

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**

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

approx.

140
STUDENTS
ENROLLED

...

approx.

40
NATIONALITIES

Faculty-student
ratio
1:5

...

Average
class size
12

Male

40%

Female

60%

...

Average
age of
first-years

19

...

Average IB
score of
enrolled
students

34

Curriculum

The interdisciplinary core curriculum explores Western intellectual history from ancient Greece to the present day, with critical focus 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 from Bard College Berlin and Bard College. All students who complete the graduation requirements receive a B.A. from 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 located in a quiet neighborhood in northeastern Berlin. Direct public transport connections from campus to the city center allow students to reach the popular districts of Prenzlauer Berg and Mitte in less than 30 minutes.

Accommodation

On-campus housing for Academy Year, Engagement 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.

Admission

Students may apply using the Common Application or 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.

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.

Application Deadlines

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

Comprehensive Fee 2015-16

- *On-Campus Students:* €20,500 (includes tuition, full meal plan, on-campus accommodation - guaranteed for first year students)
- *Off-Campus Students:* €16,500 (includes tuition, lunch M-F)

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 60 percent of the Class of 2019 receives some form of institutional financial assistance.

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!

Bard College Berlin was founded with the aim of returning small-group seminar teaching and interdisciplinary undergraduate education in the liberal arts to the highest levels of the European university context where those methods originated. With an innovative and challenging core curriculum, a small and highly international student body, and a world-class teaching faculty, Bard College Berlin provides a range and depth of education that is unique. We believe that specialized study in individual disciplines should proceed on the basis of a broad and thorough knowledge of intellectual traditions and the major debates, works, and transformations that have animated them and that continue to shape our response to today's challenges and crises.

At Bard College Berlin, students cultivate the capacity for critical thinking, as well as excellent speaking and writing skills, the ability to debate in a well-informed and open way, insight across cultures and regions of the globe, and civic-mindedness both inside and outside the classroom. These skills establish a solid preparation for many future career paths: Bard College Berlin alumni/ae have advanced to successful careers in international relations, public policy, the arts, education, and many other fields, as well as graduate study at the world's most highly regarded universities.

Faculty

Bard College Berlin's world-class faculty have earned their degrees at some of the most prestigious institutions in Europe and the United States. Their expertise spans the disciplines of art history, philosophy, literature, film, economics, sociology, and political theory. In addition to preparing their students to be active members of society, professors at Bard College Berlin practice civic engagement and cultural outreach in their own careers. Faculty members have served as government and policy advisers, organized international conferences, and curated art exhibitions and events at major museums and gallery spaces in Europe and the United States.

THE B.A. CURRICULUM

The academic lineage of "social thought," which has its roots in postwar Germany and in the United States, is committed to examining the key innovations of human life and culture within the framework of their social and political determinations. The core program at Bard College Berlin consists of courses that engage some of the most important texts, artifacts, and debates in the cultural legacies of Europe and the world. 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 the movement called Modernism. A flexible degree plan in the third and fourth years allows students to study abroad for up to two semesters in their third year. During the fourth year, students take part in a research colloquium and a senior core seminar in their field, and complete a B.A. thesis project.

Students shape a specialized academic profile through their chosen area of concentration, guided by faculty members who help them develop a program of study tailored to their interests and future plans. Within the elective component of the degrees, students may choose from a wide variety of courses in the arts (including the practicing arts such as drawing, acting, dance, photography, and film-making), humanities, or social sciences. They may also pursue an internship for academic credit or focus on German language study. All B.A. candidates must demonstrate intermediate 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 affords students the opportunity to gain 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 future of art? Students specialize in one of the following areas of concentration: Art and Aesthetics, Ethics and Politics, Literature and Rhetoric.



One of the most interesting things at Bard College Berlin is the continuous self-reflection on what it means to educate, on how one can create his/her own education. There are so many choices to make, so many fields to explore, and the curriculum allows for the space to get intimately acquainted with each of them before putting more emphasis on one in particular.

