

# BACHELOR OF FINE ARTS WITH A MAJOR IN FINE ARTS

In George Washington University's Fine Arts program, students discover their own creative direction through foundational coursework and exposure to diverse creative practices and experiences, rather than through directives for specific artistic aesthetic. Students are encouraged to develop their own artistic direction through studio practices, an experienced faculty, and the inspiration of Washington, DC's, vibrant cultural life and renowned galleries and museums. Courses in the fine arts cover a wide range of studio arts including, sculpture, ceramics, photography, video, painting, drawing, printmaking, book arts, performance, socially engaged practices, and new media. By studying at a research university, students are prepared to respond to the complexity of possibilities facing contemporary artists. Some program graduates continue practicing as independent artists. Some go on to earn graduate degrees, while others have secured positions at the National Gallery of Art, Phillips Collection, Aperture, Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts, and Christie's.

Visit the program website (<https://corcoran.gwu.edu/fine-art-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) (<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/#degreeregulationstext>).

78 credits in program-specific courses.

Code	Title	Credits
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### Required

12 credits in foundational courses

CFN 1090	First-Year Studio 1: Drawing and Surface	
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CFN 1091	First-Year Studio 2: Form and Materials	
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CFN 1092	First Year Studio 3: Time and Light	
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CFN 1093	First-Year Studio 4: Interaction	
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12 credits in fine art studio courses

CSA 1090	Fine Art Fundamentals I	
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CSA 1091	Fine Art Fundamentals II	
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CSA 2092	Fine Art Studio Experimental Materiality	
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CSA 3092	Fine Art Studio Critical Practices in Making	
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9 credits in introductory studio electives, selected from the following:

CSA 1101	Introduction to Handbuilt Ceramics	
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CSA 1102	Introduction to Wheelthrown Ceramics	
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CSA 1501	Black and White Photography Fundamentals	
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CSA 1502	Introduction to Digital Color Photography	
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CSA 1502	Introduction to Digital Color Photography	
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CSA 1702	Screenprinting	
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9 credits in studio electives taken from at the 1000 level or above, selected from studio areas CGD, CIXD, CMUS, CORX, CPJ, CSA, and CTAD.

9 credits in studio arts electives taken at the 2000 to 4000 levels, selected from studio areas CORX, CPJ, or CSA.

3 credits in cross-disciplinary studio electives, selected from the following:

CSA 3901	Special Topics: Cross-Disciplinary Studio Arts	
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CSA 3911	Collaborative Practices: Social Practices of Art	
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CSA 3912	The Cinematic in Contemporary Art	
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CSA 3913	Painting Off the Wall	
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CSA 3914	Art Outside the Gallery	
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CSA 3915	Public Spectacle in Socially Engaged Art	
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CSA 3951	Creative Photovoltaics	
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3 credits in professional practices, selected from the following:

CSA 4170	Professional Practices for Artists	
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6 credits in thesis coursework. Students participate in a thesis exhibition as part of their thesis.

CSA 4092	Fine Art Thesis I
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CSA 4093	Fine Art Thesis II
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9 credits in introductory art history courses, including the two listed below and one elective.

CAH 1090	Art History I: Art Now, Contemporary Perspectives in the Visual Arts
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CAH 1091	Art History II: Historical Perspectives in the Visual Arts
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And one one CAH elective course

6 credits in seminars, selected from the following:

CSA 3020W	Topics in Photography and Photojournalism
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or CSA 3021W Topics in Fine Art Seminar

CSA 4020W	Photography and Photojournalism Studio Seminar
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or CSA 4021W Fine Art Studio Seminar

## 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://advising.columbian.gwu.edu/general-education-curriculum-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 University Writing
- 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 can also be counted toward majors or minors. Transfer courses taken prior to, but not after, admission to George Washington University can 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.