

## **STUDENT MODERATION GUIDE**

### **What is the purpose of moderation?**

Moderation is a requirement of the BA program which allows the student to enter the advanced stage of their program in the chosen concentration. The concentrations are designed to give students fundamental disciplinary knowledge enabling them to undertake graduate study in any subject related to these fields, while still opening the horizons of traditionally closed or restricted disciplines.

The requirement consists of an interview at the end of the second year of study with at least two members of the faculty to discuss the student's academic experience, choice of concentration, and future plans. Successful completion of the moderation requirement permits students to continue with their chosen area of concentration.

In short, the purpose of moderation is:

- A) To determine whether the student is adequately prepared for the more intensive and independent work in their concentration of choice and whether they are capable of doing a satisfactory Senior Project within the specific concentration;
- B) To assess a student's intellectual maturity, clarity, and seriousness of purpose;
- C) To make recommendations for the student's studies in their chosen concentration.

## **Moderation Prerequisites**

### ***4-year BA students***

In the fourth semester of study, 4-year BA students must have successfully completed, or be currently enrolled in:

1. Foundational program modules:
  - a. HAST: Foundational modules in concentration
  - b. EPST: All foundational modules in Economics *and* Politics
2. The first 4 BA core courses, namely:
  - a. Greek Civilization (IS101 Plato's Republic and Its Interlocutors)
  - b. Medieval Literatures and Cultures (IS104 Forms of Love)
  - c. Renaissance Art and Thought (IS102 Renaissance Florence)
  - d. Early Modern Science (IS212 Early Modern Science)
3. B1 German

### ***Transfer Students***

In the semester of the moderation exam, transfer students must have successfully completed, or be currently enrolled in:

1. Foundational program modules
  - a. HAST: Foundational modules in concentration
  - b. EPST: All foundational modules in Economics *and* Politics
2. The first 4 BA core courses, namely:
  - a. Greek Civilization (IS101 Plato's Republic and Its Interlocutors)
  - b. Medieval Literatures and Cultures (IS104 Forms of Love)
  - c. Renaissance Art and Thought (IS102 Renaissance Florence)
  - d. Early Modern Science (IS212 Early Modern Science)

Please note: In order to allow for moderation to take place with ample time before graduation, transfer students are not required to complete B1 German by their time of moderation. They must complete the B1 German requirement by the time of graduation.

***Written Submission Requirements***

In preparation for the interview, the student must submit:

- a) A statement (800-1000 words) reflecting on their experience of the program at Bard College Berlin thus far.
- b) A statement (800-1000 words) presenting their plans and aims for the final two years of study. This second statement should include reference to any study abroad plans and to courses they would like to take at other institutions. For those staying in Berlin, they can make reference to their courses of interest at BCB. If they already have proposals for the area or topic of their thesis project, this should form part of their second statement.
- c) An essay that is their best work - in their own estimation - submitted during the first two years at Bard College Berlin. They can revise this essay before re-submitting it.

***Timeline***

The written materials are typically due in week 8 in the semester of the moderation exam, with interviews conducted during weeks 11 and 12.