

# Qatar Academy

## Senior School Akhbar

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### Upcoming Events

#### April:

- 8<sup>th</sup> -12<sup>th</sup> Spring Break
- 14<sup>th</sup> – 17<sup>th</sup> Track and Field – CAC Cairo
- 14<sup>th</sup> ACT
- 18<sup>th</sup> -22<sup>nd</sup> ISTA Theatre Event (to be confirmed)
- 19<sup>th</sup> -22<sup>nd</sup> IB ART Exhibition and Exam TBC
- 19<sup>th</sup> Reports released on PowerSchool
- 22<sup>nd</sup> Earth Week Celebrations
- 24<sup>th</sup> ½ Day – Student Led Conferences grades 6 – 9
- 24<sup>th</sup> Non-Uniform Day (Student Council)
- 24<sup>th</sup> QA Idol (Student Council)
- 25<sup>th</sup> Community and Service Celebrations and Announcements during advisory for grade 8
- 27<sup>th</sup> -28<sup>th</sup> QA Community and Service Conference

### UNIFORMS and CLASS PLACEMENT

Dear Parents,

I'm writing to update you on two important topics – new uniforms and class placement. I'll begin discussing uniforms by thanking all parents and students as we struggled with disappointments around the new uniform design for the present school year. Over the past several months, we have been working to make sure this doesn't happen again. I'm happy to report to you we have made arrangements to outsource the uniform to a new company, Zaks, starting in August. Zaks is a company that specializes in school uniforms, and makes uniforms for many known and prestigious schools in the Gulf. We've entered into a contract with Zaks in which they are responsible for overseeing the workmanship and sale of the uniform. They have provided us with samples, and have made guarantees regarding the quality of both the material and the workmanship. In addition, they will have people available to custom make uniforms for students who do not fit normal sizes, at no additional cost beyond that of a pre-sized uniform. More information will be available closer to the end of the year, but we have been assured these new uniforms will be available by mid-August. We feel very strongly this new arrangement will avoid the problems we've experienced this year. Again, thank you for your patience.

As the end of the year approaches, parents often try to make requests for their children's teacher for the upcoming year. I want to let you know that all teachers have been asked not to accept parent requests for class placement. The school faculty and administration work very hard each year to create class lists. In doing this, they consider things like gender, academic level, language ability, friendships, behavior, group dynamics, and matching teacher strengths to student needs. While it is understandable parents may prefer a certain teacher for some reason, when we begin to take in parent requests it can begin to prohibit us from creating classroom environments that are best for each individual child as well as the learning group. As a result, we plan to hold firm to the policy of not accepting requests. Thank you in advance for your understanding.

Warm regards,  
Dr. Gregory Hedger,  
Director

### QA Mission Statement

It is the mission of Qatar Academy (QA) to provide internationally accepted, comprehensive, English medium programs plus Arabic and Islamic studies from preschool through to secondary graduation. QA develops independent critical thinkers, lifelong learners, responsible citizens, and empowers students to gain entrance to elite universities and colleges.

إن رسالة أكاديمية قطر هي توفير برامج شاملة باللغة الإنجليزية ومعتمدة دولياً بالإضافة إلى اللغة العربية والدراسات الإسلامية من الروضة إلى مرحلة التخرج من الثانوية. وتكون أكاديمية قطر متعلمين يتصفون بفكر نقدي مستقل ويطلبون العلم مدى الحياة، ويكونون مواطنين مسؤولين وتهينهم للانتساب لجامعات ومعاهد النخبة.

## **Grades 6-9 Student-Led Conferences** **12:00 – 3:00pm Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> April**



On Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> April students in grades 6-9 will conduct Student-Led Conferences with their parents and family members. Parents will receive an invitation letter on Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> April which will give you the opportunity to select the time of your conference. In advance of this letter, below is some information outlining the workings of the conference:

- ✚ On Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> April all students will be dismissed at 11:00am and need to go home at this time.
- ✚ Students will return to school with their parents/family to conduct the conference at the allocated time.
- ✚ Students need to bring a **charged** laptop.
- ✚ The conference will be conducted in the student's advisory room.
- ✚ The conferences can be conducted in the language of student choice and will focus on the Areas of Interaction, the Learner Profile and Community & Service Action.
- ✚ Conferences will last approximately 30 minutes.
- ✚ Brothers, sisters, aunts and other family members are very welcome to attend.
- ✚ Participation in the conference is compulsory. If a family member is not available then the students will conduct the conference with a teacher.

