



INTERDIVISIONAL PROGRAMS AND CONCENTRATIONS

Bard's approach to the liberal arts curriculum provides students and faculty with the opportunity to rethink traditional boundaries of academic divisions and disciplines. The flexible framework allows students to create plans of study that integrate the content and methodology of multiple fields.

Concentrations—clusters of related courses on a clearly defined topic—require a student to moderate into a primary program. The Senior Project enhances the interdisciplinary theories and methods of the major program with the associated concentration.

In addition, the College has a number of course initiatives—interdivisional collaborations that represent curricular responses to world events, cultural shifts, and pressing questions. Among them are the Racial Justice Initiative, launched in response to the events of 2020 that sparked a widespread reckoning with police violence and systemic racism; Thinking Animals Initiative, in which faculty and students work to advance the study of animals, human-animal relationships, and the many meanings of animals in human lives; and Migration Initiative, designed to provide a conceptual framework for thinking about migration not as an isolated (or recent) phenomenon but one that is deeply connected to historical, political, economic, legal, and environmental contexts and conditions.

CONCENTRATIONS

Africana Studies; Experimental Humanities; Gender and Sexuality Studies; Global Public Health; Irish and Celtic Studies; Jewish Studies; Latin American and Iberian Studies; Medieval Studies; Mind, Brain, and Behavior; Multidisciplinary Studies; Science, Technology, and Society; Theology; Victorian Studies

AMERICAN STUDIES

The American Studies Program offers a multidisciplinary approach to the study of culture and society in the United States. Students take courses in a wide range of fields with the aim of learning how to study this complex subject in a sensitive and responsible way. Initially, students develop the ability to analyze a broad spectrum of materials, including novels, autobiographies, newspapers, photographs, films, songs, and websites. In junior seminars and the Senior Project, students

integrate relevant methodologies from at least two disciplines, creating modes of analysis appropriate to the topics. By graduation, students develop a base of knowledge about the past and present conditions of the American experience at home and abroad.

RECENT SENIOR PROJECTS

"To Be the Sole Performer: A Selective Outline of the Development of the Solo Marimba in the United States" Jonathan Collazo '20, Clermont, Florida (American Studies; Percussion Performance [BMus])

"Fruit of the Spirit: An Investigation of How French Colonialism Transnationally Created the Creolized Black Dance in New Orleans, Called Secondline, through the Lens of an Original Treme Babydoll" Micah Raquel Theodore '20, New Orleans, Louisiana (concentration: Africana Studies)

ASIAN STUDIES

The Asian Studies Program draws from courses in literature, history, politics, music, art history and visual culture, anthropology, religion, and economics. With program faculty, students select a regional and disciplinary focus to create a coherent program of study. Although the program focuses on China, Japan, and South and Southeast Asia, students may investigate other regions. Intellectual emphasis is placed on comparative perspectives, both within Asia and with other regions.

RECENT SENIOR PROJECTS

"Soft Burial: An Exploration of History, Memory, and Trauma in Contemporary Chinese Literature" Megan Elizabeth Halm '20, Burnt Hills, New York

"Peking Opera in the Cultural Revolution" Zhen Liu '20, Chifeng, China (Asian Studies; Violin Performance [BMus])

CLASSICAL STUDIES

Traditionally, classics has been the study of the ancient Greek and Latin languages and the histories, literatures, and cultures that produced them. Classical Studies is an interdisciplinary field, approaching ancient evidence from a variety of perspectives: students interested in language, literature, history, anthropology, philosophy, and art history have historically used the tools of these disciplines to understand the ancient

Mediterranean world and beyond. From empires of the Near East to monasteries of the British Isles, classicists continue to widen the temporal and geographic scope of the discipline to study the making and reception of Greco-Roman antiquity.

RECENT SENIOR PROJECTS

"Studies in Senecan Drama: Reception, Fatalism, and Meter" Aleksandr Fedchin '20, St. Petersburg, Russia (Classical Studies; Computer Science)

"The Pen and the Heart: Studies in Christian Latin Writing of the 4th and 5th Centuries" Rachel Abigail Hodes '20, Hamden, Connecticut

ENVIRONMENTAL AND URBAN STUDIES

Environmental and Urban Studies (EUS) is an interdisciplinary program that examines the interdependence of human societies and the physical environment. Students complete courses that engage multidisciplinary methods; pursue an internship in the area of their interest; and complete a practicum, balancing breadth in several fields with depth in a discipline. EUS uses the campus and region as a laboratory for natural and social science research and interpretation through language and the arts. Students can also explore international affiliations and institutions through internships and study abroad, and take courses at the Bard Globalization and International Affairs Program in New York City.

