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.

For more information, visit the program website. (https://smpa.gwu.edu/journalism-and-mass-communication/)

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/#degreeregulationtext).

Program-specific curriculum:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Required</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>34 credits in required courses:</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PSC 1002</td>
<td>Introduction to American Politics and Government</td>
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or PSC 1002W Introduction to American Politics and Government

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>STAT 1053</td>
<td>Introduction to Statistics in Social Science</td>
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<tr>
<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>
<td></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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<tr>
<td>SMPA 2113</td>
<td>Digital Media II: Introduction to Web Production and Social Media</td>
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<tr>
<td>SMPA 2151</td>
<td>Research Methods</td>
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<tr>
<td>SMPA 2152</td>
<td>Data Analysis for Journalism and Political Communication</td>
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<tr>
<td>SMPA 2173</td>
<td>Media Law</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>SMPA 3150</td>
<td>Journalism Ethics</td>
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Electives

On advanced writing/reporting course (3 credits) selected from the following:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>SMPA 3230</td>
<td>Reporting in the Digital Age</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SMPA 3235W</td>
<td>Broadcast News Writing</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>SMPA 3242</td>
<td>Investigative Reporting</td>
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</table>

Five additional courses (15 to 18 credits) selected from the advanced writing/reporting courses listed above or from the following:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>SMPA 2120</td>
<td>Public Opinion</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SMPA 2177</td>
<td>Media History</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SMPA 3193</td>
<td>Selected Topics in Journalism and Mass Communication Skills</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SMPA 3195</td>
<td>Selected Topics in Journalism and Mass Communication</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<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>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SMPA 3233</td>
<td>Photojournalism</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>SMPA 3234</td>
<td>Editing and Design for Print and Web</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
### 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

### GENERAL EDUCATION

The Bachelor of Arts with a Major in Journalism and Mass Communication degree requires a foundation in 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. 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 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**

- Dual Bachelor of Arts in an SMPA Major and Master of Arts in the field of Media and Strategic Communication or Master of Professional Studies in the field of Political Management (http://bulletin.gwu.edu/arts-sciences/media-public-affairs/combined-ba-ma/)