BACHELOR OF ARTS WITH A MAJOR IN HISTORY

The Washington, D.C., area offers a front-row seat to history. With an unparalleled location in the nation’s capital, award-winning faculty, and access to some of the most important research repositories in the world, the GW Department of History offers an ideal platform from which to explore our past. You will be exposed to a diversity of topics, from the African diaspora to the Cold War, from imperialism to urbanization, from the founding of Islam to Judaic history, from race relations to labor, law, and politics—giving you the knowledge and analytical tools necessary for success in a range of careers and professions. GW’s History program immerses our students in their surroundings through trips to museums, battlefields, and historical sites including the Folger Shakespeare Library, the Gettysburg Battlefield, George Washington’s Mount Vernon estate, and more. Our department also has collaborative relationships with many institutions, where you will have extraordinary access to historical documents at the National Archives, the Library of Congress, the National Security Archive, and the Smithsonian Institution.

For more information, visit the program website. (https://history.columbian.gwu.edu/)

ADMISSIONS

For more information on the admission process, please visit the Office of Undergraduate Admissions website (https://undergraduate.admissions.gwu.edu/). Applications may 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 Street NW, Suite 100
Washington DC 20052
Contact for questions: gwadm@gwu.edu or 202-994-6040

REQUIREMENTS

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<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
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<td><strong>General requirements for the major</strong></td>
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<td>A minimum of 13 History (HIST) courses, some of which may be waived by examination, as follows:</td>
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<td><strong>Introductory course requirements</strong></td>
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<td>At least one but no more than three introductory courses numbered in the 1000s. These might include, but are not limited to, HIST 1011, HIST 1120, HIST 1121, HIST 1310, and HIST 1311.</td>
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Alternatively, the introductory course requirement may be fulfilled by examination as follows: Scoring 4 or 5 on the U.S. (6 credits combined for HIST 1310 and HIST 1311), European (3 credits for HIST 1120), and World (3 credits for HIST 1011) Advanced Placement Examination; or by scoring 7 or above in an appropriate International Baccalaureate program. In addition, the following courses may be waived by scoring 650 or above on the SAT II World (HIST 1011) or U.S History (HIST 1310 and HIST 1311).

**Majors’ Introductory Seminar**

One Majors’ Introductory Seminar, selected from the following:

| HIST 2005 | Majors’ Introductory Seminar                   |         |
| HIST 2105 | Majors’ Introductory Seminar: Europe          |         |
| or HIST 2105W | Majors’ Introductory Seminar: Europe     |         |
| HIST 2305 | Majors’ Introductory Seminar: United States  |         |
| or HIST 2305W | Majors’ Introductory Seminar: United States |         |
| HIST 2505 | Majors’ Introductory Seminar: Africa         |         |
| HIST 2605 | Majors’ Introductory Seminar: Asia           |         |
| or HIST 2605W | Majors’ Introductory Seminar: Asia     |         |
| HIST 2705 | Majors’ Introductory Seminar: Latin America  |         |
| or HIST 2705W | Majors’ Introductory Seminar: Latin America |         |
| HIST 2805 | Majors’ Introductory Seminar: Middle East    |         |
| or HIST 2805W | Majors’ Introductory Seminar: Middle East   |         |

**Senior or Honors thesis or capstone**

**Thesis**

| HIST 4098 | Thesis Seminar                               |         |
| or HIST 4098W | Thesis Seminar                              |         |

**Or**

| HIST 4099 | Senior Honors Thesis Tutorial               |         |
| or HIST 4099W | Senior Honors Thesis Tutorial             |         |

Students with an overall GPA of 3.3 and a GPA of 3.5 in completed History courses may write a Special Honors Thesis. Students must find a thesis advisor who is a full-time member of the faculty.

**Capstone**
An equivalent capstone project approved by the thesis instructor may be completed in lieu of the thesis.

**Upper-level course requirements**

In addition to the Majors’ Introductory Seminar, eight to ten upper-level courses numbered in the 2000s and 3000s, taken as follows:

Topical courses

Of the upper-level courses (including, for this purpose, the Majors’ Introductory Seminar), at least one course must be taken from three of the following groups. At least one of these courses must focus on the period before 1750.

HIST Group A: Europe (courses numbered in the 2100s or 3100s)

HIST Group B: North America (courses in the 2300s or 3300s)

HIST Group C: Africa (courses in the 2500s or 3500s)

HIST Group D: Asia (courses in the 2600s or 3600s)

HIST Group E: Latin America (courses in the 2700s or 3700s)

HIST Group F: Middle East (courses in the 2800s or 3800s)

HIST Group G: Theory/Methods

Dean’s Seminars and Honors (HONR) courses taught by members of the History Department faculty, Majors’ Introductory Seminars, and HIST 2001, HIST 2005 and HIST 3001 may count toward the topical requirement, to be determined on a case-by-case basis.

**Specialization**

With the approval of the Director of Undergraduate Studies or departmental delegate, a history major may, but is not required to, declare a specialization by having at least six courses contribute to the student’s knowledge of a specific field. An area of specialization might be a geographic region, chronological period, or other topic (such as women’s history, legal history, or military history), or a combination thereof. Up to two courses counting for the specialization may be taken in other departments with the approval of the Director of Undergraduate Studies or departmental delegate.

**Foreign language**

A foreign language is not required, but majors are strongly encouraged to take at least two semesters of a foreign language, particularly if they plan to pursue a graduate degree in history.

**GENERAL EDUCATION**

In addition to the University General Education Requirement (http://bulletin.gwu.edu/university-regulations/general-education/#text), undergraduate students in Columbian College must complete a further, College-specific general education curriculum—Perspective, Analysis, Communication, or G-PAC. 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.

G-PAC approved courses, Dean’s Seminars, and Sophomore Colloquia that may be available for registration are listed on the CCAS Advising website (https://advising.columbian.gwu.edu/general-education-courses/).

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

- Writing—one approved course in university writing and two approved writing in the disciplines (WID) courses.
- Humanities—one approved course in the humanities that involves critical or creative thinking skills.
- Mathematics or Statistics—one approved course in either mathematics or statistics.
- Natural or Physical Science—one approved laboratory course that employs the process of scientific inquiry.
- Social Sciences—two approved courses in the social sciences.

Coursework for the Columbian College general education curriculum is distributed as follows:

- Arts—one approved course in the arts 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.
- Humanities—one approved course in the humanities that involves critical thinking skills (in addition to the one course in this category required by the University General Education Requirement).
- 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 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).
- Oral Communication—one course in oral communication.

Certain courses are approved to fulfill the requirement in more than one of these categories.

Courses taken in fulfillment of G-PAC also may be counted toward majors or minors. Transfer courses taken prior to, but
not after, admission to George Washington University may 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.

**SPECIAL HONORS**

In addition to the general requirements stated under University Regulations, in order to be considered for graduation with Special Honors, students must have an overall GPA of 3.3 and a GPA of 3.5 in the major at the time of graduation; and complete HIST 4099 Senior Honors Thesis Tutorial with a grade of A or A-.