

Academics at Bard

History

John Bard founded Bard College, as St. Stephen's College, in **1860**. For its first 60 years, St. Stephen's offered young men a classical curriculum in preparation for entrance into the seminaries of the Episcopal Church.

In **1928**, the College opened a radically new chapter in its history when it became an undergraduate school of Columbia University. In **1934**, the name of the College was changed to Bard in honor of its founder.

In **1944**, Bard became a coeducational nonsectarian liberal arts college affiliated with the Episcopal Church.



The Chapel of the Holy Innocents, built in 1857, was a gift to the College from Mr. & Mrs. John Bard.

Requirements: Bard College has four main academic requirements that all undergraduates must complete prior to graduation:

The Workshop in Language and Thinking is an intensive, three-week writing program for incoming first-years that begins in early August. Students read extensively in several genres, work on many different kinds of writing projects, and meet in small groups to discuss their reading and writing. The workshop is also an introduction to college-level instruction and exchange and to the Bard community.

All first-year students are required to take the two-semester *First-Year Seminar*, which introduces important intellectual, artistic, and cultural ideas that serve as a strong basis for a liberal arts education as it develops in subsequent years at the College, regardless of the field in which a student decides to specialize. The heart of the seminar is a series of core texts (which may include a painting or a symphonic work) that focus on a common theme.

Moderation is undertaken in the second semester of the sophomore year. Through this process students make the transition from the Lower College to the Upper College and establish their major in a program. Moderation requires students to examine their experience in the Lower College, their goals, and their interests; to evaluate their performance and their commitment to their chosen field; and to plan their work in the Upper College.

Viewed by the College as the capstone of the student's education in the liberal arts and sciences, the *Senior Project* is an original, individual, focused project growing out of the student's cumulative academic experiences. One course each semester of the student's final year is devoted to completing the Senior Project. The student submits the completed project to a committee of three professors and participates with them in a Senior Project Review.

Bard

A Walking Guide of the Campus



The Rose Garden at the Blithewood mansion offers picturesque views of the Hudson River and the Castkill Mountains beyond.

Use this information along with a campus map to assist you on a self-guided tour of the campus.

Bard

TO APPLY VISIT:

www.bard.edu/admission/applying

Office of Admission
admission@bard.edu • 845.758.7472

Wel come to Bard College!

Bard College, located 90 miles north of New York City, is situated on more than 500 acres along the Hudson River. This self-guided tour allows you to view Bard at your own pace.

Please begin your tour at the admissions office (Hopson Cottage). You may pick up a map inside or in the kiosk in front of the building.

1 The Fisher Studio Arts Building (21) is used for classes in studio arts and student studio space. The complex includes large studios for painting and drawing, printmaking, cybergraphics, sculpture, and -woodworking. It also contains a welding shop, a forge, individual studios for students working on their Senior Projects, a large exhibition area for professional and student shows, meeting areas, and faculty offices. We also have a separate exhibition space in Red Hook, about five miles away, for student shows.

2 The Bertelsmann Campus Center (8) is the central location on campus. Inside you will find the bookstore, the town post office, Down the Road Café (DTR), the 100-seat Weis Cinema, gallery space, a game room, a computer lab, the Multipurpose Room (MPR) used for campus events, and the Career Development and Student Activities Offices.

3 Main Campus Quad: Alumni Houses (2), Ravine Houses (40), and Tewksbury Hall (49). These dorms often house many of our first-year students, but are only a few of the 40+ residence halls that Bard offers its students. Students affectionately refer to the Alumni and Ravine Houses as “Toasters”. All first-years are required to have a roommate, while upperclassmen may choose from singles, doubles, triples, and suites as living options. The quad itself is used for Ultimate Frisbee games, picnics, campus barbeques, and other forms of campus entertainment.

