

# ADVANCE

A NOVA | GEORGE MASON PARTNERSHIP



A.S. Social Sciences /  
B.A. Anthropology Pathway  
2026-2027

## A.S. Social Sciences

### ADVANCE Program Milestones

**ADVANCE Milestone Requirements:** All ADVANCE students must adhere to the following requirements. For Milestones #1-#3, failure to meet these milestones will prevent a student from matriculating to George Mason University and/or result in termination from ADVANCE. For Milestones #4-#7, failure to meet these milestones may delay matriculation to George Mason.

1. Students must graduate with the NOVA degree aligned with their ADVANCE academic pathway within 4 years of being admitted into ADVANCE. Students must ensure they are enrolled in the matching degree.
2. Students must maintain a minimum 2.5 cumulative GPA at NOVA and must have a minimum 2.5 GPA upon matriculation to George Mason.
3. Students who wish to enroll at George Mason for the fall semester must apply for NOVA spring graduation by March 1 or summer graduation by June 1. Students who wish to enroll at George Mason for the spring semester must apply for NOVA fall graduation by October 1.
4. Students must begin developmental coursework no later than the first semester in ADVANCE at NOVA.
5. Students must take first college-level MTH course and ENG 111 in the semester immediately following the completion of any MDE or EDE courses (excluding summer).
6. In the first 30 credits, students must complete ENG 111 and ENG 112 with a C or better.
7. Students must complete a college level math course with a C or better no later than one semester before NOVA graduation. Refer to your pathway to select the appropriate MTH course(s).

	NOVA DEGREE REQUIREMENT	Credits	Courses	GEORGE MASON TRANSFER EQUIVALENT	GEORGE MASON CORE/DEGREE EQUIVALENT
1	SDV Course	1	SDV 100 College Success Skills <b>OR</b> SDV 101 Orientation to XXX	UNIV 100	General Elective
2	ENG 111	3	ENG 111 College Composition I	ENGH XXX	General Elective
3	HIS Elective	3	HIS 101 Western Civilizations Pre-1600 CE <b>OR</b> HIS 102 Western Civilizations Post-1600 CE <b>OR</b> HIS 112 World Civilizations Post-1500 CE ( <i>recommended</i> )	HIST 101T HIST 102T HIST 125	Global History
4	MTH 154 or MTH 161 or higher	3	MTH 154 Quantitative Reasoning <sup>1</sup>	MATH 106	Quantitative
5	Science Course #1	4	BIO 101 General Biology I <b>OR</b> CHM 101 Introductory Chemistry <b>OR</b> ENV 121 Foundations of Environmental Science <b>OR</b> GOL 105 Physical Geology <b>OR</b> GOL 111 Oceanography I <b>OR</b> PHY 100 Elements of Physics	BIOL 103/105 CHEM 103 EVPP 108/109 GEOL 101/103 GEOL 120/121 PHYS 103	Nat Science
6	Transfer Elective #1	3-4	Any World Language/ASL course sequence 101 <b>OR</b> Any Transfer Elective ( <i>if placed out of World Language</i> ) <sup>2</sup>	GMU Equivalent	CHSS For. Lang or General Elective
7	ENG 112	3	ENG 112 College Composition II	ENGH 101	Written Comm
8	Transfer Elective #2	3	ITE 152 Introduction to Digital and Information Literacy and Computer Applications	IT 104	Info Tech
9	MTH 155 OR MTH 245 or higher	3	MTH 155 Statistical Reasoning <b>OR</b> MTH 245 Statistics I <sup>1</sup>	STAT 105T STAT 250	General Elective
10	Science Course #2	4	BIO 101 General Biology I <b>OR</b> BIO 102 General Biology II <b>OR</b> CHM 101 Introductory Chemistry <b>OR</b> ENV 121 Foundations of Environmental Science <b>OR</b> ENV 122 Applications in Environmental Science <b>OR</b> GOL 105 Physical Geology <b>OR</b> GOL 106 Historical Geology <b>OR</b> GOL 111 Oceanography I <b>OR</b> PHY 100 Elements of Physics	BIOL 103/105 BIOL 102 CHEM 103 EVPP 108/109 EVPP 112/113 GEOL 101/103 GEOL 102/104 GEOL 120/121 PHYS 103	Nat Science
11	Transfer Elective #3	3-4	Any World Language/ASL course sequence 102 <b>OR</b> Any Transfer Elective ( <i>if placed out of World Language</i> ) <sup>2</sup>	GMU Equivalent	CHSS For. Lang or General Elective

