)**	Christopher Lituma (Wildlife & Fisheries Resources), WVU	**Living Dinosaurs: Avian Ecology in West Virginia** - Dinosaurs are alive! But not as you might expect. Birds are what we have left of dinosaurs, they're fascinating organisms that we see daily. We can learn a lot about our planet through understanding avian ecology and conservation. This course will crack open the door of ornithology and you'll even learn to identify common West Virginia bird species! *Some class meetings will involve outdoor walking tours/hikes. Dress appropriately for the weather (e.g., sneakers, hat, sunglasses, sunblock/bug spray) and bring a water bottle. If you have binoculars, bring them! Also, writing utensils and notebook are needed for sketches and field notebook.
B-14 (Wk 1) **10:45 am-12 pm** **G119B RCB Health Sci Ctr**	Linda Nield & Lauren Wamsley (Medical Education), WVU	**Healing in the WV Hills: A High Schooler's Path to Becoming a Physician** - Did you ever wonder - how realistic is "Grey's Anatomy", "Scrubs", or "The Pitt"? In this course, you will learn what life is really like for doctors. The fascinating history of medicine, the varied medical specialties to treat a patient from head to toe, and the steps to applying to medical school will be discussed, along with the modern day technologies that help provide healthcare to patients in remote areas, like rural Appalachia.
B-15 (Wk 1) **10:45 am-12 pm** **302 Brooks (Downtown)**	Khrystyna Pelchar (Political Science), WVU	**How Government Really Works** - Dive into how governments really work and discover how government decisions shape real lives - from small Appalachian towns to global institutions. This course introduces you to the fascinating world of public administration, where you can see yourself as both the representative of the state and an educated citizen. It engages students in thinking critically about contemporary policies and applying theory to practice. You'll explore how accountability and transparency protect democracy, and see what happens when crises emerge. Through simulations, group tasks, and case studies, you will develop the analytical tools and critical insight needed to lead in today's fast-changing public sector.
B-16 (Wk 2)	Andrew Allison (Business &	**Philosophy & Personal Finance** - Young people are now inundated online with various ˜personal finance influencers", from Dave Ramsey to Caleb

10:45 am-12 pm **101 Woodburn (Downtown)**	Kendrick Center), WVU	Hammer to Haley Sacks. There is good reason for them to care about these questions! How we order our personal financial lives has an incredible impact on our education, career, and relationships. Going to university, a new stage of life, brings forward important personal financial questions: Should I go into debt? Should I take on a part-time job for extra income? Should I major in something more lucrative? This course gives students insights from over two thousand years of philosophy to help answer these questions.
B-17 (Wk 2) **10:45 am-12 pm** **201 ESB (Evansdale)**	Bramsh Qamar Chandio (Chemical & Biomedical Engineering), WVU	**Digital Brain Mapping: AI, MRI, and the Future of Medicine** - Every thought we have, every memory, emotion, and decision, is governed by the brain and billions of tiny cells called neurons. But can we actually map these complex networks digitally? In this course, you will discover how scientists use powerful technologies like MRI and artificial intelligence to create digital maps of the human brain and study how different regions communicate with each other. Through interactive demonstrations, brain visualizations, and real-world examples, you will explore how to study memory, learning, emotions, and neurological diseases. You will also learn how large brain datasets collected around the world can be analyzed digitally to reveal patterns that help improve medicine. If you are curious about the brain, technology, medicine, or the future of science, this course will give you an exciting introduction to how modern research is decoding the most complex organ in the human body - the brain.
B-18 (Wk 2) **10:45 am-12 pm** **302 Brooks (Downtown)**	Steven Frisch (Biochemistry & Molecular Medicine), WVU	**Understanding Molecular Aging Through Bioinformatics** - Recent developments in research have shown that aging -- the major risk factor for chronic diseases-- is biologically programmed and, significantly, reversible. This course will present the evidence and also show how recently developed software tools are used to quantify aging or the reversal of aging and to inform drug development to suppress aging.
B-19 (Wk 2) **10:45 am-12 pm** **G7 Art Museum Room (Evansdale)**	Heather Harris (Art History & Museum Professions), WVU	**Real Objects, Virtual Worlds: Museums in the Digital Age** - Does the world need museums in the digital age? If you can find images and information about almost anything online, what is the purpose of maintaining these "warehouses of culture"? What are innovative and exciting ways to maintain their relevance? You will get to explore apps, virtual tour software, and online databases that connect the world of things to the online world. The course will involve opportunities to create audio, video, or pictorial resources to help to engage the people of West Virginia with the Art Museum of WVU. You will also get behind-the-scenes access to the museum's galleries and collections as we prepare for our fall exhibitions. This is a rare opportunity to introduce objects hidden in the museum's vault to the larger world! *Class may function as Downtown class (no drive to/from Evansdale) on last day of class (Friday July 24).
B-20 (Wk 2) **10:45 am-12 pm** **G21 LSB (Downtown)**	Susan Jennings Lantz (Business Communication), WVU	**Cyberspace, Cryptids, and Coal Mines: Appalachia and Technology in Popular Culture** - How is West Virginia represented in popular films, video games, and books? Are the portrayals accurate, unsettling, or offensive? Come join a discussion of everything from Fallout 76 to The Hunger Games, to the Mothman, as we turn a critical eye to myths about the mountains and use our cyberskills to set the record straight.
B-21 (Wk 2)	Miriam Leary	**Your Body in a Digital World: Movement, Heart Health, and Appalachian**

