

# BACHELOR OF SCIENCE WITH A MAJOR IN BIOLOGICAL ANTHROPOLOGY

GW's Biological Anthropology program emphasizes coursework on human evolution, human anatomy, and primatology. You will not only be engaged intellectually but will also be well poised for your career with preparation to work in a range of academic settings, including universities and museums or to pursue a career in medicine, public health, and psychology. GW has always had a strong focus in biological anthropology, which is supported by our close connections with the Smithsonian Institution's National Museum of Natural History. Here you'll have access to one of the world's greatest collections of hominoid fossils and skeletal specimens.

Visit the program website (<https://anthropology.columbian.gwu.edu/bs-biological-anthropology/>) for more information.

## ADMISSIONS

For information about the admission process, including deadlines, visit the Office of Undergraduate Admissions website (<https://undergraduate.admissions.gwu.edu/>). Applications can be submitted via the Common Application (<https://go.gwu.edu/commonapp/>).

Supporting documents not submitted online should be mailed to:

Office of Undergraduate Admissions  
The George Washington University  
800 21st St NW Suite 100  
Washington, DC 20052

For questions visit [undergraduate.admissions.gwu.edu/contact-us](https://undergraduate.admissions.gwu.edu/contact-us) (<http://undergraduate.admissions.gwu.edu/contact-us/>).

## REQUIREMENTS

The following requirements must be fulfilled: 51 credits, including 21 credits in introductory courses and 40 additional credits in required courses for the major.

Code	Title	Credits
<b>Required introductory courses</b>		
21 credits in introductory courses		
ANTH 1001	Biological Anthropology	
ANTH 1002	Sociocultural Anthropology	
or ANTH 1002W	Sociocultural Anthropology	
ANTH 1003	Archaeology	
ANTH 1004	Language in Culture and Society	

BISC 1111	Introductory Biology: Cells and Molecules
BISC 1112	Introductory Biology: The Biology of Organisms

Code	Title	Credits
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### Additional required courses for the major

12 credits in courses selected from the following:

ANTH 2406	Human Evolutionary Genetics
ANTH 3401	Human Functional Anatomy
ANTH 3402	Human Evolutionary Anatomy
ANTH 3403	Forensic Anthropology Laboratory
ANTH 3404	Human Variation
ANTH 3406	Advanced Human Osteology
ANTH 3407	Conservation in a Changing World: Human and Animal Behavior
ANTH 3408	The Evolution of Human Families
ANTH 3409	Evolution of Primate Life Histories
ANTH 3411	Primatology
ANTH 3412	Hominin Evolution
or ANTH 3412W	Hominin Evolution
ANTH 3413	Evolution of the Human Brain
ANTH 3491	Topics in Biological Anthropology
ANTH 3802	Human Cultural Beginnings
or ANTH 3802W	Human Cultural Beginnings
ANTH 3832	Paleoanthropological Field Program

9 credits in biology (BISC) courses numbered 2000 or above, including at least one course from each of the following three categories:

Cell/molecular biology

BISC 2202	Cell Biology
BISC 2207	Genetics
BISC 2208	Genetics Laboratory
BISC 2213	Biology of Cancer
BISC 2214	Developmental Biology
BISC 2220	Developmental Neurobiology

BISC 3209	Molecular Biology
BISC 3210	Nanobiotechnology
BISC 3211	Nanobiotechnology Laboratory
BISC 3212	Immunology
BISC 3261	Introductory Medical Biochemistry
BISC 3262	Biochemistry Laboratory
BISC 3263	Special Topics in Biochemistry
Organismal/sub-organismal biology	
BISC 2320	Neural Circuits and Behavior
BISC 2332	Comparative Vertebrate Anatomy
BISC 2333	Evolution and Extinction of Dinosaurs
BISC 2334W	Integrative Biology of Fishes
BISC 2337	Introductory Microbiology Laboratory
or BISC 2337W	Introductory Microbiology
BISC 2339	Parasitology
BISC 3122	Human Physiology
BISC 3320	Human Neurobiology
Ecology/evolution	
BISC 2581	Human Gross Anatomy
BISC 2450	Organic Evolution
BISC 2451	History of Life
BISC 2452	Animal Behavior
BISC 2454	General Ecology
BISC 3458	Plant Comparative Structure and Function
BISC 3460	Conservation Biology
BISC 3461	Plant-Animal Interactions
BISC 3462	Plant-Animal Interactions Laboratory
BISC 3463	Ecological and Evolutionary Genetics
BISC 3464	Ecology and Evolution of Societies
One course selected from the following:	
CHEM 1111	General Chemistry I
CHEM 1112	General Chemistry II

