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 FACTS
Fall Semester 2017

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.

260 STUDENTS ENROLLED

78% students receiving financial aid

60 NATIONALITIES

50% third-year students study abroad

Faculty-student ratio 1:10

Average class size 12

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 is institutionally accredited at national level by the Wissenschaftsrat (the German Council of Science and Humanities).

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 several times a year and prospective students may schedule individual visits at any time by contacting the Admissions Office.

Financial Aid and Cost
All B.A. and Academy Year applicants are eligible to apply for need-based 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.

For a complete list of tuition and fees, please visit: http://www.berlin.bard.edu/admissions/finances/tuition-and-fees/

Comprehensive Fee 2017-18
- On-Campus Students: €25,725 (includes tuition, full meal plan, on-campus accommodation - guaranteed for first year students)
- Off-Campus Students: €18,192 (includes tuition, lunch M-F)

Admission
Applicants for all programs should apply online at: http://www.berlin.bard.edu/admissions/how-to-apply/

Bard College Berlin is a member of the Common Application. Required materials include: motivation statement, writing sample, two letters of recommendation, official transcripts, and proof of advanced English proficiency for non-native English speakers. SAT/ACT scores are encouraged, but not required. For the incoming class of 2021 the average IB score is 34, average Abitur grade is 1.6, and average GPA is 3.6.

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

STUDENTS
ENROLLED

Faculty-student
ratio

Average class size

NATIONALITIES

third-year students study abroad

60

1:10

12
THE B.A. CURRICULUM

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

All degree-seeking students at Bard College Berlin complete the common core program, consisting of six courses taken over six semesters. The interdisciplinary curriculum explores intellectual history from ancient Greece to the present day and consists of the following courses:

- Greek Civilization: Plato’s Republic and Its Interlocutors
- Medieval Literatures and Cultures: Forms of Love
- Renaissance Art and Thought: Renaissance Florence
- Early Modern Science
- Origins of Political Economy
- Modernism: Cosmopolitanism and the Aesthetics of Internationalism

In addition to the core program, B.A. students:

- Complete foundational and advanced courses in their chosen area of concentration
- Have the opportunity to take elective classes outside of their specialization
- May study abroad in their third year
- Can complete an internship for academic credit
- Must demonstrate intermediate proficiency in German by the end of their second year
- Complete a B.A. thesis in their fourth year

In their fourth semester, students officially select their area of specialization by submitting a proposal outlining plans for their remaining two years of study. A panel of faculty advisers provides feedback on each student’s proposal and approves the formal transition to more advanced coursework in their chosen program.

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

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

The degree in Humanities, the Arts, and Social Thought provides a classic liberal arts education centered on a core curriculum in the history of knowledge, and on the pursuit of specialist study in politics, philosophy, art, or literature from foundational to advanced level. Alongside these two elements, students choose from electives in many other areas including the practicing arts, social activism, and language learning. Above all, the program is an integrated course of study, focused on the key questions and challenges that gave rise to the formation of individual disciplines, and which continue to connect and animate them. Graduates have undertaken further study in humanities and social sciences at some of the most prestigious universities in the world. They pursue careers in academia, journalism, management in the cultural, business and nongovernmental sectors, and in artistic and curatorial practice.

Students in this degree program have the option to specialize in:

- Art and Aesthetics – art history, aesthetic theory, visual and practicing arts
- Ethics and Politics – moral philosophy, the history of political thought, social theory
- Literature and Rhetoric – poetry, film, theater, literary analysis, cultural theory

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

The B.A. in Economics, Politics, and Social Thought connects the study of economics with historical and contemporary forms of political and social thought. The program provides rigorous training in economics and politics while creating the opportunity to explore key questions that guide decision-making in the public and private sectors, such as: how should society allocate its scarce resources? How do individuals, organizations, or governments make decisions? How rational are these? How do we improve quality of life? What constitutes a fair distribution of resources? How much inequality is tolerable? The program treats economics and politics as at once moral and empirical sciences, providing students with rigorous training in research methods, and knowledge of philosophy and ethics. It prepares graduates for further study in politics or economics, or for careers in the fields of public policy, international relations, economics, or political science.

Students in this degree program have the option to specialize in:

- Economics – economics & ethics, economics & psychology, econometrics, global economics, and environmental economics
- Politics - international studies, comparative politics, political philosophy, and social science methodology
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
STUDENT LIFE

The student body at Bard College Berlin is small yet highly international. Currently, students come from over 60 different countries. The student body includes not only full-time Bard College Berlin students, but also visiting students from the international Bard College network, the European ERASMUS exchange network, and other partner institutions. Recently, Bard College Berlin has created a special scholarship program for individuals from areas of crisis. These students, along with the entire student body enrich the campus community and solidify Bard College Berlin’s place in a truly global network of higher education institutions.

From the student-led Student Life Committee to the full-time Student Life staff, students are engaged in building their community. Many students live on campus in dormitories or shared apartments. Each building has a Student Residential Assistant who, along with the full-time live-in residential life staff, provides both programming efforts and 24/7 on-call coverage for emergency situations. Additional services include:

- cafeteria
- health and counseling
- clubs and committees
- access to a nearby fitness center

Extracurricular initiatives provide many opportunities for students to engage outside of the classroom in debate club, choir, student government, or civic engagement activities.

FACULTY & ALUMNI

Faculty

Bard College Berlin’s permanent international faculty of academics and artists have earned their degrees and taught at leading universities including Cambridge, Columbia, Harvard, Heidelberg, Humboldt, and Princeton Universities, UC Berkeley, the University of Chicago, and the New School for Social Research. Arts faculty include prize-winning artists and internationally prominent curators. Each semester, visiting academics, artists, and writers offer courses that bring additional variety and new perspectives.

Alumni

Bard College Berlin graduates join a network of alumni who are studying and working around the world. After graduation, alumni remain closely connected to the College.

- 55% of the B.A. alumni to date have chosen to pursue further studies at graduate level at institutions such as the University of Chicago; the University of Oxford; the University of Leuven; SOAS University of London; UC Berkeley; the University of Cambridge; and the University of Heidelberg
- 33% have secured jobs in the public, private, and nonprofit sectors, in domains such as international relations, public policy, journalism, and the arts

CIVIC ENGAGEMENT

Bard College Berlin supports student involvement with public life outside the classroom to promote commitment to active citizenship and to contribute to an engaged university. Through student-led projects and volunteer work, Bard College Berlin works to support positive social change both locally and internationally.

Students cooperate across the Bard Network in joint conferences or training, by sharing resources, or running joint cross-campus projects around the globe.

Bard College Berlin offers and assists with the following Civic Engagement initiatives:

- Civic Engagement Fellowship Program
- Student-run civic engagement projects include Arabic 101, medical clowning, Tell your (Hi)Story, and Bard Berlin Goes Green
- Campus Conversations (with refugees and community participants)
- Volunteer work opportunities
- Debate training and participation in international tournaments
- Events and workshops for skill development
- Engaged Liberal Arts courses

STUDY ABROAD

Study abroad opportunities available to B.A. students:

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
- Pontifícia Universidade Católica do Rio de Janeiro (PUC-Rio), Brazil
Bard College Berlin
A LIBERAL ARTS UNIVERSITY

Bard College Berlin, Germany

Bard College Berlin is a private German-American nonprofit 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 1:10 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