10:45 am-12 pm **8601 HSC S (Health Sciences)**	(Exercise Physiology), WVU	**Living** - Ever wonder how your screen time, step count, and daily habits shape your long-term health? In this interactive, hands-on course, you'll explore how your heart works, why movement matters, and how digital tools - from fitness trackers to smartphones - are changing the way we understand wellness. You'll measure heart rate and blood pressure, track your own movement patterns, and discover how living in Appalachia influences health choices in a connected world. No science background required - just curiosity about your body, technology, and how small daily decisions can impact your future.
B-22 (Wk 2) **10:45 am-12 pm** **108 White Hall (Downtown)**	Paul Miller (Physics & Astronomy), WVU	**Calling Bull: Data Reasoning in a Digital World** - We are all awash in information, and the quality of this information is getting worse. We need data to understand our world and to make the best decisions. The word "bull" in English has no synonyms; it means language, data, or presentations designed to confuse or persuade without regard for truth or logic. In the context of science, we'll build our toolkit to interpret information and to recognize and respond to bull. You will develop skills during this course that you can use widely for the rest of your life.

Special Events, Off-Campus Outings, and Full Academy Presentations

2026 Date	Event Description
Saturday, July 11	**Tiered Move-In** (12:15-3:15 pm), Honors Hall **Opening Session** (3:30-4:30 pm, parents welcome, but leave by/before 4:30 pm), 202 Brooks **Community Building/Ice-Breaker w/RAs** (4:30-5:45 pm), 202 Brooks **Dinner** (6-6:45 pm), Summit Hall/Café (211 Grant Ave.) **Adventure WV: Get to Know Each Other Activities** (7-9 pm), Mountainlair Green or Mountainlair Ballrooms - location weather dependent)
July 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 20, 21, 23, & 24	**Wellness Activities** (Media Classroom, 1st FL, Honors Dorm) - Maureen Kaddar (Theatre & Dance), 6:45-7:30 am. **Wellness Activities** - A great mind loves a balanced body! Step into a space where you can stretch, breathe, reset, and recharge. Yoga and Wellness sessions offer you a chance to build strength, find calm, and have fun. Just bring your curiosity and a willingness to try something new.
July 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 19, 20, 21, 23, & 24	**Morning Meeting** (G15 LSB), 8:15-8:50 am.
July 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 20, 21, 23, & 24	**Pre-Dinner Activity** (Locations TBD: reserved are G11, G23, and G21 LSB), 4:15-5:45 pm.
Sunday, July 12	**Finding Your Purpose: Clifton Strengths** (WVU Purpose Center) & B**reaking the Bubble - A Conversation Starter** (Amy Gentzler, G15 LSB), 7-9 pm.
Monday, July 13	**Trivia Night** (Mountainlair Ballrooms) - hosted by Kevin Gooding, Honors College, 7-9 pm.
Tuesday, July 14, Wednesday, July 15, & Thursday, July 16	(i) **Planetarium Show**, WVU Planetarium (60 seat limit, White Hall), (ii) Let's "Really" Dance (2nd Fl, E. Moore Hall), or (iii) **Acting Like a Clown and Being Aware** (Meet in Media Classroom, 1st FL, Honors Dorm) - Lee Blair (Acting & Musical Theatre), 7-9 pm. **Acting Like a Clown and Being Aware** - Be silly, messy and creative as you become more aware of the world around you - all while wearing a clown nose. *Rotating schedule of three groups
Wednesday, July 15	**WVU Campus & WV Local Tours**, 9 am-12 pm. Students choose one of the 4 tours. Load buses in front of Summit/Honors at ~8:45 am.