Regards,

*Tim Chute*  
*Assistant Principal: Middle Years*

*Mike Hitchman*  
*Senior School Principal*

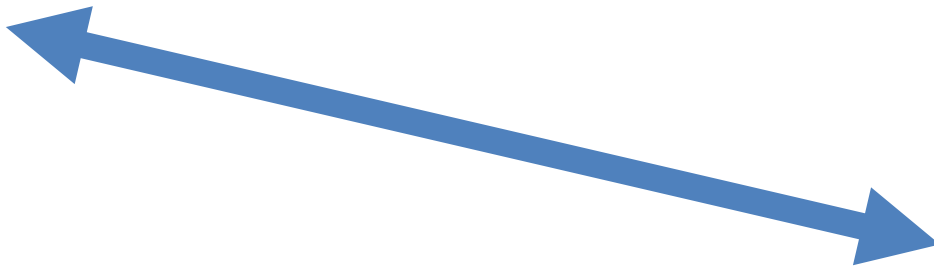
## الزي المدرسي وعملية توزيع الطلاب على الصفوف.

أعزائي أولياء الأمور الكرام،

أود من خلال هذه الرسالة أن أطلع سيادتكم على أمرين مهمين وهما الزي المدرسي وعملية توزيع الطلاب على الصفوف. كما أود في البداية أن أوجه شكري الجزيل لكم على الدعم الذي قدمتموه لنا خلال هذه السنة لمواجهة الصعوبات المتعلقة بالزي المدرسي الجديد. وبهذا الصدد أود أن أؤكد لكم أننا قد عملنا بجهد خلال الأشهر الماضية لكي نضمن عدم تكرار هذه المسائل مرة أخرى، وعليه يسرني أن أعلن لكم أنه قد تم التعاقد مع شركة جديدة لتوفير الزي المدرسي بدءاً من شهر أغسطس. الشركة التي تعاقدنا معها والمعروفة باسم "زاكس" متخصصة في تصميم الأزياء المدرسية ولقد قامت بتوفير أزياء لمدارس معروفة ومرموقة في منطقة الخليج. ستكون الشركة مسؤولة عن الإشراف على عمليات صنع وبيع الزي المدرسي. ولقد قامت بتوفير نماذج من الزي وضمانات تتعلق بجودة الخامة وإتقان الصنع. كما عرضت الشركة علينا أخذ مقاسات الطلاب الذين لا تتناسب معهم الأحجام العادية وتوفير الزي لهم دون أي تكلفة إضافية. سنقوم بتوفير معلومات أكثر مع نهاية هذه السنة الدراسية مع العلم أن الشركة قد أكدت لنا أنها ستقوم بتسليم الزي الجديد بحلول منتصف أغسطس. أنا أعتقد أن هذه الإجراءات والاستعدادات ستتمكننا من تجنب الصعوبات التي واجهناها خلال هذه السنة الدراسية. أشكركم مجدداً على صبركم.

مع اقتراب نهاية السنة الدراسية يقوم بعض أولياء الأمور بتقديم رغبتهم في اختيار معلم لابنهم/ابنتهم للسنة المقبلة، وبهذا الصدد أحيطكم علماً بأنه قد تم إخطار جميع المعلمين بعدم قبول أي طلب، حيث أن أعضاء هيئة التدريس والإدارة المدرسية على علم بالجوانب التي يجب مراعاتها عند توزيع الطلاب على الصفوف والتي تتمثل في: جنس الطالب، المستوى الأكاديمي، القدرة اللغوية، الصداقات، السلوك، مجموعات التعلم ونقاط القوة التي يمتلكها كل معلم وكيف يمكن أن تخدم احتياجات الطلاب المختلفة. أنا أنفهم أن لكل ولي أمر أسبابه الخاصة التي تجعله يفضل معلم على آخر، ولكن في الوقت نفسه لا أريد أن يكون هذا عائقاً أمام توفير البيئة الصفية الأنسب للطلاب سواء على المستوى الفردي أو على مستوى مجموعة التعلم التي ينتمي إليها. وعليه فلقد قمنا باعتماد سياسة عدم قبول طلبات اختيار المعلمين. أشكركم على تفهمكم.