12	Social/Behavioral Sciences #1	3	SOC 211 Cultural Anthropology	ANTH 114	Major & Soc/Behav
13	CST Course	3	CST 100 Principles of Public Speaking <b>OR</b> CST 110 Introduction to Human Communication	COMM 100 COMM 101	Oral Comm
14	Humanities/Fine Arts #1	3	ENG 225 Reading Literature: Culture and Ideas <b>OR</b> ENG 245 British Literature <b>OR</b> ENG 246 American Literature <b>OR</b> ENG 255 World Literature <b>OR</b> ENG 258 African American Literature <b>OR</b> ENG 275 Women in Literature <b>OR</b> Any 200-Level ENG Literature course <sup>3</sup>	ENGH 202 or FRLN L330 (ENG 255 only)	Literature
15	PSY 200 or SOC 200	3	PSY 200 Principles of Psychology <b>OR</b> SOC 200 Introduction to Sociology	PSYC 100 SOCI 101	CHSS Soc/Behav
16	General Education Elective	3-4	Any World Language/ASL course sequence 201 <b>OR</b> Any General Education Elective ( <i>if placed out of World Language</i> )	GMU Equivalent	CHSS For. Lang or General Elective
17	Social/Behavioral Sciences #2	3	GEO 220 World Regional Geography <b>OR</b> HIS 111 World Civilizations Pre-1500 CE <b>OR</b> PLS 140 Introduction to Comparative Politics <b>OR</b> PLS 241 Introduction to International Relations <b>OR</b> PSY 219 Cross-Cultural Psychology	GGS 101 HIST L387T GOVT 133 GOVT 132 PSYC L379	General Elective
18	Social/Behavioral Sciences #3	3	GEO 220 World Regional Geography <b>OR</b> HIS 111 World Civilizations Pre-1500 CE <b>OR</b> HIS 254 History of Modern East Asian Civilizations	GGS 101 HIST L387T HIST 252	CHSS Non-Western
19	Humanities/Fine Arts #2	3-4	Any World Language/ASL course sequence 202 <b>OR</b> Any Humanities/Fine Arts Elective ( <i>if placed out of World Language</i> )	GMU Equivalent	CHSS For. Lang or General Elective
20	Social/Behavioral Sciences #4 <i>(This elective must be taken at George Mason if selections for all other requirements total 60 credits or more)</i>	3	HIS 111 World Civilizations Pre-1500 CE <b>OR</b> HIS 180 Historical Archaeology ( <i>recommended</i> ) <b>OR</b> PLS 135 U.S. Government and Politics <b>OR</b> PLS 140 Introduction to Comparative Politics <b>OR</b> PSY 216 Social Psychology <b>OR</b> PSY 230 Developmental Psychology <b>OR</b> SOC 268 Social Problems	HIST L387T ANTH 120 GOVT 103 GOVT 133 PSYC 231 PSYC 211 SOCI L352	General Elective or Major

**A. S. SOCIAL SCIENCES**

**DEGREE TOTAL** 60-61

For academic policies and procedures, please see NOVA catalog - <http://www.nvcc.edu/catalog/index.html>

