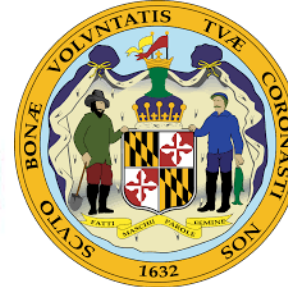




BARD

HIGH SCHOOL • EARLY COLLEGE



Bard High School Early College
Baltimore

Course Catalog
Fall 2024 &
Spring 2025

Course Offerings are Subject to Change

Catalog Available for Download at: <https://bhsec.bard.edu/baltimore/>

A.A. Degree Requirements:

In addition to completing all Maryland State Diploma requirements, in order to receive the Bard Associate of Arts Degree, students must maintain a 2.0 GPA, earn no less than 60 college credits during the two years in the college program, and fulfill the following distribution requirements:

- Four semesters (12 credits) of the Seminar sequence
- Four semesters (12 credits) of Humanities/Social Science Courses
- Two semesters (8 credits) of College Lab Science (Bio, Physics, Chem)
- Two semesters (6 credits) of College Mathematics
- Two semesters (6 credits) of World Languages (Spanish or Chinese)
- Two semesters (6 credits) of Arts
- Two semesters (6 credits) of College Electives
- Four semesters (4 credits) of CTO

Term	Course Division	Course Number	Course Title	Disbursement Satisfaction	Credits	Course Description
II	ART	101	College Painting	Humanities OR General OR Arts Elective	3	This course is an in depth review of color theory and mixing, and painting in diverse media, including still lives, landscapes, artist copies, and portraits.
I	ART	108	Art of Portraiture	Humanities OR General OR Arts Elective	3	This course provides an overview of practical approaches toward depicting the human portrait via an array of drawing techniques. Students will be acclimated to surface anatomy, proportion, composition, with other aspects of portraiture including narrative/sentiment, and caricature. Students will develop the skills necessary to create finished/refined portrait drawings. Coursework will be informed by lectures that detail historical aspects of portrait drawing as well as contemporary practices in the genre. Students will work primarily with graphite and ink. As artists have done throughout the course of history, students will utilize their acquired knowledge to create portraits that reflect both the unique characteristics of their subjects, and the artist's world view.
I & II	ART	102	Handbuilding with Clay	Humanities OR General OR Arts Elective	3	In this beginner course, you will learn basic clay building techniques such as pinching, coiling, and slab to form various clay vessels both functional and sculptural by hand. This course will emphasize the basic design elements of line, shape, texture, and color including craftsmanship and creativity. There are no prerequisites or prior experience required for this course.
I & II	ART	112	Drawing with Color Media	Humanities OR General OR Arts Elective	3	This course highlights drawing as a distinct form of artmaking and the investigation of color that can take place within it. Students will be acclimated to value, form, proportion, perspective, color theory, and other aspects of drawing including mark-making, and visual texture.

						<p>Coursework will be informed by lectures that detail historical aspects of color media drawing as well as contemporary practices in the genre. Students will work in a variety of media including ink, colored pencil, and oil pastel. Subjects such as still-life, landscape, and the human figure, will be visited during the course. As artists have done throughout the course of history, students will utilize their knowledge of the elements of art and principles of design to create works of art that reflect the unique capabilities of color media drawing, fueled by their personal experiences.</p>
I & II	BIO	101	General Biology w/lab	<p>Science Laboratory Elective OR General Elective</p>	4	<p>By the end of this course, the student will be able to identify key concepts in biology and relate them to contemporary scientific and ethical issues, read and critique scientific literature with an understanding, design experiments, collect data, and interpret and present results, explain the chemical basis and origins of life on Earth, distinguish among cell types and understand the processes that take place within them, understand genes and genetic inheritance, discuss ecology and interactions within ecosystems and explain how the theory of evolution supports the diversity of life on Earth.</p>

II	BIO	220	Neuropsychology	Science Laboratory Elective OR General Elective	4	This course will provide a fundamental overview of neuropsychology, with an emphasis on both the biology of the nervous system and the psychology that emerges from this neurobiology. Students will explore the anatomy and physiology of the vertebrate nervous system; the vertebrate sensory responses; sleep and states of consciousness; cognition, learning, and memory; stress, defense mechanisms, and personality; and abnormal psychology. Connections will be made between neuropsychology and current scientific research and pop culture. Laboratory activities will include brain and eye dissections, human sensory responses, personality analysis, and hypnotic suggestibility.
I	CHEM	210	Organic Chemistry	Science Laboratory Elective OR General Elective	4	By the end of this course, the student will be able to read and critique scientific literature with an understanding, perform experiments, collect data, and interpret and present results, explain key concepts in organic chemistry, relating the function and three dimensional structure of carbon-based molecules, identify the pharmaceutical and social significance of specific organic compounds, describe the nomenclature, structure, properties, and reactivity of the various classes of organic molecules, and interpret spectroscopic data to determine the structure of organic compounds.

