

BA in Artistic Practice and Society Study and Examination Regulations

§1 Legal Validity

These study and examination regulations are an overview of the structure, modules and kinds of examination required by the BA program in Artistic Practice and Society. General regulations on modularization, the forms and conduct of examinations, as well as the prerogatives and obligations of the college, students and teaching staff, are laid down in the General Study and Examination Regulations of Bard College Berlin.

§2 Aims of the Program

The BA allows students to develop competency in a wide range of areas of the practicing arts, the interdisciplinary links between them, and the contemporary intersections between art practice and academic and scholarly endeavor. The study of art is pursued within philosophical, historical, social and political framework, as well as with an attention to a critique of the fundamental categories that have shaped the historical understanding of art (such as the division between nature and culture, or the formations empire, nation, society and community). Including modules in art history, art and science, critical theory, artistic research, the program embeds the practicing arts within larger intellectual traditions, global transformations in the production and display of art, and opportunities for civic engagement. Alongside these elements, the BA includes the core program central to undergraduate study at Bard College Berlin, which situates the academic disciplines in relationship to the key works, ideas and problems that shaped their development. Throughout, the BA aims at a broad and thorough intellectual training in combination with the cultivation of specific skills in the arts, and a familiarity with the contours of the rapidly changing realm of art creation in today's world.

§3 Content and Approach

The BA is a four-year undergraduate degree program offering students the opportunity to explore all areas of the practicing arts in the context of a liberal arts education, with a core program in the central works and innovations of the past, and the chance to engage with the most recent and exciting developments in contemporary art. The program centers on the interplay between artistic disciplines and the connections between academic research and artistic practice. Students take courses at foundational and advanced level in the following fields, and investigate the links between them: painting, drawing and sculpture, video, film, creative writing, performance, and theater. Other artistic practices addressed include dance, sound, ceramics and architecture.

Fundamental to the program is not only the question of what art "is," but the issue of how the categories that have framed it can be reexamined: the juxtaposition of nature with culture, of academic research with artistic creativity, and the tensions between art and political expression or organization. Students take courses addressing these subjects, alongside developing their own artistic practice. Like the other BA programs at Bard College Berlin, the new program provides access to an international network of partner universities for study abroad, an internship program, German language-learning to university level, and support for civic engagement and social and environmental activism. As a global center for artistic activity

and display, Berlin serves as a laboratory for the program, with courses including exhibition and performance visits, occasions to observe artists at work, and introductions to the varieties of organization and institution involved in the art world.

§4 General Learning Outcomes

The BA prepares its graduates for work in all areas of art production, and gives them a unique foundation of skills and knowledge for creative endeavors. Offering the opportunity to acquire competency to advanced level in theater, performance, sculpture, painting, drawing and filmmaking, the program also cultivates knowledge and experience of the interdisciplinary connections between these fields in the contemporary art world and of the potential for such connections in the production of individual works. Crucial for the program is the attention to significant changes that have transformed art-making and art production in recent decades: the rise of “artistic research”; the ambition to decolonize ‘Western’-centric notions of art and its institutions; the challenges posed to traditional assumptions about culture and the realm of the aesthetic by the reexamination of a standard division between the human and non-human worlds. Students completing the BA will also have a rigorous training in the central methods and approaches of art history, and a knowledge of past forms of art production and their philosophical, cultural, and social determinants. The program prepares students for work in any area of the art world, and for work in cultural and political organizations related to it.

§5 Overview of Structure

(1) The program consists of the following components:

a) Core Component

The core component consists of 6 modules, spaced incrementally over the four years of the BA degree. Students take one core course in each of the first two semesters, and can take the final four in the second, third or fourth years. The core courses are the foundational framework of the degree. Chronological in outline—beginning with the kinds of Ancient philosophy claimed as the progenitor of the ‘Western’ tradition, literature, mathematics and culture, and ending with Modernism in the early twentieth century—they are also each based on a central concept or pivotal text, and inclined towards a focus on two or more particular disciplines, though all offer a background in the fundamental works, debates and problems of the subject areas of the arts and humanities, the social sciences and the natural sciences. By the end of their degree, students are able to identify the originating and recurrent preoccupations of each disciplinary field, as well as the interconnections between them, in addition to gaining a thorough overview of “Western” and related “non-Western” intellectual history.

	ECTS
<i>Core Component (6 Modules, each of one course)</i>	48
Greek Civilization	8
Medieval Literature and Culture	8
Renaissance Art and Thought	8
Early Modern Science	8
Origins of Political Economy	8
Modernism	8

b) Foundational Arts Component

The foundational arts component encompasses three modules: Artistic Practice (4 courses, each of 8 ECTS), the module Art History, Culture and Society (2 courses, each of 8 ECTS), Art, Science, and Ecology (1 course of 8 ECTS)

<i>Foundational Arts Component (3 modules)</i>	56
Practicing Arts (4 courses)	32
Art History, Culture and Society	16
Art, Science, and Ecology	8

c) Advanced Arts Component

The advanced arts component encompasses the modules Advanced Artistic Practice (32 ECTS), Theory, History, Art Forms (8 ECTS), Cultures of Knowledge Production (8 ECTS), Art, Institutions and Engagement (8 ECTS)