RECENT SENIOR PROJECTS

"Multiple Perceptions of Soil Health: A Transdisciplinary Collaborative Study of Two Contrasting Grain Farms in Columbia County, New York" Gemma Goodspeed Allen '20, Los Angeles, California (Environmental and Urban Studies; Dance)

"The Ethics of Work: Controlling Latinx Immigrants in the Food System through Cultural Perception" Adam Burleigh Game '20, London, United Kingdom

FRENCH STUDIES

Students in French Studies are expected to reach a high level of competence in the French language. The program emphasizes in-depth study of literature, history, philosophy and theory, art history, and cinema. Students

choose one of three areas of specialization: French and francophone literature; civilization, culture, and history; or translation. For students beginning the study of French, an intensive program (one semester of study followed by four weeks in France) is offered every spring.

RECENT SENIOR PROJECTS

"Hector in Italy: An Exploration of Byron, Beethoven, and Berlioz through the Composition of *Harold in Italy*" Joseph Burke '20, Kendall Park, New Jersey (French Studies; Viola Performance [BMus])

"A Translation of *Exodes* by Jean-Marc Ligny: A Contemporary Apocalypse, Life after Climate Change" Anna Maddalena Sacco D'Alvia '20, West Cornwall, Connecticut

GERMAN STUDIES

The German Studies Program encompasses the language, literature, culture, history, philosophy, art, and music of the German-speaking countries. The cultural and historical expressions of German can best be understood by situating German, Austrian, and Swiss cultures within the larger European and global context. Students are expected to take a range of courses focusing on literature, history, philosophy, and politics, and to select related courses in art history and visual culture, music, theater, and film. German Studies can be pursued as a stand-alone major; designing a joint major with another discipline is encouraged and fully supported.

RECENT SENIOR PROJECTS

"Confinement and Liberation: Exploring Ambiguity in Selected Poems by Paul Celan" Zhaowei Wang '20, Yunnansheng, China

„Der Ort des Gedichts / Eine Reise in die »Winterantwort«: Eine Lektüre der Poetik Ilse Aichingers" April Fionn Perin Wogenburg '20, Vienna, Austria (German Studies; Film and Electronic Arts)

GLOBAL AND INTERNATIONAL STUDIES

The Global and International Studies (GIS) Program offers a path for study of global and international affairs, the growing interconnectedness and complexity of which cannot be studied within the boundaries of traditional disciplines. GIS emphasizes the importance of language, culture, and society,

and asks all students to complete an international experience. The curriculum draws on faculty strengths in anthropology, economics, history, political science, sociology, and area studies to foster new connections among interdisciplinary approaches to global phenomena. Students choose transnationalism, global economics, or international relations as their primary field, and focus on the history, politics, and/or culture of a particular region.

RECENT SENIOR PROJECTS

"Deconstructing Hikikomori: From Literature to Reality" Lydia Hope Perry '20, Havertown, Pennsylvania (Global and International Studies; Literature)

"Judging in Silence: The History, Enforcement, and Adjudication of Sedition in India" Pranav Hari Singhania '20, New Delhi, India

HUMAN RIGHTS

Human Rights is an interdisciplinary program spanning the arts, natural and social sciences, and languages and literature. Courses explore fundamental conceptual questions, historical and empirical issues within the disciplines, and practical and legal strategies of human rights advocacy. Students are encouraged to approach human rights in a spirit of open inquiry, challenge orthodoxies, confront ideas with reality and vice versa, and think critically about human rights as a field of knowledge rather than merely training for it as a profession. Bard College was among the first institutions of higher learning to establish human rights as a stand-alone major.

RECENT SENIOR PROJECTS

"Neither Dead nor Alive: Lebanon's Missing and Forcibly Disappeared Persons" Aliya Beyhum '20, Beirut, Lebanon (Human Rights; Historical Studies)

"'Progress for Whom?' Narrative Construction of Gentrification in Contemporary Brooklyn" Ailie Judith McGregor Strauss '20, New York, New York (concentration: Gender and Sexuality Studies)

ITALIAN STUDIES

The artistic, poetic, and cultural achievements of Italian civilization passionately engage with the major questions of today's world. Its history of migration and even its modern politics contribute to its critical place of encounter for cultures, people, and ideas. At the core of the Italian Studies Program is acquisition of fluency

in reading, writing, and translating Italian. This is accomplished through courses during the academic year or through an intensive Italian language class, which includes a month of study in Taormina, Italy, in June.