I	CHI	107	US China Relations	Humanities OR Language OR General Elective	3	<p>The United States and China share a rich history of people-to-people exchanges dating back to the early 19th century. Both countries have enjoyed the benefits of bilateral commercial, cultural and educational exchange, and suffered the detriments of conflict and war. Americans and Chinese alike have been profoundly impacted by the nature of these interactions. Today U.S.-China relations are experiencing profound challenges. How they face these will greatly shape global dynamics in the 21st century. This course will focus on culturally understanding and translating key historical texts from the past, and present, with an eye towards how these documents will shape the future of U.S.-China relations. It will consider the initial interactions between the peoples of the two countries and how they began to communicate. It will also focus on the historical and geopolitical context that shaped U.S.-China relations. Finally, it will consider the prospects for improving bilateral ties in the 21st century, including an examination of the role American and Chinese educational institutions, such as Bard and Xiamen University, can play in shaping mutual relations.</p>
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II	CHI	110	Understanding China through Fiction/Film	Humanities OR Language OR General OR Arts Elective	3	<p>This introductory course will explore 20th and 21st century Chinese fiction and film to help students better understand major cultural, social and political events in China. Students will study fiction and film as an art form that conveys the life experiences and reflections of the Chinese people, as an instrument of political propaganda, and as a medium of mass entertainment. Students will learn the basics of film history in China from its inception at the end of the nineteenth century to the present. They will also learn about these basic periods of Chinese history: The May Fourth New Culture Movement and the Republican era (1911- 1949), the Maoist era (1949-1978), and the Reform era of globalization (1979-present). Key films and short literary works will be assigned to each era, and serve as a starting point to address the four main units of the course: 1) introduction and the history of Chinese film; 2) issues of family and tradition, gender and youth as conveyed through fiction and film; 3) political movements and the Cultural Revolution; and, 4) reform, modernization and globalization.</p>
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I	CHI	201 (prev. 103)	Intermediate Chinese I	Humanities OR Language OR General Elective	3	Intermediate Chinese I, a semester-long high-level language course, is designed to build upon the skills students developed in Chinese I and Chinese II during their freshman and sophomore years of high school, respectively. Students will extend their ability to understand and express themselves using basic Chinese (Mandarin) while increasing their vocabulary. The aim is for students to develop communicative competence in a variety of real-life, daily situations. Students will also learn about the richness of Chinese culture and customs, thereby developing their global perspective, using supplementary materials, including rhymes, songs, videos, cartoons, and readings. Classroom instruction will be predominantly delivered in Chinese.
II	CHI	202	Intermediate Chinese II	Humanities OR Language OR General Elective	3	Chinese 202 is a semester-long Intermediate language course designed to build upon the skills students develop in Chinese 201 (previously 103), usually taken in their junior or senior year. In Chinese 202, students will extend their ability to understand and express themselves using Chinese (Mandarin) while increasing their vocabulary and command of the language. The aim is for students to develop communicative competence in a variety of real-life, daily situations, including school life, and keeping a balanced schedule, as well as travel over winter break and putting on a Chinese show at school. Students will learn about the richness of Chinese culture and customs, thereby developing their global perspective, using supplementary materials, including rhymes, videos, cartoons, and readings. Classroom instruction will be predominantly delivered in Chinese.

I	CMSC	107	Introduction to Python	General Elective	3	Computer science is a massive field of study, with a variety of interesting paths to take. Some of these include software design, video game development, artificial intelligence, data science, and much more. These areas differ from each other, but their foundation is the same: the ability to write algorithms in a programming language. This one-semester course, Introduction to Computer Programming in Python (CMSC 107), will employ the widely-used Python, focusing on the relevant details of that language, while providing students general, transferable programming knowledge. This course will begin with introduction to programming in the IDE, variables, and data types; if-statements, loops, lists, and string manipulation; and finish with the use of functions and packages to solve more complex tasks. As students move through the topics, they develop algorithmic thinking skills (such as being able to break problems into subproblems), use abstraction, and design complex solutions. Students begin the course with simple algorithms, consisting of a few lines. By the end of the course, students will comfortably be able to write algorithms that build a simple interface for and check solutions to a Tic-Tac-Toe board or find the remaining words in a Wordle game given revealed guesses and clues.
I & II	CMSC	112	Game Design-Dev Foundations	Humanities OR General Elective OR Arts Elective	3	Game Design refers to the guiding theory, elements, and principles involved in developing game concepts and planning the overall composition of games, both digital and analog. Game Development refers to the various technical and artistic skills, as well as the production methodologies required to actually build and assemble the components of a game. Games and Play occupy an understated but ever-present aspect of human history and development, with modern digital games being a continuation of a long tradition. Emphasizing critical analysis and project-based learning, this course will introduce the foundations of