—Lysan Boshuijzen, B.A. Class of 2017

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

Qualification: Bachelor of Arts

Duration: 4 years (8 semesters)

Language of instruction:
English

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

Qualification: Bachelor of Arts

Duration: 4 years (8 semesters)

Language of instruction:
English

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

Concentrations:

- Economics
- Politics

Academy Year

Duration: 1 year (2 semesters)

Language of instruction:
English

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

Engagement Year

Duration: 1 year (2 semesters)

Language of instruction:
English

Credits earned: up to 60 ECTS/32 U.S. Credits

Required courses:

- Global Citizenship
- Political Organizing and Social Justice
- Elective courses in the arts, politics and society, economics, philosophy, and German language learning

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

The B.A. in Economics, Politics, and Social Thought connects the study of economics with the history of political and social thought, and with the study of art and culture. Above all, the aim of the program is to provide a rigorous interdisciplinary training, while creating the opportunity to reflect on and explore the key questions that guide decision-making in the public and private sectors: How are scarce resources efficiently allocated? What are the most important goods in the life of a community? How is value created? How do people make economic decisions and how should they decide?

In the economics component, students take introductory courses in mathematics, statistics, and in micro- and macroeconomics. Advanced courses address the relationship between governments, markets, and society; international cooperation, conflict and trade, and the part played by considerations of justice, liberty, and well-being in economics and politics. Methodological courses deal with the measurement of empirical phenomena (via econometric techniques) and rational choice. Students specialize by choosing either Economics or Politics as their concentration.

ACADEMY YEAR

The Academy Year is an intensive program for students with a serious interest in fundamental questions concerning philosophy, ethics, politics, and the arts. Many students choose the A.Y. program as a focused and structured gap year after high school to gain exposure to a university atmosphere and explore different academic disciplines before enrolling in a degree program. A.Y. students take part in the first-year core curriculum along with first-year B.A. students. Electives—in areas such as art history, philosophy, or the social sciences—complement the shared curriculum. Language study in German is also available. A.Y. students earn transferable academic credit for all courses taken at Bard College Berlin and may also apply to continue into our B.A. programs as second-year students.

ENGAGEMENT YEAR

For students interested in politics and social activism, Bard College Berlin offers a year combining academic coursework with civic engagement. In addition to seminars addressing the process of beginning civic engagement initiatives, students can choose elective courses in the areas of sociology, political science, economics and human rights, and participate in local volunteer projects. They learn skills in cooperation, organisation, leadership, and the value of socially responsible action. Students may also pursue German language study.

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

Alumni/ae

Alumni/ae of Bard College Berlin have been accepted to graduate programs at renowned institutions in the United States and Europe, including Columbia University, Princeton, University of California Berkeley, University of Minnesota, Oxford, Cambridge, University of London, Graduate Institute Geneva, and the Universities of Berlin (Freie and Humboldt) and Potsdam. Others have founded their own organizations and think tanks, worked in communications and marketing, and pursued careers in public service and academia. Graduates join a network of alumni/ae living and working around the world.

Study Abroad

B.A. students at Bard College Berlin have the opportunity to spend up to two semesters at one of Bard College Berlin's partner institutions within the international Bard College and ERASMUS networks.

Study abroad destinations:

- **Bard College Network**

Bard College, Annandale-on-Hudson, NY, USA

Bard Globalization and International Affairs Program (BGIA), NY, USA

Al-Quds Bard Partnership, Abu Dis, West Bank

American University of Central Asia, Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan

Faculty of Liberal Arts and Sciences (Smolny College),

St. Petersburg State University, Russia

- **ERASMUS Partnerships**

Amsterdam University College, Amsterdam, The Netherlands

Leiden University College, The Hague, The Netherlands

Sciences Po, seven campuses across France, including Paris

University College Utrecht

University of Strasbourg

- **Bilateral Partnerships**

Lingnan University, Hong Kong

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

CONTACT

Admissions Office

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13156 Berlin, Germany

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Public Transport: M1 tram direction

Rosenthal Nord to "Am Iderfenng Graben"

Bard College Berlin
A LIBERAL ARTS UNIVERSITY

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-student ratio of 1:5 allows the college to provide an education of incomparable quality, based on small-group teaching and individual advising. Students also have access to Europe-wide and global networks 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 540-acre campus 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

