

# BACHELOR OF ARTS WITH A MAJOR IN FINE ARTS

The bachelor of arts with a major in fine arts program balances studio-based work with other academic programs of study. Fine arts students are encouraged to cross conventional visual, technical, and conceptual boundaries as well as to engage with the history and traditions of art. Studying at a research university prepares students to respond to the complexity of possibilities facing the contemporary artist. The program emphasizes a critical and creative relationship between content and form, an awareness of art historical connections, and engagement with the contexts of creative production.

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>).

Program-specific curriculum:

Code	Title	Credits
Required		
6 credits in foundational courses selected from the following:		
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	

12 credits in fine art studio courses:

CSA 1090	Fine Art Fundamentals I
CSA 1091	Fine Art Fundamentals II
CSA 2092	Fine Art Studio Experimental Materiality
CSA 3092	Fine Art Studio Critical Practices in Making
Studio electives	
3 credits in studio electives taken at any level, selected from subject areas CSA, CTAD, CMUS, CPJ, CGD, or CIXD.	
Studio arts electives	
6 credits in studio arts electives taken at the 2000 level or above, selected from subject areas CSA or CPJ.	
Cross-disciplinary studio electives	
3 credits in cross-disciplinary studio electives selected from the following:	
CSA 3901	Special Topics: Cross-Disciplinary Studio Arts
CSA 3911	Collaborative Practices: Social Practices of Art
CSA 3912	The Cinematic in Contemporary Art
CSA 3913	Painting Off the Wall
CSA 3914	Art Outside the Gallery
CSA 3915	Public Spectacle in Socially Engaged Art
CSA 3951	Creative Photovoltaics
Professional practices	
3 credits in professional practices selected from the following:	
CSA 4170	Professional Practices for Artists
Thesis	
6 credits in thesis coursework. Students participate in a thesis exhibition as part of their thesis.	
CSA 4092	Fine Art Thesis I
CSA 4093	Fine Art Thesis II
Art history	
9 credits in art history courses:	
CAH 1090	Art History I: Art Now, Contemporary Perspectives in the Visual Arts

and 6 additional credits in art history or CSA seminars selected from the following:

CSA 3021W	Topics in Fine Art Seminar
CSA 3020W	Topics in Photography and Photojournalism
CSA 4020W	Photography and Photojournalism Studio Seminar
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://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 (<https://bulletin.gwu.edu/university-regulations/>) in this Bulletin, in order to be considered for graduation with Special Honors, students must have attained, by the end of the junior year, a minimum grade-point average of 3.5 in the major and 3.3 overall. By the end of their junior year, students should consult their advisor regarding eligibility, selection of an area of study, and a director of the research or creative arts project.

## COMBINED PROGRAM

### 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/>)