Students who wish to major in philosophy while exploring issues concerning contemporary ethics and political philosophy may be interested in the bachelor of arts in philosophy, public affairs focus. This degree shares core material with the more traditional BA in philosophy (https://philosophy.columbian.gwu.edu/ba-philosophy/), but students also delve into social and political topics including wealth inequality, political correctness, business ethics and the relationship between technological progress and sustainability.

Visit the program website (https://philosophy.columbian.gwu.edu/ba-philosophy-public-affairs-focus/) for more 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/#degereeregulationstext).

Program-specific curriculum:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Recommended</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PHIL 1051</td>
<td>Introduction to Philosophy</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>or PHIL 1051W</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Required</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PHIL 2045</td>
<td>Introduction to Logic (3 credits)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

One course from the following (3 credits):

| PHIL 2111 | History of Ancient Philosophy |
| PHIL 2112 | History of Modern Philosophy  |

Two courses from the following (6 credits):

| PHIL 2131 | Ethics: Theory and Applications |
| PHIL 2132 | Social and Political Philosophy |
| PHIL 2136 | Contemporary Issues in Ethics   |

Four additional philosophy (PHIL) courses numbered 2000 or above (12 credits)

One of the following options:

A: Two Proseminar Courses

| PHIL 4198 | Proseminar (6 credits) |
| PHIL 4198W| Proseminar in Philosophy |

B: Honors Thesis option (requires departmental approval and a senior thesis)

| PHIL 4198 | Proseminar (3 credits) |
| PHIL 4198W| Proseminar in Philosophy |

**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 (http://bulletin.gwu.edu/arts-sciences/gpac/). 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, a student must: have at least a 3.7 grade-point average in the major and a 3.3 average overall; and submit an honors paper prepared under the supervision of a faculty advisor in the department.

Only if a committee of three faculty members in the department approves the honors paper are Special Honors recommended.

COMBINED PROGRAM

• Dual Bachelor of Arts with a major in philosophy (public affairs focus) and Master of Arts in the field of public policy with a concentration in philosophy and social policy (http://bulletin.gwu.edu/arts-sciences/philosophy/combined-ba-public-affairs-option-ma-public-policy-concentration-philosophy-social-policy/)