						Design and Development for digital and analog games.
I & II	ECON	120	Introduction to Economics and Business	Humanities OR General Elective	3	Introduction to Economics and Business is an introductory course in macro-, micro-, and behavioral economics. The course is designed to expose students to a variety of economic and business concepts, including but not limited to: currency, scarcity, trade offs, opportunity costs, incentives, economic systems, economic institutions, corporate forms, business strategy, management, decision making, marketing, sustainability, labor issues, community investment and disinvestment, and finance.
I & II	HUM	116	Theories of Social Justice and Civic Engagement	Humanities OR General Elective	3	How do we best address social injustice? How do we empower ourselves as citizens to protect ourselves and our communities against inequity? What strategies can we employ to effect meaningful social change? Civic engagement is an act of problem-solving. As such, we will use moments in the long history of social justice movements in the U.S. and abroad to uncover the most thoughtful and impactful theories and practices for social action. Along the way, we will read, learn about, and discuss what strategies and processes we can use to effect social change in the communities in which we live.
I & II	LIT	123	Poetry Workshop	Humanities OR General Elective	3	As a poetry workshop and reading seminar, this class assumes that its members have a fundamental understanding of the practice of poetry, or intrinsic interest in the subject matter. The purpose of the course will be multifaceted as a study of poets, poems, and the act of writing and revising poetry. There will be a literary focus on contemporary American poetry narrowed around a few authors, but drawing from the works from the 1950's to the present. We will explore the collective dialogue in a group setting of how to make a poem, revise that work, and how to consider a poem as it stands alone and within the contextual perspective

						of the world at the time it is written.
II	LIT	200	Modern Chinese Literature	Humanities OR Language OR General Elective	3	How does literature reflect evolving concepts of art, ideology (self and society), and material conditions in modern China? How have literary representations changed over the past century to reflect and facilitate social and cultural transformations? This course examines how Chinese culture and society is imagined, represented, and contested through literary texts and visual culture. We will study critical issues including tradition and modernity, cultural and geographical space, gender and family, and nationalism and revolution. Readings include fiction, essays, poetry, and drama, representing diverse strands of modern Chinese culture.
II	LIT	245	Fundamentals of Translation	Humanities OR General Elective	3	An introduction to the principles and practice of translation as both interlingual and intercultural activity. Major translation theories, both descriptive and prescriptive, will be discussed, and differing English translations of original texts will be compared. Students will also learn practical techniques for translating source texts from Spanish, Chinese, and other languages.
I & II	MATH	109	College Algebra	Mathematics OR General Elective	3	Provides students with more advanced skills required for high-level applications of mathematics. Negative and rational exponents and functions, their properties and operations, including inverse functions; linear, quadratic, polynomial, rational, absolute value, exponential and logarithmic functions are explored. Students develop graphical and algebraic skills and study applications of concepts.

I	MATH	110	Pre Calculus	Mathematics OR General Elective	3	In this course we will cover more advanced skills required for high-level applications of mathematics. Negative and rational exponents and functions, their properties and operations, including inverse functions; linear, quadratic, polynomial, rational, absolute value, exponential, logarithmic functions and trigonometric functions are explored. Students develop graphical and algebraic skills and study applications of concepts.
II	MATH	113	Advanced Algebra & Functions	Mathematics OR General Elective	3	Advanced Algebra & Functions is a course that continues to build a strong foundation for all future mathematics courses. The focus of the course is the study of families of functions that can be used to model real world phenomena and other applications. Multiple representations of the various function families are explored throughout the course of study through the use of technology. Topics include graphical and algebraic analysis of functions to include polynomial, radical, rational, exponential, logarithmic, and absolute value functions; sequences and series; and analytic geometry. Additional topics may include parametric and polar equations. Students who successfully complete the course set themselves up for success in PreCalculus and/or Statistics.
I & II	MATH	125	Probability & Statistics	Mathematics OR General Elective	3	This course is an overview of descriptive and inferential statistics. Statistics is inherently applied through the course, which emphasizes solutions to problems in a variety of applied settings. Measures of location and variability, probability distributions, correlation and regression, sampling and sampling distributions, hypothesis testing and estimation with confidence intervals for means and proportions are explored.
II	MATH	141	Calculus	Mathematics OR General Elective	3	Topics of this course include limits, continuity, the rate of change, derivatives, different formulas for algebraic, trigonometric, logarithmic, and exponential functions, maxima and minima, integration and

