

# BACHELOR OF ARTS WITH A MAJOR IN AFRICANA STUDIES

In the bachelor of arts in Africana studies program, students delve into current issues and the historical context surrounding cultural theory and Black studies. Classes encourage open discussions on topics including independence movements in Africa, race relations in the United States, Islamic philosophy, immigration, and the American Dream. Many majors also choose to complement their coursework by pursuing study abroad and internship opportunities.

Students choose electives from one of three primary areas.

- African American studies: Courses in this area include Race and Minority Relations, Nineteenth Century Black Literature and African American History to 1865.
- African studies: Courses in this area include Anthropology of Africa, West Africa to Independence and Africans in the Making of the Atlantic World.
- Latin American, Latino, and Caribbean studies: Courses in this area include Contemporary Francophone Literature and Latin America: Problems and Promise.

The program's geographical scope prepares students for the challenges of an increasingly global world. Graduates have gone on to careers in a wide array of fields, including public policy, medicine, international affairs, history, education, literature, communication, law, and ethnic studies.

Visit the program website (<https://africanastudies.columbian.gwu.edu/ba-africana-studies/>) for more information.

## ADMISSIONS

For information about the admission process, including deadlines, visit the Office of Undergraduate Admissions website (<https://undergraduate.admissions.gwu.edu/>). Applications can 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 St NW Suite 100  
Washington, DC 20052

For questions visit [undergraduate.admissions.gwu.edu/contact-us](https://undergraduate.admissions.gwu.edu/contact-us) (<http://undergraduate.admissions.gwu.edu/contact-us/>).

## REQUIREMENTS

| Code   | Title  | Credits |
|--|--|---------|
| <b>Required for the major</b>  |  |         |
| AFST 1001  | Introduction to Africana Studies (taken within three semesters of declaring the major) |         |
| African American studies:  |  |         |
| HIST 3360  | African American History to 1865   |         |
| SOC 2179   | Race and Minority Relations  |         |
| ENGL 3570  | Nineteenth-Century Black Literature  |         |
| or ENGL 3950   | Cultural Theory and Black Studies  |         |
| Another course from the following designated courses: *                |  |         |
| AMST 2440  | The American City  |         |
| ENGL 3940  | Topics in African American Literary Studies  |         |
| ENGL 3945  | African American Poetry  |         |
| HIST 3360  | African American History to 1865   |         |
| HIST 3361  | African American History Since 1865  |         |
| HIST 3362  | African American Women's History   |         |
| HIST 2312  | The American Civil War and Reconstruction, 1850-1877                                   |         |
| MUS 1108   | History of Jazz  |         |
| MUS 3175   | Topics in Music History and Literature   |         |
| SOC 2151   | Jackie Robinson: Race, Sports, and the American Dream                                  |         |
| SOC 2170   | Class and Inequality in American Society   |         |
| SOC 2179   | Race and Minority Relations  |         |
| SOC 2169   | Urban Sociology  |         |
| Four courses in African studies:                                       |  |         |
| ANTH 3708  | Anthropology of Africa   |         |
| HIST 3520  | Africans in the Making of the Atlantic World   |         |
| or HIST 3540   | West Africa to Independence  |         |
| Two additional courses from the following list of designated courses * |  |         |
| HIST 3501  | Topics: Africa   |         |

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| HIST 3510   | African History to 1880  |
| HIST 3520   | Africans in the Making of the Atlantic World                             |
| HIST 3530   | Women in Africa  |
| HIST 3540   | West Africa to Independence  |
| ANTH 3801   | African Roots from Australopithecus to Zimbabwe                          |
| IAFF 2093   | Africa: Problems and Prospects   |
| PSC 2381  | Comparative Politics of Sub-Saharan Africa                               |
| PSC 2482  | African International Politics   |
| FREN 3300   | Topics in French and Francophone Literatures and Cultures in Translation |
| FREN 3560   | Topics in Contemporary Francophone Literature and Cinema                 |
| GEOG 3154   | Geography of the Middle East and North Africa                            |
| GEOG 3164   | The Geography of Africa  |
| Two courses in Latin American, Latino, and Caribbean studies:   |  |
| HIST 3710   | History of Latin America I   |
| Another course from the following list of designated courses *  |  |
| ENGL 3930   | Topics in U.S. Latina/o Literature and Culture                           |
| FREN 3300   | Topics in French and Francophone Literatures and Cultures in Translation |
| FREN 3560   | Topics in Contemporary Francophone Literature and Cinema                 |
| GEOG 3161   | Geography of Latin America   |
| IAFF 2090   | Latin America: Problems and Promise                                      |
| HIST 3711   | History of Latin America II  |
| SPAN 3600   | Special Topics   |
| An upper-level course in gender studies from the following list of designated courses (this course may also count toward one of the above categories) * |  |
| ANTH 2501   | The Anthropology of Gender: Cross-Cultural Perspectives                  |
| HIST 3530   | Women in Africa  |
| HIST 3362   | African American Women's History   |

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| PHIL 2125   | Philosophy of Race and Gender                  |
| REL 3481  | Women in Islam                                 |
| One additional course from above or from the following: |  |
| AMST 2020   | Washington, DC: History, Culture, and Politics |
| AMST 2410   | Modern U.S. Immigration                        |
| HIST 2803   | The Ancient Near East and Egypt to 322 B.C.    |
| REL 3475  | Islamic Religion and Art                       |
| REL 3414  | Islamic Philosophy and Theology                |
| GEOG 2133   | People, Land, and Food                         |
| GEOG 2141   | Cities in the Developing World                 |

## GENERAL EDUCATION

In addition to the University General Education Requirement (<https://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) (<https://bulletin.gwu.edu/arts-sciences/gpac/>) as well as the course CCAS 1001 First-Year Experience. 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 (<https://bulletin.gwu.edu/university-regulations/general-education/#generaleducationtext>) **for the University General Education Requirement is distributed as follows:**

- One course in critical thinking in the humanities.
- Two courses in critical thinking, quantitative reasoning, or scientific reasoning in the social sciences.
- One course that has an approved oral communication component.
- One course in quantitative reasoning (must be in mathematics or statistics).
- One course in scientific reasoning (must be in natural and/or physical laboratory sciences).
- UW 1020 (<https://bulletin.gwu.edu/search/?P=UW%201020>) University Writing (4 credits).
- After successful completion of UW 1020, 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.

**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.
- 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 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 (<https://bulletin.gwu.edu/arts-sciences/#majorstext>) page in this Bulletin.