أطيب التحيات/د. جريجوري هيدجر،  
مدير أكاديمية قطر

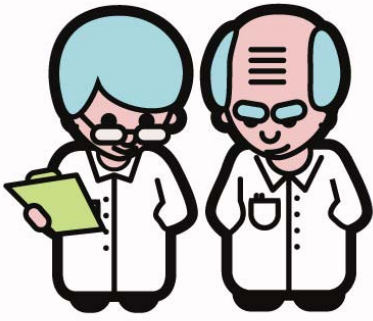


**On** Friday the 31st of March CMUQ held its annual BotBall Competition, an opportunity for high school students, from 30 schools to compete against each other with autonomous robots. There were teams from Qatar, Kuwait, Abu Dhabi, Egypt, and the UAE. This years' theme was saving a damaged coral reef and the students had to design and build two robots that would earn points by populating a fish farm, moving kelp onto the beach and building an artificial reef structure. There are three sections to the competition; DOCUMENTATION, both during the 8 weeks of designing and building that lead up to the competition and an on site interview with the judges, SEEDING rounds, where there is only one team on the board and they have two minutes to score as many points as they can and the Double Elimination KNOCKOUT round where there are two teams competing to see who can earn the most points in the two minute round. Please join me in congratulating this years team which consists of Abdullah Shakarchi, Mikheil Oganessian, Igor Pashkin, Sergo Oganessian, Arnav Jain , Taran Kanabar, Carlos Perez, Usama Ahmad , Muthanna Al-Ani, Paul Ilori. While; we did not place in the seeding rounds or in the overall competition, an accumulation of points from all three rounds. This year, the QA Thermo Nuclear Falcons took **Third Place in the Knockout round**, showing a strong ability to modify their strategy, their bots and recode under pressure, with many exciting and very close finishes. The team also repeated last year accomplishment of taking **First Place in the Documentation round**, demonstrating a strong understanding of the design cycle and the lessons learned from the engineering challenges they faced. Please join me in congratulating these students on their hard work, perseverance and a job well done.



*Coach  
Mark LeSurf*

## FUTURE DOCTORS OF QATAR...



Calling all Qatar students in grade 9 – 12 who may wish to pursue medical studies in the future, enter the annual ESSAY COMPETITION sponsored by Weill Cornell Medical College in Qatar to win a 2-week scholarship to New York City.

The theme this year is ‘Appreciating the Past to Achieve the Future’. Write an 800 word essay describing the healthcare system and its development in the last 50 years, and imagining its future for the next generation. Submit your ORIGINAL essay written in ENGLISH before 30th April.

Go to [www.qatar-weill.cornell.edu/](http://www.qatar-weill.cornell.edu/), click on the link ‘Healing Hands’ and follow the uploading instructions. We have had winners in 2009 and 2010 – it is now your chance!



Please see Ms. Brunning or Ms. Barini for more information

## **SUMMER 2012 OPPORTUNITIES...**

*(Updated as of 5 April, those with a \* are new this week)*



The programs listed below have been compiled based on information sent to our office. It is not comprehensive and many additional opportunities exist as well. We will continue to update, as new opportunities are made available to us.

### **IN EDUCATION CITY:**

**CARNEGIE MELLON UNIVERSITY SUMMER COLLEGE PREVIEW PROGRAM:** For G10 & 11 Students will be exposed to what “college” is all about—the academics and culture. Students will prepare to take the SAT or ACT. And participate in an exciting “hands-on” project in your chosen area of interest: Biological Sciences, Business Administration, Computer Science or Information Systems. The program runs from 1-19 July. Visit <http://qatar.cmu.edu/3001/summer-college-preview-program> for more information. \*\*\* Application Deadline is: April 12\*\*\*

Northwestern University SUMMER PROGRAM for g10 & 11: engages high school students through a variety of unique, hands-on learning opportunities in the fields of journalism and communication. The Northwestern University Media Institute summer program will run from July 1 to July 12, 2012. Applications are due by May 1, 2012. For more information, visit: [www.qatar.northwestern.edu/high-schools/programs-for-high-school-students.html](http://www.qatar.northwestern.edu/high-schools/programs-for-high-school-students.html) or email [emily-wilson@northwestern.edu](mailto:emily-wilson@northwestern.edu)

### **IN QATAR:**

**OXFORD LEARNING:** is offering individualized programs in English and Math for all ages and a SAT Prep course. For more information call: 4481-8434 or 4491-0777.