4 The Reem and Kayden Center for Science and Computation (22) houses the computer science, biology, and chemistry programs. The building gives students opportunity to pursue the research based, hands-on study of the sciences that is an essential part of Bard's science programs. The Center also contains specialized areas such as a zebrafish research lab, two environmental rooms, a cognitive systems lab, and a hardware research lab. The east side of the RKC contains an inviting lobby/common space in which three elliptical classrooms and an egg-shaped auditorium are situated. Above the three classrooms are terraces and faculty offices that overlook the lobby.

5 Ludlow (32) is the main administrative building on campus. It houses the Office of the President, the Dean of Students' Office, the Dean of the College's Office, and the Registrar's Office to name a few.

6 Preston (39) and Aspinwall (5) are used for classrooms and faculty offices. Preston also houses a small theater.

7 Stone Row (48) is mainly a dormitory for students, but is also home to the Bard Academic Resources Center (BARC), HEOP office, and the Root Cellar. BARC is a great resource that provides tutoring and other forms of academic assistance to all Bard students in all subject areas taught at the college. The Root Cellar is a student-run club meeting space.

8 Hegeman Hall (24) and Albee (1) house the remainder of the programs within the Division of Sciences and Mathematics, with the majority of the physics and mathematics courses taught in these buildings.

9 The Henderson Technology Laboratories (26) are 24-hour computer labs available for Bard Students. Bard has over 500 computers on campus, and supports both Macs and PCs. There is also a Helpdesk on call to assist students with any computing problems that may arise.

10 South Hall (46) is a residence hall with singles and doubles for first- and second-year students.

11 The Old Gym (34) was once Bard's gymnasium, but now houses the security offices, a black box performance space for the Theater Club, and areas for filmmaking and music practice. All students are invited to join the Theater Club; it is not restricted to theater majors. Security is on campus 24-hours a day/7 days a week. In addition to our security officers, Bard EMS is a student-led club for undergraduates to become certified EMTs; EMS is always on call and is the first responder to medical emergencies on campus.

12 The Olin Humanities Building (36) is the central academic building on campus. It is the main facility for anthropology, history, philosophy, religion, history and philosophy of science, literature, creative writing, foreign languages, art history, and music history classes. The building also includes small lecture rooms, seminar rooms, study and lounge areas, a 370-seat auditorium, and an interior court and exterior terrace used for special receptions.

13 The libraries (31) are a vital part of Bard's campus. Bard has a network of six libraries; the core of this network is an online system that provides instant access to all collections, as well as more than 80 databases and 10,000 full-text online journals. Bard is also a member of ConnectNY, a resource-sharing consortium that provides easy and quick access to 4 million additional volumes.

14 Kline Commons (30) is the main dining hall on campus, complementing Down the Road (DTR) and Manor Café. The Green Onion Grocer is located in the back of Kline and serves as a perfect stop for students to gain access to fresh vegetables and snacks on campus. Students have the ability to add Bard Bucks to their meal plans, which are accepted in the Green Onion Grocer, DTR, and Manor Café.

15 Stevenson Gymnasium (47) is a 59,000 square-foot complex complete with a 25-yard, six-lane swimming pool, squash courts, a cardiovascular center, a weight room, an aerobics studio, and 12,500 square-feet of gymnasium space. Outdoor facilities include six lighted hard-surface tennis courts, a softball field, a rugby field, miles of cross-country running and Nordic skiing trails, and the Lorenzo Ferrari Soccer Complex. Bard has 15 men's and women's varsity sports, and numerous clubs and intramurals.

16 Woods Studio (55) is the home to the photography program. It contains all equipment necessary for color and black-and-white processing and printing, including an advanced digital-imaging lab, finishing room, Colenta color processor, group darkrooms, and individual darkrooms for students working on Senior Projects.

Don't forget to check these out!

The Bard College campus is comprised of two historic riverfront estates that date back to the 19th Century. They are still in existence today on North and South Campus.

Blithewood (9) is on the site of the home of John Bard, founder of St. Stephen's (Bard) College. It now houses the Levy Economics Institute for post-graduate research and studies.

Ward Manor (52) was previously a private mansion, but is currently being used as dormitories for upperclassmen and houses the Manor Café.