						computation of areas, the Fundamental Theorem of Calculus, and applications.
I & II	MUSC	209	Music Composition & Production	Humanities OR General OR Arts Elective	3	Music Composition & Production is a semester course focusing on the skill of music composition along with music theory and music history. Students will study the compositional styles of composers such as Giovanni da Palestrina, Ludwig van Beethoven, Arnold Schoenberg and Joan Tower in order to create their own original compositions.
I & II	MUSC	211	Digital Music Synthesis	Humanities OR General OR Arts Elective	3	This course focuses on the skill of digital composition. Students will study the compositional styles of composers such as Pauline Oliveros, Sia Furler, Koji Kondo, and Imogen Heap in order to create their own digital compositions.
II	PHIL	103	Introduction to Critical Thinking	Humanities OR General Elective	3	<i>(Cross-listed as SST 243)</i> In this class you will examine the elements of critical thinking outside of the confines of a particular discipline. This distilment allows us to focus on the structure of thinking instead of just a subject's content or various, competing truth claims. Practically speaking, this means that you will gain the ability to identify and evaluate arguments, evaluating deductive arguments in terms of validity and evaluating inductive arguments in terms of strength. You will also learn about errors in reasoning, how to identify them, and how to avoid them. Recognizing and evaluating arguments are crucial steps to making informed decisions and navigating the social world with a sense of agency and responsibility.

I	PHIL	207	Philosophy through Fiction	Humanities OR General Elective	3	We will examine a representative sample of central philosophical issues treated in both fictional and philosophical literature. We will also consider the role of imaginative examples and hypothetical cases in philosophical work, as well as the importance of notions like conceivability, possibility and necessity to philosophy. The fictional pieces often provide concrete imaginative illustrations of more abstract philosophical points, and thus can serve as significant aids. Furthermore, by considering variations in the imaginative scenarios of the fiction, we can often explore corresponding variations in associated philosophical positions. In this course we will examine both a number of major philosophical debates and the work of prominent science fiction authors. Students will become familiar with philosophical issues in epistemology, metaphysics, and ethics; they will thereby learn to critically examine the ideas portrayed in fiction and advocated in philosophy.
I & II	PHYS	101	Physics I w/lab	Science Laboratory Elective OR General Elective	4	This is a one semester algebra-based college course on physics, intended to be equivalent to the first semester of a two semester introductory college sequence. This course covers mechanics and thermodynamics, consistent with the courses covered in equivalent college content. Students are expected to think critically, perform laboratory experiments, and mathematically analyze the world around them. All topics covered in lower-level courses will be covered in greater depth and in more detail here.

I	PS	261	Elections and the Electoral Process	Humanities OR General Elective	3	<p>The objective of Elections and the Electoral Process is primarily two-fold: to introduce you to how elections are conducted and to give you regular opportunities to think through issues and controversies surrounding elections and democracy. As we move through the course, we will consider both current events and historical developments, electoral processes employed both inside and outside the United States, and a number of arguments for and against both present practices and proposed reforms. You will be reading from a variety of sources (such as opinion articles, scholarly publications, Supreme Court decisions) and drawing on them—or flatly opposing them—to stake out your own position on the questions they address. You will also get hands-on, practical experience by taking part in conducting an election on campus and by observing this November’s election as it happens. By the end of the semester, you will have a better understanding of how elections work and (I hope) a greater interest in elections and the role they play in the life of a democratic society.</p>
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I & II	SEM	101 and 102	First Year Seminar I and II	Seminar I Requirement	3	In Year 1 Seminar, we will engage with some of the events, intellectuals, and ideas that have helped shape Western civilization, along with the influential ideologies and values documented in its “great books”. But instead of simply celebrating Western culture’s “greatest hits”, our efforts in this year-long seminar course will focus on interrogating and critiquing the major trends in Western philosophical, religious, economic, and scientific thought. The historic influence of democracy, Christianity, capitalism, and colonialism are the major topics we will address in our time together. First Year Seminar will help students acquire the essential critical reading, thinking, and writing skills expected of students at the college level. Specifically, the rigor of FY Sem will teach students how to approach challenging, thought-provoking texts with confidence; help them master the craft of rational-critical debate; and hone students’ skill at articulating their views in both written and oral communication. Reading choices and assignments are specific to the individual instructor and will vary from section to section and year to year.
I & II	SEM	201 and 202	Sophomore Seminar I and II	Seminar II Requirement	3	This seminar is the final two parts of the four-semester Bard Seminar sequence, covering great works of philosophy and literature from antiquity to the present. In this final chapter of the course, we explore the diversity of perspectives that define modernity through the latter half of the twentieth century and into our own time. Topics covered include gender, colonialism, race, violence, power, and rewriting through texts by Jean Rhys, Toni Morrison, Michel Foucault, and others. This is a reading-intensive, participatory course, and students will be graded on their participation in class discussions. In addition, students will be expected to complete two formal papers and two creative writing projects based on the readings. Structured study periods will focus on completing readings thoughtfully and taking productive notes in preparation for