	Note: Best to wear comfortable walking shoes for all tours. Closed toe/heel sneakers are best for all tours. Tours 3 & 4 will take place outside. Be prepared for the heat with water and anything else you may need (e.g., sunscreen, insect repellant). Tour 1 (Miriam Leary, meet circular drive in front of HSC near Pylons): **Explore the WVU Health Sciences Campus** through an engaging tour highlighting the innovation, discovery, and community impact of its research enterprise. Participants will learn about cutting-edge research conducted across multiple laboratories, including the Mountaineer Sports Medicine Research Laboratory, Vaccine Development Center, and other interdisciplinary research initiatives. The tour will showcase how WVU researchers are advancing healthcare through discoveries in human performance, disease prevention, drug and vaccine development, rehabilitation, and precision medicine while addressing the unique health challenges facing West Virginia and the broader region. Tour 2 (Cathleen Johnson & Charmaine D'Souza, meet in front of jumbo digital screen, front entrance on 2nd floor in Reynolds Hall Atrium): **John Chambers College Tour: Discover the Kendrick Fellows Program – Epic Trips, Elite Classes & $20K Bonus.** Want to change your stars? Join this tour of the John Chambers College of Business & Economics and get an inside look at one of its key initiatives: Kendrick Fellows Program. High-achieving West Virginia students explore big ideas in society, ethics, and leadership through elite classes, mentorship, and unforgettable experiences. Plus, earn a $20,000 bonus for living and working in West Virginia for two years after graduation. If you're motivated, curious, and ready to be part of something ambitious, competitive, and truly unique, this tour is for you! Tour 3 (Matt Wilson's team - Nathan Blake and Tylor Yost, meet at the Pavilion, the blue-roofed building): **Animal Science Farm (Stewartstown Rd): From Pasture to Progress – Exploring Livestock Research and Innovation.** Discover how agricultural research is shaping the future of livestock production during an interactive tour of one of WVU's research farms. Participants will explore how advances in animal science, precision livestock technologies, and data-driven management are improving the efficiency, sustainability, and welfare of beef cattle production. Along the tour, you'll learn about cutting-edge research conducted at WVU and in collaboration with researchers across the United States. Through real-world case studies and hands-on demonstrations, you'll see the technologies used to measure feed and water use, monitor animal performance, and generate the data that drive innovations in modern agriculture. This tour offers a unique behind-the-scenes look at how research discoveries translate into practical solutions that benefit producers, consumers, and the environment. Tour 4 (Devin Smart): **Exploring Appalachia's Future through the History of Coopers Rock State Forest**. What does Coopers Rock State Forest have to tell us about Appalachia's past, as well as where the region may be heading in the future? Participants in this tour will examine how nineteenth-century Appalachian communities extracted natural resources from this forest during the industrial age, but also

	how in the more recent past the park has become a major site of conservation and outdoor recreation. We will, therefore, consider the industrial past of this forest, as well as more recent trends to develop outdoor recreation and tourism as ways to create more sustainable economies in Appalachia. Come prepared to hike in a forest rich in history and to talk about the region's past, present, and future.
Thursday, July 16	**Chemistry Demo Show** (101 Clark Hall) - Terry Gullion, Bill Nese, and Tyler Hollis (Chemistry), 1:30-2:30 pm.
Friday, July 17	**Screening of "Small Town Universe" Movie & Panel** (Mountainlair Gluck Theatre), 7-9 pm - James Ingoldby - moderator; Ellie, Deana, & Josh White, and Clara Lehmann (WV filmmaker) - panelists.
Saturday, July 18	**WV Adventure Program Day** (Chestnut Ridge State Park), 9 am-5:30 pm. **Practicing Gratitude by Recognizing Educators & Influential People** (Mountainlair Ballrooms), 7-9 pm.
Sunday, July 19	**Use of WVU Campus Recreation Center,** ~1-5 pm. *Four courts for basketball, volleyball, badminton, pickleball; table tennis & bouldering on the climbing wall & swimming. Sign-ups for activities. **STEM Movie Night** (e.g.,Hidden Figures, Jim Allison: Breakthrough, Gattica, etc.), 7-9 pm. G15 & G11 LSB. *Sign-up to attend one of the TBD offered options.
Monday, July 20	**Presentations, 7-9 pm.** Students choose one of the 3 options to attend. (G11, G21, & G23 LSB)**.** Option 1 (Geoffrey Foster, G11 LSB): **You Can't Trust this Presentation** - Someone is going to try to trick you. Some of what you see will be real - some won't. By the end, you'll know how the internet manipulates people and how to spot it. Option 2 (Julie Patrick Hicks, G21 LSB): **The Awesome Psychology of Positive Emotions** - Positive emotions improve lives. We'll show you how to live a more awesome life! Option 3 (Sarah Dawn Cooper, G23 LSB): **Auf in die Welt! How German Opens Doors from Appalachia to Global Careers** - Discover how Appalachia connects with the German-speaking world through language, culture, and technology. This interactive session covers digital influences on German, study abroad, online learning options, and careers with companies like BMW, Volkswagen, and Siemens—plus a few basic German phrases.
Tuesday, July 21	**RA Devised Activity: GHA Talent Show** (Gluck Theater, Mountainlair), 7-9 pm (Piano available!)
Wednesday, July 22	**Trip to Washington, D.C**. - National Mall and Museums. All day, expected 5:45 am bus loading with 6 am departure.

