

# BACHELOR OF ARTS WITH A MAJOR IN JUDAIC STUDIES

GW's Judaic Studies program educates students in the history, languages, and cultures of the Jewish people from ancient times through our own. Our interdisciplinary courses, which range from biblical archeology to American Jewish literature and from moral philosophy to material culture, highlight the complexities of the Jewish experience. Outside the classroom, the Judaic Studies program regularly sponsors trips to theatres and museums and hosts lectures and performances by celebrated personalities in a wide range of fields. GW is also the home of the I. Edward Kiev Collection, a wide-ranging and diverse collection of Hebraica and Judaica rare books, periodicals, Jewish graphic art, manuscripts, and archival documents. You will come away from our program with a well-honed set of critical and analytical skills and with the ability to make imaginative connections across time, space, and cultural experience. Many Judaic Studies' graduates have gone on to careers as doctors, lawyers, journalists as well as professors and business professionals.

Visit the program website (<https://judaic.columbian.gwu.edu/>) 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](https://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>).

Program-specific curriculum:

Code	Title	Credits
------	-------	---------

### Foreign language requirement

Two semesters of study in a single foreign language (or the equivalent)

Code	Title	Credits
------	-------	---------

### Required for the major

HIST 2050	History of Jewish Civilization: From the Bible to Spinoza	
-----------	---	--

JSTD 4019	Senior Thesis	
-----------	---------------	--

REL 2201	Judaism	
or REL 2211	Rabbinic Thought and Literature	

One course (3 credits) selected from the following:

ANTH 3805	Archaeology of Israel and Neighboring Lands	
-----------	---	--

CLAS 2803	The Ancient Near East and Egypt to 322 B.C.	
-----------	---	--

CLAS 2804	History of Ancient Israel	
-----------	---------------------------	--

CLAS 3104	Dead Sea Scrolls	
-----------	------------------	--

HIST 2051	Antisemitism from Origins to the Present	
-----------	--	--

HIST 2116	Muslims, Christians, and Jews in Medieval Spain	
-----------	---	--

JSTD 2001	Topics in Judaic Studies: Pre-modern	
-----------	--------------------------------------	--

REL 1009	The Hebrew Scriptures	
----------	-----------------------	--

REL 2211	Rabbinic Thought and Literature	
or REL 2201	Judaism	

REL 3923	Violence and Peace in Judaism, Christianity, and Islam	
----------	--	--

One course (3 credits) selected from the following:

HEBR 3101	Modern Hebrew Literary Classics in Translation	
-----------	--	--

HEBR 3104W	Gender and Sexuality in Israel	
------------	--------------------------------	--

HEBR 3301	Modern Hebrew Fiction	
-----------	-----------------------	--

HEBR 3302	The Israeli Media	
-----------	-------------------	--

HIST 2060	Modern Jewish History	
-----------	-----------------------	--

HIST 2061	Ghetto: History of a Concept	
-----------	------------------------------	--

HIST 2812	History of Zionism	
-----------	--------------------	--

HIST 3061	The Holocaust	
-----------	---------------	--

HIST 3062	War Crimes Trials	
-----------	-------------------	--

HIST 3367	The American Jewish Experience	
-----------	--------------------------------	--

JSTD 2002	Topics in Judaic Studies: Modern
PSC 2379	Politics and Foreign Policy of Israel
PSC 2476	The Arab-Israeli Conflict
or PSC 2476W	The Arab-Israeli Conflict
REL 3291	Modern Jewish Thought

Five additional courses (15 credits) selected from the two lists above.

## 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.

## SPECIAL HONORS

In addition to the general requirements stated under University Regulations, in order to be considered for graduation with Special Honors in Judaic Studies, a candidate must attain a GPA of at least 3.7 in courses counted toward the major in Judaic Studies and 3.3 overall, and earn a grade of A both for JSTD 4018 Senior Thesis–JSTD 4019 Senior Thesis and for the senior thesis. Having fulfilled these requirements, the student may be recommended for graduation with Special Honors.