<i>Advanced Arts Component (4 modules)</i>	56
Advanced Artistic Practice (4 courses)	32
Theory, History, Art Forms	8
Cultures of Knowledge Production	8
Art, Institutions, and Engagement	8

d) Elective Component

Elective courses offer the opportunity to explore additional practicing arts courses in other areas, such as ceramics, architecture or digital arts (VR, AR). The elective component includes classes that are dedicated to particular physical or vocal-physical techniques, and to fundamental artistic skills such as life drawing. Offered in the component are courses on foundational technical skills for video-, film-, radio-drama or podcast-making, and on lighting and set-design. Software used in the arts, such as editing software (Adobe Premiere) or design and drawing software (CAD), is also introduced in elective courses. Students can also avail of the elective component to take foundational classes in other areas relevant to their work in the arts, such as literature and language, philosophy, the principles of economics, statistics, and political and social studies. Students can if they wish complete an internship (in conjunction with the internship course) within the framework of the elective component. The prerequisites and requirements of elective courses are established by the module to which they belong.

<i>Elective component (9 courses)</i>	72
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The Elective component may include language study in the language/s offered by the college and/or an internship taken in conjunction with an internship course.

e) Senior Core Colloquium

The senior core colloquium is the capstone seminar experience of the BA within the students' chosen areas of specialization and closely interconnected fields. The seminar meets for a total of three hours weekly in the first semester of the fourth year. It addresses key methodological approaches and questions, centered on core issues (technical, conceptual and archival) relevant to the research and creative work of the senior thesis project.

<i>Senior Core Colloquium</i>	8
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f) BA Senior Project Module

The culminating or capstone element of the degree is the BA thesis project in the fourth year. It consists of an individual project (4 ECTS), which serves as preparation for the BA thesis and includes regular meetings with the project advisor to plan and discuss project design, research, and the creation of an artistic project with written component, or a work of scholarly research (12 ECTS). The thesis consists of two equally weighted major components: a creative project and a scholarly paper (5000-6000 words). The scholarly paper should address critical, historical, and theoretical material relevant to the creative work. Students may also complete a final project in written form only. In this case, the final project is 10,000-12,000 words. Written components and /or documentation of artwork are submitted in the second semester of the fourth year. Thesis projects are then presented to a university-wide audience either in lecture format or in the context of an exhibition or performance.

<i>BA Senior Project Module</i>	16
• Individual Project	4
• BA Thesis	12

(2) Moderation

Moderation is a requirement of the B.A. which allows the student to enter the advanced stage of their program. The requirement consists of an interview at the end of the second year of study, to discuss the student's main interests and areas of specialization. In preparation for the interview, a short essay must be submitted on the first two years of study, and an essay detailing plans for the final two years, as well as an essay or documentation of an art work that the student believes reflects his or her best work to date. The Moderation interview discussion includes review of material from the core program and the foundational arts component. Moderation panels are made up of at least two members of the faculty. Successful completion of the moderation requirement permits students to continue to the advanced component.

(3) The sequence of modules in the BA program is structured as shown in Appendix 1.

§6 Evaluation and Examinations

- (1) All modules allocate a significant portion of assessment to preparation and preparation (30%). In modules with an academic focus on intellectual, cultural or artistic history or the contemporary art world, the main additional form of examination is the essay: either 2 essays, one at mid- and end-of-term, or a series of shorter written assignments, with a maximum of 5000-7000 words set for each module. Modules involving the acquisition of skills for the development of artistic work in a given area of artistic production involve preparatory assignments leading to a final artwork. Modules focusing on issues relevant to the conception of contemporary art practice specify an artwork or scholarly paper as the final examination.
- (2) The Module Handbook contains detailed information about the examination structure in each module.

§7 German requirement

- (1) Students are required to provide documentation of having reached German level B1 CEF by the end of the fourth year. The requirement can be fulfilled either by the successful completion of courses up to and including B1 level at Bard College Berlin, or by passing a test held at an official German-language testing center.
- (2) If a student fails to provide this documentation, graduation cannot be guaranteed.

§8 Legal Validity

These Study- and Examination Regulations were approved by the Academic Senate on November 23 2022.

Overview of Structure

Semester	Core	Foundational and Advanced Artistic Practice		Elective		Senior Colloquium	Senior Project	
1	Greek Civilization 8 ECTS	Artistic Practice 8 ECTS	Art, Culture and Society 8 ECTS	Elective 8 ECTS				
2	Medieval Literature and Culture 8 ECTS	Artistic Practice 8 ECTS	Art, Science, and Ecology 8 ECTS	Elective 8 ECTS				
3	Renaissance Art and Thought 8 ECTS	Artistic Practice 8 ECTS	Art, Culture and Society 8 ECTS	Elective 8 ECTS				
4	Early Modern Science 8 ECTS	Artistic Practice 8 ECTS		Elective 8 ECTS	Elective 8 ECTS			
5	Origins of Political Economy 8 ECTS	Advanced Artistic Practice 8 ECTS	Theory, History, Art Forms 8 ECTS	Elective 8 ECTS				
6	Modernism 8 ECTS	Advanced Artistic Practice 8 ECTS	Cultures of Knowledge Production 8 ECTS	Elective 8 ECTS				
7		Advanced Artistic Practice 8 ECTS		Elective 8 ECTS		Senior Core Colloquium 8 ECTS	Individual Project 4 ECTS	BA Thesis 12 ECTS
8		Advanced Artistic Practice 8 ECTS	Art, Institutions, Engagement 8 ECTS	Elective 8 ECTS				
ECTS	48	112		72		8	16	