RECENT SENIOR PROJECTS

"Saha, Socorro," a collection of autobiographical short stories written in a mixture of English, Spanish, and Italian Gabrielle A. Reyes '19, Los Angeles, California (Italian Studies; Written Arts)

"Luigi Russolo: The Work and Influence of a Visionary—The Birth of Noise-Music" Dániel Matei '19, Budapest, Hungary (Italian Studies; Percussion Performance [BMus])

MIDDLE EASTERN STUDIES

Middle Eastern Studies (MES) promotes the intellectual exploration and analytic study of the historical and contemporary Middle East, from North Africa to Central Asia. MES provides a broad intellectual framework, with course offerings cross-listed with historical studies, literature, Arabic, Hebrew, religion, human rights, sociology, anthropology, gender studies, political studies, art history and visual culture, and environmental and urban studies.

RECENT SENIOR PROJECTS

"The Self, the Sea, and Shabjeed" Rachel Renee Hasette Shamsie '20, Corpus Christi, Texas

"The Little America of Africa: Empiricism and Experimentation in Nile Valley Cotton Schemes, 1865-1925" Marlaina Elizabeth Yost '20, West Chester, Pennsylvania (Middle Eastern Studies; Environmental and Urban Studies)

RUSSIAN AND EURASIAN STUDIES

The Russian and Eurasian Studies Program focuses on the language, literature, history, and culture of Russia, the Soviet Union, and East and East-Central Europe through a range of interdisciplinary contexts, theoretical perspectives, and analytical approaches. Courses draw upon faculty expertise relating to Russia and Eurasia, either separately or in a comparative context. Proficiency in the Russian language is key. Russian course offerings include opportunities for study in Russia at the

Bard-affiliated Faculty of Liberal Arts and Sciences (Smolny), St. Petersburg University. Students may specialize in a literature or social science track, or combine Russian and Eurasian Studies with another program of study.

RECENT SENIOR PROJECTS

"The Translator as Witness: A Critical Translation of Oleg Volkov's *Descent into Darkness*" Jasper Francis '20, Catskill, New York
"Voice of Silence: Women Inmates' Perspective on Sexual Violence in the Soviet Gulag, 1936-56" Louisa Jane Fulkerson '20, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma (Russian and Eurasian Studies; Historical Studies)

SPANISH STUDIES

The Spanish Studies Program offers a full range of courses in the language, literature, and culture of the Spanish-speaking world, including Spain, Spanish America, and the Latinx community of the United States. By Moderation, students are expected to have a solid grasp of the language, as well as a familiarity with reading and writing about literary texts. After Moderation, students concentrate on particular aspects of Hispanic culture in specialized seminars. Spanish Studies majors are strongly encouraged to spend a semester in a Spanish-speaking country. Faculty help with choosing appropriate programs and locations, and provide guidance through the application process.

RECENT SENIOR PROJECTS

"La impresión de la constante transformación de la figura del autor a través del lector"

Midori Constancia Barandiaran '20, New Orleans, Louisiana

"The Reawakening of the Sleeping Voices: Spanish Women's Experiences under the Franco Regime" Paola Elena Luchsinger '20, Hastings-on-Hudson, New York (Concentration: Latin American and Iberian Studies)

INTERESTED IN AGRICULTURE AND FOOD SYSTEMS?

Environmental and Urban Studies Program students who choose the Agriculture and Food Systems focus area work across social and natural sciences to develop an understanding of the challenges of feeding 10 billion people in ways that are sustainable, equitable, and humane. Studying such varied topics as soil carbon dynamics for soil health and nutrient cycling, controversies around the role of dietary choices for greenhouse gas emissions from agriculture, food deserts, and access to healthy

food for low-income populations, students examine the interaction of globalization and organic production with livelihoods in developing countries. This entails understanding social and ecological systems and what will be necessary to support growing populations while protecting the environment on which we all depend.

INTERESTED IN SCIENCE AND SOCIAL CHANGE?

The Bard Center for the Study of Land, Air, and Water takes research outside the lab, offering students opportunities to work in an interdisciplinary way. The Center puts the College's dedication to the environment, science, and social change into practice to support the fair management of our shared natural resources, recognizing that real solutions to environmental issues must acknowledge the barriers that race, class, and gender inequities present to the cultural shifts required to make real change.

INTERESTED IN COMBATING HATRED?

The Bard Center for the Study of Hate (BCSH), an initiative of the Human Rights Project, works to increase the serious study of human hatred and ways to combat it. BCSH brings scholars from diverse disciplines to the College campuses to speak about the human capacity to hate and demonize others; places, mentors, and supports students working at internships with nongovernmental organizations that combat hate; and funds students at Bard whose Senior Projects relate to the study of hate and who need additional resources for their research.

INTERESTED IN GLOBAL PUBLIC HEALTH?

