

## Press release

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# ESMT Berlin and Bard College Berlin create accelerated path from liberal arts to management

**ESMT Berlin and Bard College Berlin have launched a new Accelerated Bachelor to Master Pathway that enables outstanding Bard College students to transition seamlessly into selected master's programs at ESMT. The collaboration creates new opportunities for students to combine a liberal arts education with internationally focused management studies in the heart of Berlin.**

The new pathway is open to eligible students enrolled in Bard College Berlin's [BA in Economics, Politics, and Social Thought](#) or [BA in Humanities, the Arts, and Social Thought](#). Qualified students benefit from a simplified admissions process for the ESMT degree programs [Master in Innovation and Entrepreneurship](#) and [Master in Global Management](#). As part of the collaboration, Bard College Berlin students will also have access to three complimentary places each year in the [ESMT Summer School](#), allowing them to experience graduate study in Berlin before applying.

"A liberal arts education builds a great basis for management," says [Prof. Jörg Rocholl](#), president of ESMT. "With this partnership, we are creating an academic pathway that brings together analytical thinking, intellectual curiosity, and management education. Students will be well prepared to lead across sectors and cultures."

[Dr. Florian Becker](#) from Bard College Berlin, adds, "Our students are encouraged to engage deeply with complex political, economic, and ethical questions. This partnership gives them an exciting opportunity to build on that foundation through graduate studies focused on innovation, entrepreneurship, and global management, while remaining in Berlin's vibrant international academic community."

Unlike traditional progression routes, the pathway is designed specifically for students whose academic background extends beyond business. It connects the interdisciplinary perspective of a liberal arts education with practical management training, offering students a distinctive route into international careers in business, entrepreneurship, and public leadership.

Students may express their interest in the pathway during the Bard College Berlin admissions process and confirm their participation by the end of their second year of study. Eligible students then benefit from a simplified application process at ESMT, provided they have completed at least 240 ECTS during their bachelor's degree, demonstrate strong quantitative preparation, and meet the agreed academic performance requirements.

### About ESMT Berlin

ESMT Berlin is a leading global business school with its campus in the heart of Berlin. Founded by 25 global companies, ESMT offers master, MBA, and PhD programs, as well as executive education on its campus in Berlin, in locations around the world, online, and in online blended format. Focusing on leadership, innovation, and analytics, its diverse faculty publishes outstanding research in top academic journals. Additionally, the international business school provides an interdisciplinary

platform for discourse between politics, business, and academia. ESMT is a non-profit private institution of higher education with the right to grant PhDs and is accredited by AACSB, AMBA, EQUIS, and ZEvA. It is committed to diversity, equity, and inclusion across all its activities and communities. [esmt.berlin](https://www.esmt.berlin)

### **About Bard College Berlin**

Bard College Berlin is a state-recognized, non-profit university in Germany which combines the strengths of American liberal arts education with the rigorous research profile of a German university. Its unique approach to education emphasizes interdisciplinary study, small-group seminars, and individual academic advising. On its residential campus in the Niederschönhausen neighborhood of Pankow, 350 students from 70 countries engage in intellectual dialogue across disciplines, supported by a world-class faculty committed to teaching. Accredited at both the state and federal levels in Germany and in the US through its affiliation with Bard College Annandale, Bard College Berlin offers three BA degree programs in the arts, humanities, and social sciences.

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