BACHELOR OF ARTS WITH A MAJOR IN ART HISTORY

The Art History program at GW’s Corcoran School of the Arts and Design is situated in the heart of Washington, DC, providing students with culturally rich opportunities to study the arts inside and outside the classroom. The program’s proximity to many museums and galleries means that some of the most important art institutions in the world, such as the National Gallery of Art, often serve as the backbone of a program of study. As art history majors, students learn to apply visual and historical analyses to artworks, as well as to incorporate relevant theoretical and methodological approaches to research. The program’s curriculum spans ancient to contemporary art, with significant emphasis on research and writing. Graduates of the program have gone on to work at the National Gallery of Art, The Phillips Collection, Smithsonian Institute, Foundation for Contemporary Arts, and CulturalDC.

Visit the program website (https://corcoran.gwu.edu/art-history-undergraduate/) for additional 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 (http://undergraduate.admissions.gwu.edu/contact-us/).

REQUIREMENTS

The following requirements must be fulfilled:

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

Program-specific curriculum:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CAH 3102</td>
<td>Ancient Art of the Roman Empire</td>
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<tr>
<td>CAH 3103</td>
<td>Art and Archaeology of Egypt and the Near East</td>
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<tr>
<td>CAH 3104</td>
<td>Art and Archaeology of the Aegean Bronze Age</td>
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<tr>
<td>CAH 3105</td>
<td>Topics in Ancient Art and Archaeology</td>
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<tr>
<td>CAH 3106</td>
<td>Art and Archaeology of Israel and Neighboring Lands</td>
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<tr>
<td>CAH 3111</td>
<td>Early Christian and Byzantine Art and Architecture</td>
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<tr>
<td>CAH 3112</td>
<td>Proseminar in Romanesque and Gothic Art and Architecture</td>
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<tr>
<td>CAH 4109</td>
<td>Topics in Ancient Art and Archaeology</td>
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<tr>
<td>CAH 4119</td>
<td>Seminar in Medieval Art and Architecture</td>
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Islamic spheres

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<tr>
<th>Code</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CAH 2113</td>
<td>Survey of Early Islamic Art and Architecture from the Seventh to Fourteenth Centuries</td>
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<tr>
<td>CAH 2114</td>
<td>Survey of Islamic Art and Architecture from the Fourteenth Century to the Present</td>
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<tr>
<td>CAH 3113</td>
<td>Islamic Art and Architecture</td>
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<tr>
<td>CAH 3114</td>
<td>Art of the Book in the Medieval Muslim World</td>
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<tr>
<td>or CAH 3114W</td>
<td>Art of the Book in the Medieval Muslim World</td>
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<tr>
<td>CAH 4165</td>
<td>Topics in Islamic Art and Architecture</td>
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Renaissance and global Baroque

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<tr>
<td>CAH 3120</td>
<td>Italian Art and Architecture of the Thirteenth through Fifteenth Centuries</td>
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<tr>
<td>CAH 3121</td>
<td>Italian Art and Architecture of the Sixteenth Century</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CAH 3122</td>
<td>Topics in Early Northern Renaissance Art and Architecture</td>
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<tr>
<td>or CAH 3122W</td>
<td>Topics in Early Northern Renaissance Art and Architecture</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>CAH 3123</td>
<td>Topics in Northern Renaissance Art and Architecture</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CAH 3123W</td>
<td>Topics in Northern Renaissance Art and Architecture</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CAH 3131</td>
<td>Italian Art and Architecture of the Seventeenth Century</td>
<td></td>
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</table>
CAH 3132  Topics in Northern European Art and Architecture of the Seventeenth Century

CAH 3134  Topics in Spanish and Portuguese Art through the Sixteenth Century
  or CAH 3134W  Topics in Spanish and Portuguese Art Through the Sixteenth Century

CAH 3135  Topics in Seventeenth and Eighteenth Century Spanish and Portuguese Art

CAH 4129  Seminar in Renaissance Art and Architecture

CAH 4139  Seminar in Baroque Art and Architecture

Eighteenth and nineteenth centuries

CAH 2145  History of European Decorative Arts

CAH 2154  American Architecture I

CAH 2161  History of Decorative Arts: American Heritage

CAH 3140  European Art of the Eighteenth Century

CAH 3141  European Art of the Early Nineteenth Century
  or CAH 3141W  European Art of the Early Nineteenth Century

CAH 3142  European Art of the Late Nineteenth Century
  or CAH 3142W  European Art of the Late Nineteenth Century

CAH 3152  American Art in the Era of National Expansion

Modern and contemporary

CAH 2071  Introduction to the Arts in America

CAH 2155  American Architecture II

CAH 2162  History of Photography
  or CAH 2162W  History of Photography

CAH 3060  History of Design

CAH 3065  Digital Media Culture

CAH 3143  Early Twentieth-Century Art
  or CAH 3143W  Early Twentieth-Century Art

CAH 3146  Modern Architecture in Europe and America
  or CAH 3146W  Modern Architecture in Europe and America

CAH 3150  Theories and History of Graphic Design

CAH 3150W  Theories and History of Graphic Design

CAH 3153  American Art of the Twentieth Century

CAH 3165  Later Twentieth-Century Art
  or CAH 3165W  Later Twentieth-Century Art

CAH 3530  Art and Architecture of Washington, D.C.