Thursday, July 23	**WVU Summer Undergraduate Research Symposium** (Mountainlair Ballrooms). Visit for 1 hr during Intensive Course, 1:30-4:00 pm. *Two sessions - 1-2:40 pm & 3-4:40 pm. **Flex Evening** (work on Academic Showcase presentation) & **Surprise!**, 7-9 pm.
Friday, July 24	**Casino Night** (Mountainlair Ballrooms) - Cody Hood, 7-9 pm. *Students who volunteer as "casino dealers" must undergo training during a minimum of 3 days (4:30-5:30 pm, on 7/20, 7/21, & 7/23; Honors Group Mtg room) in place of pre-dinner activities.
Saturday, July 25	**Academic Showcase, Closing Ceremony, and Farewell** (9-11:15 am, Mountainlair Ballrooms) **Check-Out** (11:30 am-1:15 pm, Honors Hall Dorm)

Tentative 2-Week Schedule

2026 WV Governor's Honors Academy (GHA): Week 1
July 11-17, 2026 (Saturday to Friday)
(NOTE: faculty/staff will arrive/train on Friday July 10, 2026)

Week 1	Saturday	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
	July 11	July 12	July 13	July 14	July 15	July 16	July 17
6:00 AM							
6:30 AM							
7:00 AM	Breakfast (Faculty/Staff)	Wellness (6:45-7:30 AM, meet in Media Classroom, 1st FL, Honors Dorm) AND Breakfast (7-8 AM)	Wellness (6:45-7:30 AM) AND Breakfast (7-8 AM)	Wellness (6:45-7:30 AM) AND Breakfast (7-8 AM)	Wellness (6:45-7:30 AM) AND Breakfast (7-8 AM)	Wellness (6:45-7:30 AM) AND Breakfast (7-8 AM)	Wellness (6:45-7:30 AM) AND Breakfast (7-8 AM)
7:30 AM							
7:45 AM							
8:00 AM		Travel	Travel	Travel	Travel	Travel	Travel
8:15 AM		Morning Meeting (8:15-8:50 AM, G15 LSB)	Morning Meeting (8:15-8:50 AM, G15 LSB) AND Travel (instruct. escort to course location)	Morning Meeting (8:15-8:50 AM, G15 LSB) AND Travel (instruct. escort to course location)	Morning Meeting (8:15-8:40 AM, G15 LSB) AND load buses in front of Summit/Honors at 8:45 am	Morning Meeting (8:15-8:50 AM, G15 LSB) AND Travel (instruct. escort to course location)	Morning Meeting (8:15-8:50 AM, G15 LSB) AND Travel (instruct. escort to course location)
8:45 AM							
9:00 AM	Set up for Move-In	Attend Church OR Other RA Led Activity	Broad-Based Course 1 (9-10:15 AM)	Broad-Based Course 1 (9-10:15 AM)	WVU Campus & WV Tours - According to Student Interest (Animal Science Farm - Stewartstown (Nathan Blake & Tylor Yost); Reynolds Hall & Kendrick Fellows Program (Cate Johnson & Charmaine D'Souza); Health Sciences Center (Miriam Leary); & Cooper's Rock (Devin Smart)	Broad-Based Course 1 (9-10:15 AM)	Broad-Based Course 1 (9-10:15 AM)
9:30 AM							
10:00 AM							
10:15 AM			Travel from BB 1 (instruct. escort to 202 Brooks)	Travel from BB 1 (instruct. escort to 202 Brooks)		Travel from BB 1 (instruct. escort to 202 Brooks)	Travel from BB 1 (instruct. escort to 202 Brooks)
10:30 AM			Travel to BB 2 (instruct. escort from 202 Brooks to course loc.)	Travel to BB 2 (instruct. escort from 202 Brooks to course loc.)		Travel to BB 2 (instruct. escort from 202 Brooks to course loc.)	Travel to BB 2 (instruct. escort from 202 Brooks to course loc.)
10:45 AM			Broad-Based Course 2 (10:45 AM-12 PM)	Broad-Based Course 2 (10:45 AM-12 PM)		Broad-Based Course 2 (10:45 AM-12 PM)	Broad-Based Course 2 (10:45 AM-12 PM)
11:00 AM	Lunch for RAs, Admin, and Instructors Staying in Dorms (Honors Dorm RA Apt)						
11:30 AM							
12:00 PM	Set up for Move-In		Travel (instruct. escort to Summit Café)	Travel (instruct. escort to Summit Café)	Travel (to Summit Café)	Travel (instruct. escort to Summit Café)	Travel (instruct. escort to Summit Café)