CHEM 2085	Environmental Chemistry
CHEM 3140	Geochemistry
or GEOL 3140	
CHEM 3165	Biochemistry I
CHEM 3166	Biochemistry II
PSYC 2014	Cognitive Psychology
PSYC 2015	Biological Psychology
PSYC 3112	Psychology of Adolescence
PSYC 3118	Neuropsychology
BISC 1005	The Biology of Nutrition and Health
or BISC 1007	Food, Nutrition, and Service
BISC 1006	The Ecology and Evolution of Organisms
or BISC 1008	Understanding Organisms through Service Learning
GEOL 1001	Physical Geology
GEOL 1002	Historical Geology
GEOL 1005	Environmental Geology
STAT 1127	Statistics for the Biological Sciences

6 credits in anthropology (ANTH) courses numbered 2000 and above, excluding courses in the 3400 range, ANTH 3802, and ANTH 3832.

**Note:** The major in biological anthropology cannot be pursued in conjunction with the major in anthropology.

## GENERAL EDUCATION

In addition to the University General Education Requirement (<http://bulletin.gwu.edu/university-regulations/general-education/>), undergraduate students in Columbian College must complete a further, College-specific general education curriculum—Perspective, Analysis, Communication (G-PAC) (<https://advising.columbian.gwu.edu/general-education-curriculum-gpac/>) as well as the course CCAS 1001 First-Year Experience. Together with the University General Education Requirement, G-PAC engages students in active intellectual inquiry across the liberal arts. Students achieve a set of learning outcomes that enhance their analytical skills, develop their communication competencies, and invite them to participate as responsible citizens who are attentive to issues of culture, diversity, and privilege.

**Coursework (<http://bulletin.gwu.edu/university-regulations/general-education/#generaleducationtext>)**

**for the University General Education Requirement is distributed as follows:**

- One course in critical thinking in the humanities.
- Two courses in critical thinking, quantitative reasoning, or scientific reasoning in the social sciences.
- One course that has an approved oral communication component.
- One course in quantitative reasoning (must be in mathematics or statistics).
- One course in scientific reasoning (must be in natural and/or physical laboratory sciences).
- UW 1020 University Writing
- After successful completion of UW 1020, 6 credits distributed over at least two writing in the discipline (WID) courses taken in separate semesters. WID courses are designated by a "W" appended to the course number.

**Coursework for the CCAS G-PAC requirement is distributed as follows:**

- Arts—one approved arts course that involves the study or creation of artwork based on an understanding or interpretation of artistic traditions or knowledge of art in a contemporary context.
- Global or cross-cultural perspective—one approved course that analyzes the ways in which institutions, practices, and problems transcend national and regional boundaries.
- Local or civic engagement—one approved course that develops the values, ethics, disciplines, and commitment to pursue responsible public action.
- Natural or physical science—one additional approved laboratory course that employs the process of scientific inquiry (in addition to the one course in this category required by the University General Education Requirement).
- Humanities—one additional approved humanities course that involves critical thinking skills (in addition to the one course in this category required by the University General Education Requirement).
- CCAS 1001 First-Year Experience

**Certain courses are approved to fulfill GPAC requirements in more than one category.**

Courses taken in fulfillment of G-PAC requirements can also be counted toward majors or minors. Transfer courses taken prior to, but not after, admission to George Washington University can count toward the University General Education Requirement and G-PAC, if those transfer courses are equivalent to GW courses that have been approved by the University and the College.

Lists of approved courses in the above categories are included on each undergraduate major's (<http://bulletin.gwu.edu/arts-sciences/#majorstext>) page in this Bulletin.

## SPECIAL HONORS

In addition to the general requirements stated under University Regulations, in order to be considered for graduation with Special Honors in anthropology, archaeology, or biological anthropology, a major have a grade-point average of 3.5 or better in courses required for the major, register for 3 credits of ANTH 3995 Undergraduate Research, and write a paper of special distinction arising out of a program of directed reading or research. Students must confer with an advisor before beginning the work.

## COMBINED PROGRAMS

### Combined programs

- Bachelor of Science with a major in biological anthropology and Master of Arts in the field of anthropology (<http://bulletin.gwu.edu/arts-sciences/anthropology/dual-bs-biological-anthropology-ma-anthropology/>)
- Bachelor of Science with a major in biological anthropology and Master of Science in the field of human paleobiology (<http://bulletin.gwu.edu/arts-sciences/anthropology/dual-bs-biological-anthropology-ms-human-paleobiology/>)