

HOW DOES OUR SOCIAL
CONTEXT SHAPE
OUR ACTIONS?

ARE WE STILL “MODERN”?

IS WHAT WE

LOVE UP TO US?

WHAT IS JUSTICE?

ARE MARKETS EVIL?

WHAT IS THE VALUE OF WORK?

DOES READING

LITERATURE

MAKE US ETHICAL?

HOW HAS BERLIN

SHAPED MODERN LIFE?

WHAT IS THE RELATION BETWEEN

EDUCATION

AND THE SOUL?

IS POPULAR CULTURE

INFERIOR TO HIGH ART?

WHAT IS THE IDEA

OF “EUROPE”?

DO WE KNOW

WHAT WE WANT?

Bard College Berlin
A LIBERAL ARTS UNIVERSITY

www.berlin.bard.edu

BARD COLLEGE BERLIN FACTS

Fall Semester 2016

Bard College Berlin is an independent, private, coeducational liberal arts college that offers four-year undergraduate degree programs and one-year study programs. The language of instruction is English.

210
STUDENTS
ENROLLED

Faculty-student
ratio
1:7

75%
first year students
receiving financial aid

54
NATIONALITIES

Average
class size
12

81%
first year students
living on campus

Curriculum

The interdisciplinary core curriculum explores Western intellectual history from ancient Greece to the present day. A critical focus is placed on philosophy, economics, politics, literature, art history, film, and the performing and studio arts.

Accreditation

Bard College Berlin is accredited in the United States through Bard College by the Middle States Commission on Higher Education. In Germany, Bard College Berlin holds state recognition from the Berlin Senate and program accreditation through ACQUIN.

Degrees Granted

Bachelor of Arts degrees are awarded from both Bard College Berlin and Bard College in Annandale-on-Hudson, New York. Qualifying students receive both a German B.A. and an American B.A.

Location

Bard College Berlin's residential campus is housed in a complex of former embassy buildings in the residential neighborhood of Pankow in northeastern Berlin. Direct public transport connections allow students to reach the city center in less than 30 minutes.

Accommodation

On-campus housing for Academy Year and first-year B.A. students is guaranteed. Students who choose to live on campus stay in shared rooms in fully equipped dormitories and apartments.

Campus Visits

Campus visits are welcomed! Open Days are held twice a year and prospective students may schedule individual visits at any time by contacting the Admissions Office.

Financial Aid

All B.A. and Academy Year applicants are eligible to apply for financial aid and scholarships, regardless of nationality. U.S. citizens may apply U.S. federal funding (FAFSA) toward their studies at Bard College Berlin. Bard College Berlin is recognized by many European countries for government loan programs. More than 75 percent of the Class of 2020 receives some form of institutional financial assistance. The maximum amount of financial aid is 90 percent of Bard College Berlin tuition, financial aid cannot be applied to room and board fees.

Comprehensive Fee 2015-16

- *On-Campus Students:* €24,500 (includes tuition, full meal plan, on-campus accommodation - guaranteed for first year students)
- *Off-Campus Students:* €17,325 (includes tuition, lunch M-F)

Admission

Students may apply using the Common Application, Academy Year applicants use the College's online application form. Required materials include: motivation statement, writing sample, two letters of recommendation, official transcripts, and proof of advanced English proficiency for non-native English speakers. We do not require SAT scores; average IB scores of the incoming class 2020 is 36, average Abitur grade 1,6, GPA 3.4.

Application Deadlines

- *Early Action:* November 1
- *Regular Decision:* January 1
- *Late Admission:* May 1

Education is a safeguard against the disappearance of liberty, but only if it invites rigorous scrutiny and open discussion of issues. The liberal arts and sciences, by strengthening free inquiry, build and protect the freedom to question old models, preserve the past, and initiate change.

—Leon Botstein, President of Bard College

Welcome to Bard College Berlin, A Liberal Arts University!

At Bard College Berlin, students from over fifty countries across six continents participate in a curriculum aimed at confronting essential texts, learning from diverse perspectives and shaping common approaches to the fundamental concerns and opportunities of the 21st century.

It is by posing the “big questions” that have echoed over time, and by giving young individuals from widely different backgrounds the skills necessary to answer them *in dialogue* and with reference to contemporary challenges that Bard College Berlin enables personal flourishing and prepares its students to contribute to our shared global future.