WV Governor's Honors Academy 2026

12:15-1:15 PM	12:15-3:15 PM: Tiered Move-In to Honors Hall (250 2nd St., Morgantown, WV) - students sign up for a time to arrive	Lunch - Summit Hall/Café (211 Grant Ave.)	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch
1:15 PM		Travel (instruct. escort to course loc.)	Travel to Intensive (instruct. escort to course loc.)	Travel to Intensive (instruct. escort to course loc.)	Travel to Intensive (instruct. escort to course loc.)	Travel to Intensive (instruct. escort to course loc.)	Travel to Intensive (instruct. escort to course loc.)
1:30 PM		Intensive Course (1:30-4 PM)	Intensive Course (1:30-4 PM)	Intensive Course (1:30-4 PM)	Intensive Course (1:30-4 PM)	Chemistry Show (1:30-2:30 pm, 101 Clark Hall reserved, but tunnel work could disrupt)	Intensive Course (1:30-4 PM)
2:00 PM							
2:30 PM						Intensive Course (2:30-4 PM)	
3:00 PM							
3:30 PM	3:30-4:30 PM: Welcome/Opening Sessions/Farewell to Families (202 Brooks)						
4:00 PM		Travel (instruct. escort to G15 LSB)	Travel (instruct. escort to G15 LSB)	Travel (instruct. escort to G15 LSB)	Travel (instruct. escort to G15 LSB)	Travel (instruct. escort to G15 LSB)	Travel (instruct. escort to G15 LSB)
4:15-5:45 PM	4:30-5:45 PM: Community Building/Ice-Break with RAs (202 Brooks)	Pre-Dinner Activity (G11, G23, & G23 LSB reserved for use.)	Pre-Dinner Activity	Pre-Dinner Activity	Pre-Dinner Activity	Pre-Dinner Activity	Pre-Dinner Activity
5:45 PM	Travel/Break	Travel/Break	Travel/Break	Travel/Break	Travel/Break	Travel/Break	Travel/Break
6:00-6:45 PM	Dinner Summit Hall/Café (211 Grant Ave.)	Dinner	Dinner	Dinner	Dinner	Dinner	Dinner
6:45 PM	Travel	Travel	Travel	Travel	Travel	Travel	Travel
7-9:00 PM	Adventure WV: Get to Know Activities – Mountainlair Green (in case of rain: Mountainlair Ballrooms)	Finding Your Purpose: Clifton Strengths Workshop (Cate Schlobaum, (WVU Purpose Center) & Breaking the Bubble - A Conversation Starter (Amy Gentzler, G15 LSB)	Honors Trivia Night, Mountainlair Ballrooms (Kevin Gooding & Honors College - UgR/ASPIRE, & Pre-Health)	Dynamic Earth at WVU Planetarium, 7 PM, PL Flr, White Hall (Group 1); Let's "Really" Dance, 2nd Fl E Moore Hall (Group 2); Clowning (meet in Media Classroom, 1st FL, Honors Dorm; Group 3)	Dynamic Earth at WVU Planetarium, 7 PM, PL Flr, White Hall (Group 3); Let's "Really" Dance, 2nd Fl E Moore Hall (Group 1); Clowning (meet in Media Classroom, 1st FL, Honors Dorm; Group 2)	Dynamic Earth at WVU Planetarium, 7 PM, PL Flr, White Hall (Group 2); Let's "Really" Dance, 2nd Fl E Moore Hall (Group 3); Clowning (meet in Media Classroom, 1st FL, Honors Dorm; Group 1)	Movie Small Town Universe (90 min) & Panel – Mountainliar Gluck Theatre; Ellie & Josh White, Maura McLaughlin & Clara Lehmann;. James Ingoldsby - moderator)

