Beginning in Fall 2016, Brown University will welcome a second cohort of high school students from Fontbonne Hall Academy in Brooklyn, New York to participate in the Brown Pre-College Scholars Program in Engineering. Approximately 20 students in grades 10-12 will participate in this year-long online course of study taught by faculty from Brown University’s School of Engineering and overseen by Brown’s School of Professional Studies and Pre-College Programs.

Fontbonne students selected for this innovative program will explore engineering and its design principles, and work collaboratively on hands-on challenges that include conducting research, performing calculations, and engaging in prototyping activities, from sketching to modeling to optimization.

The program curriculum was developed by Dr. Karen Haberstroh, Associate Director of Engineering Programs at Brown University’s School of Professional Studies, and Dr. Indrek Külaots. Both are Lecturers in Engineering at Brown.

Working closely with their Brown instructors, students will participate in approximately five hours of coursework per week, including lab and demo activities, online discussions, assignments, and design projects. Students completing the program will earn Fontbonne Hall Academy credit.

“Fontbonne is excited and honored to partner with Brown University for the second year of the Brown Pre-College Scholars Program in Engineering,” said Fontbonne Hall Academy Principal Mary Ann Spicijaric. “Our students who participated in the program this year were challenged and inspired. We are looking forward to having more of our young women develop a love of engineering and a confidence level that will allow them to know that they can succeed in a science, math, or engineering college major.”

During the course of the program, Brown University will welcome participating students to Brown’s campus for a guided tour of the School of Engineering and interaction with faculty and students. To further support students’ interest in engineering, the School of Professional Studies also will offer four need-based partial scholarships to the 2017 Summer@Brown Program, a nationally recognized pre-college program that offers nearly 200 courses to high school students on Brown’s campus each summer.

“A dedicated partnership between Fontbonne Hall Academy in Brooklyn and Brown University Pre-College Programs achieved new levels of learning and excitement in the study of engineering science over the past year,” said Karen Sibley, Brown University’s Vice President for Strategic Initiatives and Dean of the School of Professional Studies. “Using new technologies, expertise in online instruction, and the passion of shared faculty resources, we are excited to reach a growing number of talented young women through this university-high school teaching/learning partnership in the year ahead.”

Brown University’s Pre-College Programs, offered by the University’s School of Professional Studies, enable high school students to experience college-level learning, prepare for academic success, and connect with talented, motivated students from around the world. Brown’s pre-college online courses are rigorous, active learning experiences designed specifically for high school students and led by Brown instructors. The courses foster exciting, dynamic learning communities that encourage curiosity and discovery, teamwork, and networking. Brown’s online instructors are enthusiastic, imaginative educators working at the forefront of online teaching.
and learning. They work closely with the University’s instructional designers to develop and facilitate courses that exemplify best practices of student-centered design and inquiry-based learning.

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Fontbonne Hall Academy is a private college preparatory school for young women in grades 9-12. Based in Brooklyn, New York, Fontbonne aims to be a premier school for girls’ STEM education, and is developing a STEM diploma.

Founded in 1764, Brown University is an independent, coeducational Ivy League institution. It is recognized for the quality of its teaching and research, and unique student-centered curriculum. Brown University’s School of Professional Studies offers a portfolio of pre-college programs that includes summer courses on the Brown University campus, online courses, leadership, and global programs. In 2015, nearly 5,000 students from more than 70 countries choose Brown Pre-College Programs.

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