### **IN THE UAE:**

**ESMOD FASHION STORE IN DUBAI:** is offering a one-week and one-month summer courses on the “Discovery of Fashion 1.” From 1-31 July students will have instruction in fashion design and pattern making, professional make up application, and perfume. Visit [www.esmod-dubai.com](http://www.esmod-dubai.com) for more information.

## **IN THE UNITED STATES AND OTHER COUNTRIES:**

**NATIONAL STUDENT LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE:** 10-day conferences in cities across the US: New York City, Washington, D.C., Chicago, San Francisco. Choose a conference from the following areas:

- Business & Entrepreneurship
- Engineering
- Forensic Science
- Intelligence & National Security
- Law & Advocacy
- Medicine & Healthcare
- Theater
- Mastering Leadership
- Sports & Entertainment Management
- Education

Students will explore career options by participating in true-to-life simulations, meet with recognized leaders and professionals and experience living on a college campus. Visit [www.nslcleaders.org](http://www.nslcleaders.org) for more information.

**IB SUMMER SCHOOL AT STANFORD UNIVERSITY, CA, USA:** offers a full program of sports, activities, and social events for PRE and MID IB students. Also offers SAT review and information on the US & UK university application process. Visit [www.ibsummerschool.com](http://www.ibsummerschool.com) for more information.

**OXFORD/CAMBRIDGE ACADEMIC PROGRAMS in NYC, USA, ENGLAND, SPAIN, and FRANCE:** From Archeology to Zoology, they offer over 160 courses. There are a variety of humanities, social sciences and creative subjects – going above traditional classroom and school curricula. The programs in France and Spain offer French and Spanish language courses for all levels, taught in context by native speakers. For more information visit: [www.oxbridgeprograms.com](http://www.oxbridgeprograms.com)

**OSC PRE and MID-IBDP SUMMER SCHOOL in the UK, USA or Canada:** OSC offers a one-to-three week courses presenting students with an introduction to the DP with academic classes, workshops, seminars and cultural visits. The Mid-IB offers revision for IB Subject choices. Visit [www.osc-ib.com](http://www.osc-ib.com) for more information.

**THE GEORGE WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY in Washington, D.C., USA:** Pre-college program has one-three-or six-week sessions, The College Intensive program gives rising juniors and seniors the opportunity to earn college credit by engaging in challenging undergraduate coursework. The 6-week session allows students to enroll in GW summer courses alongside GW undergraduates. The 3-week and 1-week sessions are full-day undergraduate courses offered in an experiential format, and designed specifically for high school students. Courses are taught by GW faculty. Visit [www.precollege.gwu.edu](http://www.precollege.gwu.edu) for more information.

**MIDDLEBURY-MONTEREY SUMMER INTENSIVE COLLEGE ENGLISH PROGRAM, Rhode Island, USA:** The program will be hosted at Salve Regina University in Newport, RI, and is focused for students interested in attending university in the US. Students live in residence halls, attend language instruction, life skills workshops and co-curricular activities. Visit [www.go.miis.edu/ice](http://www.go.miis.edu/ice).

**BARNARD COLLEGE (partners with Columbia University) SUMMER IN THE CITY PROGRAM, NYC, USA:** Live and learn with the pre-college programs. Writing in the City, Architecture in the City, and a Young Women's Leadership Institute will be offered. Students will take courses and participate in extra curricular visits. For more information visit [www.barnard.edu/precollege](http://www.barnard.edu/precollege).

**OLE MISS SUMMER ACADEMY, University of Mississippi, USA for G8, 9 & 10:** A taste of college life! Students explore world cultures, human behavior, conduct science experiments, or work on a literary magazine. Many weekend activities are also planned. More information can be found at [www.outreach.olemiss.edu/summer\\_academy](http://www.outreach.olemiss.edu/summer_academy).

**UNIVERSITY OF MISSISSIPPI (OLE MISS): SUMMER COLLEGE FOR INTERNATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS: For G10 & 11:** there are programs in Art, Computer Science, Engineering, Pre-Health professions, Integrated Marketing, Intensive Spanish, Journalism, Legal Studies and various other liberal arts studies. Students will take courses, experience college life, and participate in local activities. Visit [www.olemiss.edu/schs](http://www.olemiss.edu/schs).