If you wonder why some groups of people are healthier than others, or why so many women and children around the world still die from easily preventable causes; if you want to help shape health policy in your community or work to improve the health of people in developing countries around the world; if you are interested in becoming a disease detective, health promotion specialist, or medical anthropologist, the Global Public Health (GPH) interdivisional concentration is designed for you. GPH students take courses in human rights, economics, biology, and political studies, among others, and go on to careers working on diverse problems such as access to medical care, disease prevention, and the social, political, and economic determinants of health.

INTERESTED IN MIND, BRAIN, AND BEHAVIOR?

The Mind, Brain, and Behavior (MBB) interdivisional concentration seeks to understand how humans, animals, and robots are able to acquire, represent, and use knowledge. The discipline combines insights from several other fields, including neuroscience, computer science, psychology, linguistics, animal behavior, genetics, and philosophy, to work toward an understanding of the brain and the mind. The MBB concentration is a secondary field of study that requires a student to complete a major in a primary discipline.

INTERESTED IN INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS?

Students in the Global and International Studies Program (GIS) have the unique opportunity to take advanced courses in international affairs at the Bard Globalization and International Affairs Program (BGIA) in Manhattan and to take advantage of BGIA's extensive network to secure a professional internship based on individual interests and goals. BGIA students engage in the study and practice of international law, international relations theory, global public health, political economy, international reporting, and other aspects of international affairs.

NOTABLE ALUMNI/AE

Olivia Marie Donahue '19 (German Studies, Art History and Visual Culture), winner of a Fulbright teaching fellowship in Germany, writer in the Berlin office of acclaimed European news website The Local; **Luosha Fang '11** (Russian and Eurasian Studies, violin performance in Bard Conservatory), award-winning violinist and violist, teaching at Bard Conservatory and performing with Bard Music West; **Alexa Frank '15** (Asian Studies, Film and Electronic Arts), assistant editor of international fiction, HarperCollins, Fulbright research award in Japan, MFA, Iowa Writers Workshop; **Daniel Matei '19** (Italian Studies, percussion performance in Bard Conservatory), MMus, Manhattan School of Music, played in Hungarian National Philharmonic Orchestra; **Rachel Papert '17** (American Studies), project coordinator, Academy for Teachers, a nonprofit providing master classes for public and charter school teachers; **Eric Raimondi '19** (Middle Eastern Studies, Historical Studies), recipient of 2019–20 Davis Project for Peace to work with refugee education organizations in Greece and Turkey; **Katherine Reilly '14** (Asian Studies), researcher, Asia Pacific Initiative, MA in law and diplomacy, Tufts University; **Phuc Tran '95** (Classical Studies), Latin teacher and tattoo artist, author of award-winning memoir *Sigh, Gone*

NOTABLE FACULTY

Myra Young Armstead (Africana Studies, American Studies, Environmental and Urban Studies), NEH Fellow, research in 19th-century U.S. social, cultural, and African American history; **Bruce Chilton '71** (Jewish Studies, Theology), author of groundbreaking books on the interconnections between Christianity and Judaism; **Mark Danner** (Human Rights), MacArthur Fellow, writer and reporter on politics, war, and foreign affairs; **Sarah Dunphy-Lelii** (Gender and Sexuality Studies; Mind, Brain, and Behavior), research targets social cognition and how young children reason; **Omar Encarnación** (Global and International Studies, Human Rights, Latin American and Iberian Studies), specializing in LGBTQ politics in Latin America and politics of forgetting in Spain; **Kwame Holmes** (Human Rights), research focus on the intersection of race, sexuality, class identities, and politics, fellowship at Carnegie Mellon University's Center for Africanamerican Urban Studies and the Economy; **Brooke Jude** (Environmental and Urban Studies, Global Public Health), molecular microbiologist studying isolates of microorganisms cultivated from aquatic sources worldwide; **Felicia Keesing** (Environmental and Urban Studies; Global Public Health; Science, Technology, and Society), acclaimed researcher of how loss of biological diversity influences tick-borne disease transmission; **Walter Russell Mead** (Global and International Studies), columnist at the *Wall Street Journal* and Distinguished Fellow in American Strategy and Statesmanship at Hudson Institute in Washington, D.C.; **Michelle Murray** (Gender and Sexuality Studies, Global Public Health, Global and International Studies, Human Rights), grants recipient for research in international relations and U.S. foreign policy; **Peter Rosenblum** (Human Rights), former program director, International Human Rights Law Group, field research on mining in South Africa and Peru; **Karen Sullivan** (Medieval Studies, French Studies, Irish and Celtic Studies, Middle Eastern Studies, Theology), Guggenheim Fellow, author of award-winning study of medieval French literature.

Bard

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