9:00 PM	Travel/Break	Travel/Break	Travel/Break	Travel/Break	Travel/Break	Travel/Break	Travel/Break
9:15-10 PM	Down Time	Down Time	Down Time	Down Time	Down Time	Down Time	Down Time
10:15-10:45 PM	Evening Debrief w/RAs	Evening Debrief w/RAs	Evening Debrief w/RAs	Evening Debrief w/RAs	Evening Debrief w/RAs	Evening Debrief w/RAs	Evening Debrief w/RAs
11:00 PM	LIGHTS OUT	LIGHTS OUT	LIGHTS OUT	LIGHTS OUT	LIGHTS OUT	LIGHTS OUT	LIGHTS OUT

Notes: July 11 (3-6 pm): G15 LSB is also reserved. However, G15 LSB has 256 seats relative to the 342 seats in 202 Brooks.

2026 WV Governor's Honors Academy (GHA): Week 2
July 18-24, 2026 (Saturday to Friday)

Week 2	**Saturday**	**Sunday**	**Monday**	**Tuesday**	**Wednesday**	**Thursday**	**Friday**
	July 18	**July 19**	**July 20**	**July 21**	**July 22**	**July 23**	**July 24**
6:00 AM							
6:30 AM							
7:00 AM	Breakfast	Breakfast	Wellness (6:45-7:30 AM) AND Breakfast (7-8 AM)	Wellness (6:45-7:30 AM) AND Breakfast (7-8 AM)		Optional Wellness (6:45-7:30 AM) AND Breakfast (7-8 AM)	Wellness (6:45-7:30 AM) AND Breakfast (7-8 AM)
7:30 AM							
7:45 AM							
8:00 AM			Travel	Travel		Travel	Travel
8:15 AM	Morning Meeting & Load Buses	Morning Meeting (8:15-8:50 AM, G15 LSB)	Morning Meeting (8:15-8:50 AM, G15 LSB) AND Travel (instruct. escort to course location)	Morning Meeting (8:15-8:50 AM, G15 LSB) AND Travel (instruct. escort to course location)	**Washington, D.C. Field Trip** Museums/Monuments (faculty-led tour groups at the Mall) Lunch: Reagan Building Food Court Dinner: Los Amigos in Hagerstown, MD (29 N. Burhans Blvd, Hagerstown, MD, 21740) .	Morning Meeting (8:15-8:50 AM, G15 LSB) AND Travel (instruct. escort to course location)	Morning Meeting (8:15-8:50 AM, G15 LSB) AND Travel (instruct. escort to course location)
8:45 AM							
9:00 AM	Full day at Chestnut Ridge Ropes Course with Adventure WV (Lunch at Chestnut Ridge)	Attend Church OR Chill (on dorm floor)	NEW! Broad-Based Course 1 (9-10:15 AM)	Broad-Based Course 1 (9-10:15 AM)		Broad-Based Course 1 (9-10:15 AM)	Broad-Based Course 1 (9-10:15 AM)
9:30 AM							
10:00 AM							
10:15 AM			Travel from BB 1 (instruct. escort to 202 Brooks)	Travel from BB 1 (instruct. escort to 202 Brooks)		Travel from BB 1 (instruct. escort to 202 Brooks)	Travel from BB 1 (instruct. escort to 202 Brooks)
10:30 AM			Travel to BB 2 (instruct. escort from 202 Brooks to course loc.)	Travel to BB 2 (instruct. escort from 202 Brooks to course loc.)		Travel to BB 2 (instruct. escort from 202 Brooks to course loc.)	Travel to BB 2 (instruct. escort from 202 Brooks to course loc.)
10:45 AM			NEW! Broad-Based Course 2 (10:45 AM-12 PM)	Broad-Based Course 2 (10:45 AM-12 PM)		Broad-Based Course 2 (10:45 AM-12 PM)	Broad-Based Course 2 (10:45 AM-12 PM)
11:00 AM							
11:30 AM							
12:00 PM			Travel (instruct. escort to Summit Café)	Travel (instruct. escort to Summit Café)		Travel (instruct. escort to Summit Café)	Travel (instruct. escort to Summit Café)