**SUMMER DISCOVERY PROGRAMS FOR G7-11 USA, UK, SPAIN, ITALY AND CHINA:** The company offers programs in pre-college enrichment, college preparation, internships and community service. US University locations: UC Los Angeles, Santa Barbara; University of Michigan; Loyola University in Chicago; Georgetown, U Penn, NYU and Emerson in Boston. UK Locations are in Cambridge and London. Barcelona and Madrid Spain; Florence, Italy; and Shanghai, China. Visit [www.summerdiscovery.com](http://www.summerdiscovery.com), [www.discoveryinternships.com](http://www.discoveryinternships.com) or [www.jrdiscovery.com](http://www.jrdiscovery.com).

**BOSTON UNIVERSITY, Boston, USA, SUMMER HIGH SCHOOL PROGRAMS: Students can choose to:**

Enroll in two undergraduate courses and earn up to 8 college credits

Select two non-credit seminars from a series of subjects

Spend one week studying one subject in-depth

Engage in a research Internship in Science & Engineering

Visit: [www.bu.edu/summer/highschool](http://www.bu.edu/summer/highschool) for additional information.

**\*National Youth Leadership Forum (NYLF), 18 cities across the US:** the programs in Law, Medicine, College Success and National Security help prepare students for their academic future and professional careers. Its mission is to bring various professions to life,



empowering students with confidence to make well-informed career choices. High-achieving high school students are nominated (see a school counselor) to attend NYLF. NYLF scholars all demonstrate strong academic abilities, leadership and an interest in the career field being studied. Please visit: [www.nylf.org](http://www.nylf.org) for more information.

**\*SUMMER INSTITUTE FOR THE GIFTED**, programs at Amherst College, Bryn Mawr, Emory, UC Berkeley, UCLA, University of Texas-Austin, Vassar, Dartmouth, Princeton and Yale. There are a variety of programs available at each of these locations for students aged 9-17. Courses cover English, Humanities, Math, Science, Technology, Visual and Performing Arts, Fitness, and multi-disciplinary. Students will participate in a full curriculum including evening programs, Saturday Get-Away Days and Sunday Activity Days. Visit [www.giftedstudy.org](http://www.giftedstudy.org) for more information

**\*ROSS SCHOOL, EAST HAMPTON, NY:** a program for students who wish to excel at the university admissions process while participating in academic programs with fun afternoon electives on the east end of Long Island. The morning is spent in classes, sports & activities in the afternoon and weekend trips to New York City and local beaches. Visit [www.ross.org/summerterm](http://www.ross.org/summerterm) for more details.

**\*WASATCH ACADEMY, MT. PLEASANT, UTAH:** attend academic and experiential summer programs in International Filmmaking, SAT Prep, Performing and Studio Arts, Computer Game Design, Robotics, Studio Music Production, Equestrian Center Riding or Basketball Camp. Visit <http://www.wasatchacademy.org/summer-programs/index.aspx> for more information.

**\*EMMA WILLARD SCHOOL FOR GIRLS, TROY, NY:** English as a Second Language Academic Summer Program. Students will work on their English listening, reading, writing and speaking skills through popular texts, periodicals and study skills. Students will also take field trips to New York City and Boston. Visit [www.emmawillard.org/summerESL](http://www.emmawillard.org/summerESL) for additional details.

**\*PERKIOMEN SUMMER, PENNSBURG, PENNSYLVANIA:** Summer immersion in English language for students entering G 7-11. Students will participate in courses in math, science, American Literature, American history and TOEFL and SAT preparation. Extra curricular opportunities include athletic competitions, creative expression and trips to New York City, Washington, DC, and Philadelphia. More information can be found at: [www.perkiomen.org](http://www.perkiomen.org).

**\*THORNTON ACADEMY, SACO, MAINE:** English Immersion and American Culture Summer Program. Located 15 miles from Portland and 90 miles from Boston. Students will hone their English language skills and learn about the American university application process. Weekend activities will help provide a balance of hard work and recreation. Curriculums are available in Science, SAT Prep, English and TOEFL prep. University visits to Harvard, MIT, Boston University and College, Yale, NYU and Columbia. Visit <http://summersemester.thorntonacademy.org> for more details.