CAH 4149  Seminar in Modern European Art and Architecture

CAH 4150  Seminar in Modern Art
  or CAH 4150W  Seminar in Modern Art

CAH 4157  Seminar in Photography

CAH 4159  Seminar in American Art and Architecture
  or CAH 4159W  Seminar in American Art and Architecture

CAH 4169  Seminar in Contemporary Art

CAH 4179  Topics in Design History and Theory

Asia and the Indian Ocean

CAH 2190  East Asian Art

CAH 2191  South Asian Art

CAH 2192  Art of Southeast Asia

CAH 3181  Special Topics in Asian Art

CAH 3182  Special Topics in South Asian Art
  or CAH 3182W  Special Topics in South Asian Art

CAH 4181  Topics in Asian Art

CAH 4182  Topics in South Asian Art

Central and South America

CAH 3107  Ancient Mexican Civilizations

CAH 3116  Aztec Empire

CAH 3117  Special Topics in Pre-Columbian Art and Archaeology

CAH 3160  Topics in Latin American Art and Architecture

Junior and senior seminars

At least two of the following seminars for a total of 6 credits:
CAH 4109  Topics in Ancient Art and Archaeology
CAH 4119  Seminar in Medieval Art and Architecture
CAH 4129  Seminar in Renaissance Art and Architecture
CAH 4139  Seminar in Baroque Art and Architecture
CAH 4149  Seminar in Modern European Art and Architecture
CAH 4159  Seminar in American Art and Architecture
CAH 4159W Seminar in American Art and Architecture
CAH 4165  Topics in Islamic Art and Architecture
CAH 4169  Seminar in Contemporary Art
CAH 4179  Topics in Design History and Theory
CAH 4182  Topics in South Asian Art
CAH 4189  Seminar: Topics in Art History

**Fine arts**

One Fine Arts (FA) course at any level for a total of 3 credits.

**Electives**

Any two courses from the categories above and/or from the following list for a total of 6 credits. With prior approval from the Director of Undergraduate Studies up to 6 of these credits may be from relevant coursework in another department.

CAH 1000  Dean’s Seminar
CAH 1031  Survey of Art and Architecture I
CAH 1032  Survey of Art and Architecture II
CAH 1070  The American Cinema
CAH 1090  Art History I: Art Now, Contemporary Perspectives in the Visual Arts
CAH 1091  Art History II: Historical Perspectives in the Visual Arts
CAH 1099  Variable Topics
CAH 1135  History of Spanish Art From the Golden Age to Goya
CAH 1136  History of Spanish Art From Goya to the Present
CAH 2001  Special Topics
or CAH 2001W Special Topics

CAH 3099  Variable Topics
CAH 3170  Materials, Methods, and Techniques in Art History
CAH 4197  Senior Thesis
CAH 4198  Independent Study
CAH 4199  Internship in Art History

**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 page in this Bulletin.

**SPECIAL HONORS**

To be eligible to write a Senior Thesis and for Honors in Art History, students must have attained, by the end of the junior year, a grade-point average of at least 3.5 in the major and 3.3 overall. By the end of the junior year, students should consult the Director of Undergraduate Studies regarding eligibility and selection of an area of research and the appropriate faculty members to supervise the project. We recommend that students strongly consider taking the full two semesters to complete the thesis. If writing the thesis in one semester, students should consider basing their project on pre-existing research from a previous course. The student registers for CAH 4197 Senior Thesis, which may count toward an elective in fulfillment of the major. The student works closely with a Thesis Advisor on the thesis, gaining additional feedback from one or two Readers at the draft stage. A faculty committee judges whether the Senior Thesis qualifies for Honors.

**COMBINED PROGRAMS**

Combined program

• Bachelor of Arts with a dual major in art history and in fine arts (https://bulletin.gwu.edu/arts-sciences/corcoran/dual-ba-art-history-fine-arts/)

• Dual Bachelor of Arts with a major in art history and Master of Arts in the field of art history (https://bulletin.gwu.edu/arts-sciences/corcoran/art-history/combined-ba-ma-art-history/)