DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY IN THE FIELD OF AMERICAN STUDIES

Housed in the Columbian College of Arts and Sciences, American studies at GW is one of the nation’s most rigorous and innovative programs. With a core of 15 full-time and 20 affiliated faculty members, the program emphasizes interdisciplinary cultural analysis with approaches from anthropology, architectural history, art history, English, folklife, geography, media studies, history, performance studies and political theory. The department’s particular strengths are in cultural history and cultural studies, art and culture, race and ethnicity, gender and sexuality, transnational American studies, urban studies of space and place, political and public cultures and religion.

Students in the PhD program construct a comprehensive plan of study in three related fields tailored to their interests. These interdisciplinary fields highlight major problems in American studies and in related disciplines, such as art history, English, history and political science. Students develop research agendas early in their studies through participation in seminars and workshops, often drawing on the rich resources of Washington-based archives and research institutes. The department strongly supports the acquisition of foreign language skills.

ADMISSIONS

Admission deadlines:
- Fall: December 15

Standardized test scores: GRE general test (institutional code 5246). Waived for applicants who hold a JD, MD, or PhD.

The Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL), the academic International English Language Testing System (IELTS), or the PTE Academic is required of all applicants except those who hold a bachelor’s, master’s, or doctoral degree from a college or university in the United States or from an institution located in a country in which English is the official language, provided English was the language of instruction.

Minimum scores for the program are:
- Academic IELTS: an overall band score of 7.0 with no individual score below 6.0; or
- TOEFL: 600 on paper-based or 100 on Internet-based; or
- PTE Academic: 68;

Recommendations required:

Prerequisite background in the humanities and/or social sciences as they apply to the field of American studies.

Admission Deadlines:
- Fall: December 15

Standardized Test Scores:
- GRE general test (institutional code 5246). Waived for applicants who hold a JD, MD, or PhD.

The Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL), the academic International English Language Testing System (IELTS), or the PTE Academic is required of all applicants except those who hold a bachelor’s, master’s, or doctoral degree from a college or university in the United States or from an institution located in a country in which English is the official language, provided English was the language of instruction.

Minimum scores for the program are:
- Academic IELTS: an overall band score of 7.0 with no individual score below 6.0; or
- TOEFL: 600 on paper-based or 100 on Internet-based; or
- PTE Academic: 68;

Recommendations Required:

Three (3) recommendations from referees.

Prerequisite Background:

Applicants are required to have an adequate background in the humanities and/or social sciences as they apply to the field of American studies.

For more information on the admission process, please visit the Columbian College of Arts and Sciences Frequently Asked Questions page.

Supporting Documents Not Submitted Online Should Be Mailed To:

Columbian College of Arts and Sciences - Graduate Admissions Office
The George Washington University
801 22nd Street NW, Phillips Hall 215
Washington DC 20052

Contact for Questions:
askccas@gwu.edu - 202-994-6210 (phone) - 202-994-6213 (fax)
8:30 am - 5:30 pm, Monday through Friday
REQUIREMENTS

The following requirements must be fulfilled:

The general requirements stated under Columbian College of Arts and Sciences, Graduate Programs (http://bulletin.gwu.edu/arts-sciences/#degreeRegulationText).

The requirements for the Doctor of Philosophy Program (http://bulletin.gwu.edu/arts-sciences/#doctoralText).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>AMST 6100</td>
<td>Scope and Methods in American Studies</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

At least two designated research seminars.

At least one course in theory approved by the advisor.

Degree candidates must pass a general examination in three areas, to be taken over the course of one month, by the end of the third year from matriculation. The three fields are elected with approval of the advisory committee and should constitute a coherent, interdisciplinary program of study; one field may be devoted to the comparative study of a non-U.S. culture.