BACHELOR OF ARTS WITH A MAJOR IN JOURNALISM AND MASS COMMUNICATION

Within GW’s Journalism and Mass Communication program, you will study news and public affairs with our faculty of award-winning journalists in the world’s most newsworthy city. Providing a strong foundation to meet the challenges of a changing global media landscape, our curriculum provides experiential learning experiences in digital, broadcast, and print reporting through our state-of-the-art production facilities and internship opportunities across D.C. Our students have interned at such organizations as the BBC, CNN, Discovery Communications, Fox News, and Sirius XM Radio. As a graduate of our program, you will understand the media’s impact on the way we live, govern, and connect. You will forge the future of journalism and public affairs through careers in new and traditional media organizations, politics, and business.

Visit the program website (https://smpa.gwu.edu/journalism-and-mass-communication/) for additional information.

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

The following requirements must be fulfilled:

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

Program-specific curriculum:

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Required</td>
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<td>34 credits in required courses:</td>
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<tr>
<td>PSC 1002</td>
<td>Introduction to American Politics and Government</td>
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<td>STAT 1053</td>
<td>Introduction to Statistics in Social Science</td>
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<td>SMPA 2101</td>
<td>Journalism: Theory and Practice</td>
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<tr>
<td>SMPA 2110W</td>
<td>Introduction to News Writing and Reporting (minimum grade of B required)</td>
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<tr>
<td>SMPA 2111W</td>
<td>Advanced News Reporting</td>
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<tr>
<td>SMPA 2112</td>
<td>Digital Media I: Introduction to Video Production</td>
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<td>SMPA 2113</td>
<td>Digital Media II: Introduction to Web Production and Social Media</td>
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<td>SMPA 2151</td>
<td>Research Methods</td>
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<td>SMPA 2152</td>
<td>Data Analysis for Journalism and Political Communication</td>
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<td>SMPA 2173</td>
<td>Media Law</td>
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<td>SMPA 3150</td>
<td>Journalism Ethics</td>
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<td>Electives</td>
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<td>On advanced writing/reporting course (3 credits) selected from the following:</td>
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<tr>
<td>SMPA 3230</td>
<td>Reporting in the Digital Age</td>
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<td>SMPA 3231</td>
<td>Sustainability Reporting</td>
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<td>SMPA 3235W</td>
<td>Broadcast News Writing</td>
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<td>SMPA 3242</td>
<td>Investigative Reporting</td>
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<td>Five additional courses (15 to 18 credits) selected from the advanced writing/reporting courses listed above or from the following:</td>
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<td>SMPA 2120</td>
<td>Public Opinion</td>
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<td>SMPA 2177</td>
<td>Media History</td>
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<tr>
<td>SMPA 3193</td>
<td>Selected Topics in Journalism and Mass Communication Skills</td>
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<tr>
<td>SMPA 3195</td>
<td>Selected Topics in Journalism and Mass Communication</td>
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<td>SMPA 3196</td>
<td>Independent Study</td>
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<tr>
<td>SMPA 3197</td>
<td>Internship (Only one, 3-credit internship may count toward the major.)</td>
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<tr>
<td>SMPA 3233</td>
<td>Photojournalism</td>
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SMPA 3234  Editing and Design for Print and Web
SMPA 3236W  Broadcast News Reporting
SMPA 3240W  Washington Reporting
SMPA 3241W  Campaign Reporting
SMPA 3243W  Feature Writing
SMPA 3244W  Narrative Journalism
SMPA 3245W  Editorial and Persuasive Writing
SMPA 3246  Specialized Reporting
SMPA 3247  Documentary Production
SMPA 3333  Media Organizations and Audiences
SMPA 3428  Media, Politics, and Government
SMPA 3450  Social Media
SMPA 3460  Race, Media, and Politics
SMPA 3469  International Communication
SMPA 3471  Media in the Developing World
SMPA 3472  Media and Foreign Policy
SMPA 3475  Media Management
SMPA 3476  Media, Technology, and Culture
SMPA 3477  Information Technology and Politics
SMPA 3479  Documentary
SMPA 3480  The Future of Journalism
SMPA 4198  Special Honors Research Seminar

**Capstone**

One capstone course (4 credits) selected from the following:

SMPA 4180  Online Journalism Workshop
SMPA 4181  Television News Workshop
SMPA 4182  Specialized Journalism Workshop

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**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) (http://bulletin.gwu.edu/arts-sciences/gpac/) as well as CCAS 1001. 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 for the University General Education Requirement is distributed as follows:**

- **Writing**—4 credits in UW 1020 University Writing and 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.
- **Humanities**—one approved humanities course that involves critical 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 that employ critical thinking, quantitative reasoning, or scientific reasoning.

**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.
- **Oral communication**—one approved course in oral communication.
- **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 may also 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.
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, students must have attained a 3.7 GPA in all courses completed at GW and in all courses required for the major. Students intending to apply for Special Honors must consult their advisor at the start of the senior year. Application must be made by the mid-point of the student’s final semester (October 15 or March 15), and must include a letter of application and a portfolio of published or broadcast work. The journalism and mass communication faculty evaluates the work on the basis of professional standards as outlined by the department. Students interested in pursuing Special Honors through writing a research thesis should consult their advisor.

COMBINED PROGRAM

Combined program

• Dual Bachelor of Arts with a major in journalism and mass communication and Master of Arts in the field of media and strategic communication (http://bulletin.gwu.edu/arts-sciences/media-public-affairs/combined-ba-journalism-mass-communication-ma-media-strategic-communication/)

• Dual Bachelor of Arts with a major in journalism and mass communication and Master of Professional Studies in the field of political management (http://bulletin.gwu.edu/arts-sciences/media-public-affairs/combined-ba-journalism-mass-communication-ma-political-management/)