Located in the political, economic and artistic center of Europe where global economic policies and measures on migration and security are debated and tested, and where the arts find their most varied and experimental expression, Bard College Berlin is in a unique position to offer its students direct exposure to current political, social and cultural developments through seminars and activities rooted in the city.

The College maintains an active network composed of many of Berlin’s cultural, economic, political and academic institutions that enables students to interact with leading scholars, activists, thinkers, and artists. Partner institutions include the Technische Universität, the Max Planck Institute for the History of Science, the Institute for Cultural Inquiry (ICI), the American Academy, and the Staatliche Museen zu Berlin. An internship program provides opportunities to gain work experience in a wide range of fields, such as the arts, human rights, publishing, urban planning, technology start-ups, and education.

THE B.A. CURRICULUM

Curiosity, a love of learning, idealism, and a commitment to the link between higher education and civic participation - these are cornerstones of the Bard education. The curriculum is designed to address central questions facing new generations, and reshapes traditional disciplines into multidisciplinary fields and programs. Students pursue a rigorous course of study reflecting varied traditions of scholarship, research, speculation, and artistic expression. They engage with philosophies of human existence, theories of human behavior and society, the making of art, and the study of science, nature, and history.

In the first-year core program, students explore ancient and medieval philosophy and culture, with a focus on the various influences and interactions that created the fundamental values and practices that shape our understanding of human life and society. The second-year core addresses new forms of knowledge that developed in the Renaissance and the connections they reveal between the arts and sciences. In its final year, the core encompasses study of the origins of the disciplines now known as the social sciences, and the modes of experiment that make up ‘Modernism.’ Within the elective component of the degrees, students may choose from a wide variety of courses in the arts, humanities, and social sciences.

Throughout their studies, and during work on their B.A. thesis project, students are individually guided by faculty members. They may pursue an internship for academic credit, focus on German language study, or opt for a study abroad experience through the Bard College network as well as the ERASMUS program. Involvement in Civic Engagement projects is highly encouraged. All B.A. candidates must demonstrate intermediate (B2) proficiency in German by the end of their second year.

B.A. IN HUMANITIES, THE ARTS, AND SOCIAL THOUGHT

The B.A. degree in Humanities, the Arts, and Social Thought at Bard College Berlin affords students the opportunity to gain a thorough training in fields such as art history, philosophy, literature, and film, while also acquiring knowledge of the key intellectual developments, works, and questions that lie at the origin of the social and natural sciences and the practicing arts: What is the good life, and how are we to build a good society? What are the aims of scientific research? What is the function and the future of art? HAST students specialize in one of the following areas: Art and Aesthetics, Ethics and Politics, or Literature and Rhetoric.



'Becoming something' sounds strange to me, because that is not the reason why I study. For me, studying liberal arts at BCB is about studying something I am truly interested in, something that changes me, but that also hands the responsibility of change back to me. It is an education that reveals opportunities, and strongly encourages me to work with them myself.

—Bono Siebelink, B.A. Class of 2019



B.A. in Humanities, the Arts, and Social Thought

Duration: 4 years (8 semesters)

Credits earned: 240 ECTS credits / 128 U.S. credits

Concentrations:

- Art and Aesthetics
- Ethics and Politics
- Literature and Rhetoric

B.A. in Economics, Politics, and Social Thought

Duration: 4 years (8 semesters)

Credits earned: 240 ECTS credits / 128 U.S. credits

Concentrations:

- Economics
- Politics

Academy Year

Duration: 1 year (2 semesters)

Credits earned: 60 ECTS credits / 32 U.S. credits

Required courses:

- Greek Civilization: Plato's *Republic* and Its Interlocutors
- Medieval Literature and Culture: Forms of Love

B.A. IN ECONOMICS, POLITICS, AND SOCIAL THOUGHT

The B.A. in Economics, Politics, and Social Thought connects the study of economics with that of historical and contemporary forms of political and social thought. The aim of the program is to provide a rigorous interdisciplinary training while creating the opportunity to reflect on and explore key questions that guide decision-making in the public and private sector, such as: What is the basis of human cooperation? How are scarce resources efficiently allocated? What are the most important goods in the life of a community? How is value created? What constitutes a fair distribution of resources? How do people make economic decisions and how should they decide?

The core program comprises courses that situate the evolution of economics and political theory within the wider investigation of intellectual history from Ancient Greece to the present. In the economics component, students take introductory courses in mathematics, statistics, and micro- and macroeconomics. At the upper level, students choose between advanced politics or advanced economics courses.