						discussion. Reading choices and assignments are specific to the individual instructor and will vary from section to section and year to year.
II	SPAN	101	Beginning Spanish I	Language or General Elective	3	In this semester-long Spanish class, students will continue their exploration of the Spanish language and the cultures of Spanish-speaking countries. This course emphasizes the skills of listening, speaking, reading, writing, and cultural competency, and uses a very different approach to language learning than what students may have experienced in the past. We will be using a storytelling approach, focusing on exposure to high frequency words and using Spanish 90% of the time in class.
I	SPAN	111	US Latinx Boom	Language or General Elective	3	The explosion of South American literary work in the 1970s and 1980s -a period referred to as the “Latin American Literary Boom”- was mirrored in U.S. in the late 1980s and early 1990s. In this course, we will analyze short fictional stories, poems, plays, and essays written by contemporary Latinx authors in the U.S. FOCUS- EMPHASIS who have been underrepresented in anthologies and other collections, namely women and other less-well-known writers from a wide range of racial and cultural backgrounds. Most of these Latinx writers strive to challenge the damaging stereotypes that too often find their way into mainstream U.S. attitudes. At the same time, Latin American cultural behavior and traditions are present beneath the surface of their characters’ personalities, provoking their actions and emotions. This course will help us understand the fact that many Latinxs have to balance, at least, two (usually very different) cultural perspectives that sift through the connotations of language

I	WRIT	103	Creative Writing	Humanities OR General Elective	3	The goal of this course is to generate. We will participate in the art of writing as creators and critics, authors and readers. This semester will be a process of creative exploration and self-discovery, built upon the solid foundation of craft lectures and discussions. Our readings will span a variety of genres, forms, and subjects, broadening your conceptions of what it means to be a “writer.” With readings that focus on people of color, queer, and marginalized voices, we will explore our responsibility as writers under the modern sociopolitical pressures and how those tensions work from a craft perspective. We will spend time questioning the stylistic choices made by these authors and then examine the choices that we make in our own work. We will experiment, probe, question, and create.
II	WRIT	222	Intermediate Fiction Writing	Humanities OR General Elective	3	The Intermediate Fiction Writing Workshop is a course for students at Bard Baltimore who have demonstrated an interest in Creative Writing through their work in the Introduction to Creative Writing class or in their Year 1 or Year 2 Seminar class. The coursework builds upon the basic narrative writing skills covered in Introduction to Creative Writing, while emphasizing the writing workshop, and the publication of a literary journal. In this class, we will explore a variety of different sources of inspiration, including but not limited to visual art and music, nature, and students’ own life experiences. The class may even have the opportunity to move offsite and explore how public spaces like libraries, museums, and theaters can be sources of inspiration. Because the best way to grow as a writer is to read the work of master writers, we will read extensively in this class. We’ll read the work of contemporary writers such as Carmen Maria Machado and Neil Gaiman and seminal work by writers such as Toni Morrison and Jorge Luis Borges. We will also have the opportunity to hear from guest speakers in various writing professions from editing and publishing to creative communications. In addition to improving your writing skills, you’ll also be involved in the publication of Bard Baltimore’s first schoolwide literary journal.

I & II	WRIT	224	Introduction to Literary Production - Aesthetics	Humanities OR General Elective	3	Aesthetics is the philosophy behind the evaluation of art. This course will explore the history and development of critical methods and movements in art and literature from the classical to the modern period. Students will also apply these critical methods and knowledge of movements in regular critical reviews of art in a broad range of mediums. As a writing class, students will be building a portfolio throughout the semester of these critical reviews.
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