

Political Studies Program Moderation Guidelines

(Revised February 5, 2014)

Scheduling: Political Studies moderation boards are held late in the spring semester each year. Fall moderations are generally discouraged and must be organized individually by the student's advisor. Students planning to moderate must sign themselves up ahead of time on a first-come, first-served basis via a common calendar available on Google Docs that will be made available to the students in advance. Students will ideally sign up for the panel that includes their primary advisor, but depending on availability and remaining slots, they may instead choose a panel that has at least one professor with whom they have previously taken classes. Faculty comprising a mix of political studies subfields will comprise the moderation boards.

- Writing samples: In addition to the two personal essays required by the college (one reflective, one prospective), students will be asked to write a short (5-7page) response to **one** of several articles available in the political studies program website (<http://politicalstudies.bard.edu/>) in the moderation section. Instructions about how to write the paper are also available from the politics website.
- Copies of all written work (three printed copies, one for each board member) must be submitted to the Divisional Administrative Assistants' office (on the basement of Albee), on the day moderation papers are due at the Registrar's office. Before their board meetings, students are expected to re-familiarize themselves with their own written work and be able to relate the main points to their board members.
- NOTE FOR JOINT MAJORS: Students moderating as joint majors will need to be handled on a case-by-case basis. If it is possible to have already present political studies faculty represent other programs, we may be able to handle some cases 'in-house.' Otherwise, these boards will have to be scheduled separately with the other relevant programs.