**\*AMHERST COLLEGE, STAMFORD, CONNECTICUT:** The University Prep Program will help students improve their SAT score, learn how to choose a college, compose a resume, learn skills to help improve their chances for admission at the university of their choice and have a college life experience. More information can be found at [www.nsgtuniversityprep.org](http://www.nsgtuniversityprep.org) .

### **ONLY IN THE UK:**

#### **ARTS UNIVERSITY COLLEGE BOURNEMOUTH:**

Photography summer courses in July—intro to photography, photographic studio, photography on location and professional practice.

Make Up summer courses—intro to make up (fashion, editorial and runway); historical make up and hair work for film, television and stage; and special effects and prosthetics. Visit [www.aucb.ac.uk](http://www.aucb.ac.uk) or [www.facebook.com/summercourses](https://www.facebook.com/summercourses)

**HERITAGE SUMMERS AT CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY:** this program is for 16-19 year old students for three weeks in July. They offer courses in anthropology, psychology, history, politics, literature, art history, the maths and sciences, and many more. To learn more visit: [www.heritagesummers.com](http://www.heritagesummers.com)

**ISSOS- CAMBRIDGE AND ST. ANDREWS:** three sessions in July and August. They offer academics in English language, creative writing, debate, business, IB revision and leadership. They combine the academics with electives in golf, tennis, theatre, film, art, photography and more. For additional information please visit [www.summerschoolscotland.com](http://www.summerschoolscotland.com)

**LANTERNA PRE and MID IB REVISION COURSES IN UK & SWEDEN:** Revision courses concentrate on addressing any gaps in knowledge, difficulties remembering information and how to apply knowledge to exam questions. Visit [www.lanternaeducation.com/ib](http://www.lanternaeducation.com/ib) for more information.

### **IN SWITZERLAND:**

**COLLEGE DU LEMAN, SUMMER CAMPUS PROGRAM,** Geneva, Switzerland: Improve your French by working in small group lessons and combine theory with real-life practice of classroom learning through field trips. Students can also participate in sporting activities such as sailing, water skiing, golf and riding. Artistic and cultural activities such as painting, sculpture are also on offer. Visit [www.summercampus@cdl.ch](http://www.summercampus@cdl.ch)

**IN CANADA:**

**UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA SUMMER SCHOLARS PROGRAM (Okanagan campus):** an opportunity for students to learn about environmental science and sustainability. For two weeks in July students will learn about water and forest management to urban planning. The students will conduct field research in the surrounding Kelowna, BC, area. Visit [www.summerprogram.isi.ubc.ca](http://www.summerprogram.isi.ubc.ca). Space is limited to 30 students, so hurry to apply!

**NANCY CAMPBELL COLLEGIATE INSTITUTE, LONDON, ONTARIO:** For students 12-18 interested in the ARTS. Mornings are spent working on English skills and afternoons are intensive art courses in: drama, dance, video production, song writing, or visual arts and photography. There is also soccer camp, if not interested in the arts. There will be excursions to places like Niagara Falls, the CN Tower in Toronto and more. Visit [www.nancycampbell.net](http://www.nancycampbell.net) to apply.

**\*OSC IB DIPLOMA SUMMER COURSES, VANCOUVER:** Pre IB, Mid IB and a New Vancouver Explorer Program. They are offering a 40% discount on course prices. Limited spaces are available, visit [www.osc-ib.com](http://www.osc-ib.com) to register.

**IN THAILAND:**

**\*TRAIDHOS THREE-GENERATION FOR LEARNING, CHIANG MAI, THAILAND:** IB Summer School for G11 to 12, Global Citizen Camp for 14-18 years and an Extreme Siam Adventure Camp. Visit <http://camps.threegeneration.org> or [ibsumerschool@threegeneration.org](mailto:ibsumerschool@threegeneration.org)

**IN GERMANY:**

**\*JACOBS UNIVERSITY, BREMMEN,** is offering courses in life sciences, medical research—intended to help explain the theories behind TV programs such as CSI, House or the movie Outbreak. The program will be taught by professors in Biochemistry, Cell Biology to learn more about genetics, physiology, cell biology and microbiology. Students will participate in lab research and learn about the link between pop culture and science. More details can be found at: <http://www.jacobs-university.de/summerprograms>

