

# BACHELOR OF FINE ARTS WITH A MAJOR IN PHOTOJOURNALISM

Today more than ever, there is a need for photojournalists who work as observers, reporters, and storytellers and share what is happening around the world. George Washington University's photojournalism program provides a unique, multidisciplinary training ground for a new generation of visual reporters and documentarians. The program immerses students in both traditions of photojournalism and the studio arts. They develop their visual and reporting voices through in-depth, multimedia courses taken in tandem with reporting courses at the School of Media and Public Affairs. Through a combination of a faculty that includes award-winning photographers and editors from the Washington Post, White House, and Associated Press, the program's curriculum stresses the importance of individual creativity and emphasizes the profession's legal, ethical, and economic challenges, leaving graduates uniquely prepared to succeed in today's market.

Visit the program website (<https://corcoran.gwu.edu/photojournalism-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](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>).

78 credits in program-specific courses, including 54 credits in required courses and 24 credits in elective courses. Students should contact their advisor for a sample program of study.

## Recommended Program of Study

Code	Title	Credits
<b>G-PAC requirement</b>		
In addition to the major requirements listed below, students must take the following course in fulfillment of the G-PAC requirement in social science:		
SMPA 2101	Journalism: Theory and Practice	
<b>Major requirements</b>		
Foundation courses (12 credits)		
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	
Photo/photojournalism studios (21 credits)		
CSA 1501	Black and White Photography Fundamentals	
CSA 1502	Introduction to Digital Color Photography	
CPJ 2091	Photojournalism Studio Sequencing and Narrative Strategies	
CSA 2502	Time-based Media Lab	
CPJ 3090	Photojournalism Studio Visual Reportage	
CPJ 3091	Photojournalism Studio Multimedia Storytelling	
CPJ 4340	Project-Driven Website Design	
Studio electives		
9 credits in CGD, CTAD, CMUS, CIAR, CIXD, CPJ, or CSA courses taken at any level.		
Upper-level studio electives		
12 credits from any CPJ course at the 2000 to 4000 level; and/or any CSA courses with 5 as the second digit of the course number; and/or any time-based electives selected from the following:		
CSA 2611	Video Art	
CSA 3601	Special Topics: Time-Based and Electronic Media	
CSA 3606	Performative Media	
CSA 3612	Video: Remixing the Archive	
CSA 3613	Site and Sound	

CSA 3912	The Cinematic in Contemporary Art
CSA 3915	Public Spectacle in Socially Engaged Art
Professional practices (6 credits)	
CPJ 4170	Professional Practices for Photojournalism
SMPA 2173	Media Law
Thesis (6 credits)	
CPJ 4090	Photojournalism Thesis I
CPJ 4091	Photojournalism Thesis II
Note that students participate in a thesis exhibition as part of their thesis coursework.	
Art history and lens-based seminars (18 credits)	
18 credits in art history and lens-based seminars, with 12 credits in art history and 6 credits in lens-based.	
Art history seminars (12 credits)	
CAH 1090	Art History I: Art Now, Contemporary Perspectives in the Visual Arts
CAH 1091	Art History II: Historical Perspectives in the Visual Arts
or CAH 1031	Survey of Art and Architecture I
CAH 2162W	History of Photography
SMPA 2110W	Introduction to News Writing and Reporting
Lens-based seminars (6 credits)	
CSA 3020W	Topics in Photography and Photojournalism
or CSA 3021W	Topics in Fine Art Seminar
CSA 4020W	Photography and Photojournalism Studio Seminar
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://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.