

BACHELOR OF FINE ARTS WITH A MAJOR IN GRAPHIC DESIGN

In the bachelor of fine arts (BFA) in graphic design program, students learn to solve problems with persuasive, visual communication and develop their vision under the mentorship of George Washington University's acclaimed graphic design faculty. The program helps students develop and execute brand strategies in diverse media formats, including print, web, motion, and mobile devices. They complete the program with a strong understanding of concept ideation, design processes and methods, visual communication strategies, messaging, wireframing, design development, and production workflow. Graphic design students also have opportunities to participate in real-world projects, such as the World Studio's Design Ignites Change and Design Lab. At the end of the program, students participate in NEXT, GW's award-winning, school-wide thesis exhibition. Program graduates pursue employment in a variety of unique career paths and have obtained full-time positions at established companies such as Apple, Harper's Bazaar, National Geographic, the Smithsonian Institution, the Daily Beast, and Discovery Communications.

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

78 credits in program-specific courses, including 57 credits in required courses and 21 credits in elective courses.

Code	Title	Credits
Required		
CAH 1090	Art History I: Art Now, Contemporary Perspectives in the Visual Arts	
CAH 1091	Art History II: Historical Perspectives in the Visual Arts	
CFN 1090	First-Year Studio 1: Drawing and Surface	
CFN 1091	First-Year Studio 2: Form and Materials	
CFN 1092	First Year Studio 3: Time and Light	
CFN 1093	First-Year Studio 4: Interaction	
CGD 1090	Design Fundamentals I	
CGD 1091	Design Fundamentals II	
CGD 2050	Typography I	
CGD 2060	Typography II	
CGD 2090	Design Studio I	
CGD 2091	Design Studio II	
CGD 3090	Graphic Design Studio III	
CGD 3091	Graphic Design Studio IV	
CGD 4090	Graphic Design Thesis I	
CGD 4091	Graphic Design Thesis II	
CGD 4170	Professional Practices for Designers	

6 credits of courses in art and design history

Required

CAH 3150 Theories and History of Graphic Design

One course selected from the following:

CAH 3060 History of Design

CAH 3065 Digital Media Culture

Electives

12 credits in advanced CGD elective courses at the 3000 or 4000 level.

9 credits in elective courses from any art or design studio area (CGD, CIXD, CPJ, and CSA).

Students should consult their advisor for a sample program of study.

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.