

Classical Studies Moderation Guidelines

Moderation is an important opportunity to reflect on your academic progress, goals, and aspirations. All moderating students at Bard submit [two short papers](#) to the Registrar: a critical evaluation of work to date, and plans for the future. Since Moderation is also when students establish their major field of study, the Classical Studies program has its own moderation requirements too: **a portfolio of writing that best represents your academic work in Classics to date.**

Classics moderations typically take place during Advising Days, so this portfolio may be shared with your board later in the semester than the College-wide deadline for the short papers (please aim for a week before your scheduled moderation board). Your board members will read it carefully, along with your short papers, and give feedback to help you make progress as a Classics major. You can think of the portfolio as a kind of academic self-portrait with the goal of demonstrating what work you are most proud of and where your interests lie.

How to approach the portfolio

You should: a) **Start thinking about the portfolio well ahead of time** in conjunction with the short papers, for instance in the January break before a spring moderation, b) **Choose work that you have already submitted for any Classics course** that you have taken so far, and c) **Make any revisions** that will improve and polish the work for your board to read (your academic advisor can help with this – feel free to approach them!). The portfolio should be at least 10 pages and no more than 15 pages long (double-spaced, 12 point font), with a **title and table of contents** that help the reader understand what it contains.

The portfolio **must include** a paper from a Classics class, at least six pages long, that makes an academic argument. The rest is up to you, and **may include** writing, of varied lengths, from the following categories:

- Translation from Greek or Latin (this could include work done on exams and quizzes; remember to revise and polish the assignment for Moderation, and to include the original Greek or Latin)
- Further argument-driven academic writing (e.g. a longer paper, or an essay originally written for an in-class exam)
- Close analysis of ancient texts, or visual or material culture
- Word study, commentary, or data analysis
- Other materials related to your course of study selected in consultation with your advisor