ACADEMY YEAR

The Academy Year is an intensive one-year program for students with a serious interest in philosophy, ethics, politics, and the arts. Many students choose the AY program as a focused, learning-intensive gap year after high school, and as a means of gaining exposure to a university atmosphere and exploring different academic disciplines before enrolling in a degree program in a specific field. Alternatively, students who have already opted to pursue a degree in the natural sciences may decide to devote a year to studying the humanities first. AY students take part in the first-year core curriculum along with incoming B.A. students. Electives allow students to complement the shared curriculum with courses in areas such as art history, philosophy, social sciences, or literature and rhetoric. German language study is also available. AY students receive transferable academic credit for all courses taken at Bard College Berlin and may also apply to continue into the B.A. program at Bard College Berlin as second-year students.

FACULTY

Bard College Berlin's world-class faculty have earned their degrees at some of the most prestigious universities in Europe and the United States including Harvard, Princeton, Columbia, Berkeley, Humboldt University, the University of Leuven, the University of Cambridge, and the University of Heidelberg. Their expertise spans the disciplines of art history, philosophy, literature, film, economics, sociology, and political theory. In addition to guiding their students onto the road to active and creative participation in society, professors at Bard College Berlin practice civic engagement and cultural outreach in their own lives and professions. Faculty members have served as government and policy advisers, initiated and participated in international conferences and symposia, and curated art exhibitions and performances at major museums and cultural spaces around the world.

What makes Bard College Berlin unique is its contrasts: the student body is tiny but international; the quiet, tree-lined campus is within one of the most exciting cities in the world; the classes are rigorous, and our approach brings classic works in the liberal arts into conversation with the problems and questions of the contemporary world. I know of no other place like Bard College Berlin.

—James Harker, Professor, Literature

Study Abroad

Bard College Berlin is part of a global network of progressive and transformative educational institutions. Studying abroad is encouraged, and students in the B.A. programs have access to a variety of study abroad destinations through the affiliations of Bard College in Annandale as well as the European ERASMUS program and bilateral exchange agreements with a number of institutions around the world.

Bard College Network

Bard College, Annandale-on-Hudson, New York, USA

Bard Globalization and International Affairs Program (BGIA),
New York City, USA

Faculty of Liberal Arts and Sciences (Smolny College),
St. Petersburg State University, Russia

American University of Central Asia, Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan

Al-Quds Bard College for Arts & Sciences, Abu Dis, Palestine

ERASMUS Partnerships

Amsterdam University College, the Netherlands

Leiden University College, Campus the Hague, the Netherlands

Sciences Po, seven campuses across France, including Paris

University College Utrecht, the Netherlands

University of Strasbourg, France

Bilateral Partnerships

Central European University, Budapest, Hungary

Lingnan University, Hong Kong

Pontificia Universidade Católica do Rio de Janeiro (PUC-Rio), Brazil

Alumni/ae

Bard College Berlin alumni/ae have been able to pursue careers in domains such as international relations, public policy, education, journalism, and the arts as well as graduate study at the world's most renowned universities in the US and Europe such as Columbia University, Princeton, University of California Berkeley, Oxford, Cambridge, University of London, Graduate Institute Geneva, and the Free University and Humboldt University in Berlin.

CONTACT

Bard College Berlin
A LIBERAL ARTS UNIVERSITY

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*Public Transport: M1 tram direction
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Bard College Berlin, Germany

Bard College Berlin is Germany's first private liberal arts university. On a residential campus in the former embassy quarter of East Berlin, it offers bachelor and one-year undergraduate programs in the arts, humanities, and social sciences. A faculty to student ratio of 1:7 allows the college to provide an education of incomparable quality that is based on small-group teaching and individual advising. Students also have access to a global network of study opportunities through partnership agreements and the Bard network.

Bard College, Annandale-on-Hudson, New York

Bard College is a four-year residential college of the liberal arts and sciences with a 150-year history of academic excellence. Located on a campus of almost 1,000 acres in New York's Hudson River Valley, the College offers the B.A. degree with concentrations in nearly 50 academic programs in four divisions (Arts; Languages and Literature; Science, Mathematics, and Computing; and Social Studies) as well as interdivisional programs.

Photo: Faculty member Geoff Lehman and students discuss the painting *Plato's Symposium* by Anselm Feuerbach in Berlin's Alte Nationalgalerie