12:15-1:15 PM		Lunch	Lunch	Lunch		Lunch	Lunch
1:15 PM		Load Buses	Travel to Intensive (instruct. escort to course loc.)	Travel to Intensive (instruct. escort to course loc.)		Travel to Intensive (instruct. escort to course loc.)	Travel to Intensive (instruct. escort to course loc.)
1:30 PM		Use of WVU Campus Rec Center (four courts - basketball, volleyball, badminton, pickleball; table tennis, bouldering & pool) AND Down Time	Intensive Course (1:30-4 PM)	Intensive Course (1:30-4 PM)		Intensive Course (1:30-4 PM) AND **Visit Summer Undergraduate Research Symposium** (WVU Mountainlair Ballrooms, 1-5 PM)	Intensive Course – Prepare for Academic Showcase! (1:30-4 PM)
2:00 PM							
2:30 PM							
3:00 PM							
3:30 PM							
4:00 PM			Travel (instruct. escort to G15 LSB)	Travel (instruct. escort to G15 LSB)		Travel (instruct. escort to G15 LSB)	Travel (instruct. escort to G15 LSB)
4:15-5:45 PM			Pre-Dinner Activity (inc. casino dealer training)	Pre-Dinner Activity (inc. casino dealer training)		Pre-Dinner Activity (inc. casino dealer training)	STUDENTS PACK!
5:45 PM	Travel/Break	Travel/Break	Travel/Break	Travel/Break		Travel/Break	
6:00-6:45 PM	Dinner	Dinner	Dinner	Dinner		Dinner	Dinner
6:45 PM	Travel	Travel	Travel	Travel		Travel	Travel
7-9:00 PM	Practicing Gratitude by Recognizing Educators & Influential People - Mountainlair Ballrooms	Movie Night (Several Options Available, Mountainlair G15 LSB & G11 LSB)	Evening Activity- Choose 1 of 3 Options, LSB Locations (You Can't Trust this Presentation (Geoffrey Foster, G11); The Awesome Psychology of Positive Emotions (Julie Patrick Hicks, G21); & Auf in die Welt! How German Opens Doors from Appalachia to Global Careers (Sarah Dawn Cooper, G23)	2026 GHA Talent Show, Gluck Theatre, Mountainlair (Piano available. RAs devise and run the event.)		Flex Evening (in case students need to work on Academic Showcase) & P.S. Surprise	Casino Night (Cody Hood & Doug Squires) - Mountainlair Ballrooms

9:00 PM	Travel/Break	Travel/Break	Travel/Break	Travel/Break		Travel/Break	Travel/Break
9:15-10 PM	Down Time	Down Time	Down Time	Evening Debrief w/RAs & EARLY LIGHTS OUT		Down Time	Down Time
10:15-10:45 PM	Evening Debrief w/RAs	Evening Debrief w/Ras	Evening Debrief w/RAs			Evening Debrief w/RAs	Evening Debrief w/RAs
11:00 PM	LIGHTS OUT	LIGHTS OUT	LIGHTS OUT			LIGHTS OUT	LIGHTS OUT

2026 WV Governor's Honors Academy (GHA): Final Day
July 25, 2026 (Saturday)

Final Day	**Saturday**
	July 25
6:00 AM	
6:30 AM	
7:00 AM	Breakfast (7-8:15 AM)
7:30 AM	
7:45 AM	
8:00 AM	Travel
8:15 AM	Set-Up for Academic Showcase
8:45 AM	
9:00 AM	Academic Showcase (WVU Mountainlair Ballrooms); Parents Strongly Encouraged to Attend Mountaineer Mascot invited!
9:30 AM	
10:00 AM	
10:15 AM	
10:30 AM	
10:45 AM	
11:00 AM	
11:30 AM	Student Check-out / Depart (Honors Dorm)
12:00 PM	
12:15-1:15 PM	
1:15 PM	