

BACHELOR OF ARTS WITH A MAJOR IN POLITICAL COMMUNICATION

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/#degreeregulationstext>).

Program-specific curriculum:

Code	Title	Credits
Required courses (30 credits):		
PSC 1001	Introduction to Comparative Politics	
or PSC 1003	Introduction to International Politics	
PSC 1002	Introduction to American Politics and Government	
STAT 1053	Introduction to Statistics in Social Science	
SMPA 2102	Introduction to Political Communication (which requires a minimum grade of C to remain in the major)	
SMPA 2110W	Introduction to News Writing and Reporting	
SMPA 2112	Digital Media I: Introduction to Video Production	
SMPA 2113	Digital Media II: Introduction to Web Production and Social Media	
SMPA 2151	Research Methods	
SMPA 2152	Data Analysis for Journalism and Political Communication	
SMPA 4199	Senior Seminar	
Electives		
Seven courses (21 credits) from the following:		
SMPA 2173	Media Law	
SMPA 3194	Selected Topics in Political Communication (May be repeated once for credit)	
SMPA 3196	Independent Study	

SMPA 3197 Internship (only one, 3-credit internship may be taken for credit toward the major)

SMPA 3245W Editorial and Persuasive Writing

SMPA 3240W Washington Reporting

SMPA 3241W Campaign Reporting

SMPA 3333 Media Organizations and Audiences

SMPA 3350 Public Diplomacy

SMPA 3352 Principles of Public Relations

SMPA 3353 Strategic Political Communication

SMPA 3354 Political Campaign Communication

SMPA 3355 Campaign Advertising

SMPA 3358 Strategic Practicum

SMPA 3428 Media, Politics, and Government

SMPA 3450 Social Media

SMPA 3459 Language and Politics

SMPA 3460 Race, Media, and Politics

SMPA 3461 Campaigns and Elections

SMPA 3463 Media Bias

SMPA 3469 International Communication

SMPA 3470 Comparative Media Systems

SMPA 3471 Media in the Developing World

SMPA 3472 Media and Foreign Policy

SMPA 3476 Media, Technology, and Culture

SMPA 3477 Information Technology and Politics

SMPA 4198 Special Honors Research Seminar

Two political science (PSC) courses (6 credits) numbered 2000 or above

Students must achieve specified grades in some courses. Consult the School of Media and Public Affairs (<http://smpa.gwu.edu/>) for particular grade and course sequencing requirements.

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 with a 3.7 GPA in all courses completed at GW and in all courses required for the major may declare for Special Honors in political communication at the beginning of the senior year. Students take SMPA 4199 Senior Seminar in the first semester of the senior year and SMPA 4198 Special Honors Research Seminar in the second semester. To achieve Special Honors, the student must maintain the required GPA and present a successful oral defense of a research paper prepared for the Honors Research Seminar before a committee that includes the seminar instructor and two other faculty members nominated by the student and approved by the seminar instructor.