**B.A. Anthropology**

GEORGE MASON DEGREE REQUIREMENT	Credits	Course	GEORGE MASON CORE/DEGREE EQUIVALENT
21 Core Courses in the Major	3	ANTH 120 Introduction to Archaeology <b>OR</b> General Elective (See: Advisor) ( <i>if HIS 180 is completed at NOVA</i> )	Major
22 Core Courses in the Major: Theory Courses	3	ANTH 490 History of Anthropological Theory	Writing Intensive
23 Gen Ed: Written Communication (Upper-level)	3	ENGH 302 Advanced Composition	Written Comm
24 Core Courses in the Major: Introductory Courses	3	ANTH 135 Introduction to Biological Anthropology	Major
25 Core Courses in the Major: Cultural Anthropology	3	Any approved Cultural Anthropology course <sup>4</sup>	Major
26 General Electives	3	General Electives (Upper-level - See: Advisor)	General Elective
27 Core Courses in the Major: Archaeology	3	Any approved Archaeology course <sup>4</sup>	Major
28 Core Courses in the Major: Biological Anthropology	3	Any approved Biological Anthropology course <sup>4</sup>	Major
29 Electives in the Major	3	Any ANTH course at the 300-400 level (See: Advisor) <sup>4</sup>	Major
30 General Electives	3	General Electives (Upper-level - See: Advisor)	General Elective

31	Electives in the Major	3	Any ANTH course at the 300-400 level (See: Advisor) <sup>4</sup>	Major
32	General Electives	3	General Electives (Upper-level - See: Advisor)	General Elective
33	Core Courses in the Major: Methods Course	3	ANTH 386 Quantitative Methods in Anthropology <b>OR</b> ANTH 450 Ethnographic Research Methods	Major
34	Gen Ed: Apex	3	Approved Apex course (ANTH 400 recommended) <sup>5</sup>	Apex
35	Electives in the Major	3	Any ANTH course at the 300-400 level (See: Advisor) <sup>4</sup>	Major
36	General Electives	3	General Electives (Upper-level - See: Advisor)	General Elective
37	Electives in the Major	3	Any ANTH course at the 300-400 level (See: Advisor) <sup>4</sup>	Major
38	General Electives	5-6	General Electives (See: Advisor)	General Elective
39	CHSS Philosophy/Religion	3	Any approved CHSS Philosophy/Religion course	CHSS Phil/Reli

<b>B.A. ANTHROPOLOGY</b>		<b>120</b>		
<b>DEGREE TOTAL</b>				

**Important Academic Information:**

<sup>1</sup>Students who plan to take MTH 245 should take MTH 154 or MTH 161 first. Credit will not be awarded for both MTH 155 and MTH 245.

<sup>2</sup>If students test out of World Language/ASL 101/102, it is recommended students complete a course that fulfills George Mason's Art requirement and/or the CHSS Philosophy/Religion requirement.

<sup>3</sup>200-level ENG literature classes include: ENG 225, ENG 230, ENG 236, ENG 237, ENG 245, ENG 246, ENG 250, ENG 255, ENG 256, ENG 257, ENG 258, ENG 271, ENG 275, and ENG 279.

<sup>4</sup>For approved Cultural Anthropology, Archaeology, Biological Anthropology and college requirement course options, please visit: <https://catalog.gmu.edu/colleges-schools/humanities-social-sciences/sociology-anthropology/anthropology-ba/#requirementstext>

<sup>5</sup>For approved Mason Core courses, please visit - <https://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/>

**General Education Waiver Policy and Guidance:**

- Students who complete a VCCS transfer associate degree (AS, AA, or AFA) will receive a waiver of the Foundation and Exploration (lower division) Mason Core general education categories, which can be found here: <https://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/> . To be eligible for the waiver, the students must provide the George Mason Office of Admissions with a final, official transcript reflecting the degree conferral date. As a prerequisite for ENGH 302, ENGH 101 is not waived. Students must complete ENGH 100 or ENGH 101, or an equivalent, with a C or higher.
- When a course fulfills a Mason Core requirement **and** a major or college requirement (e.g. Major & Quant), students must complete the course listed on the pathway to fulfill the major/college requirement. Courses that fulfill only Mason Core Foundation and Exploration categories are recommendations. In most pathways, ADVANCE students must complete a Quantitative Reasoning course to matriculate through ADVANCE.
- ADVANCE students must complete the associate degree indicated on their pathway (see the ADVANCE Program Milestones listed above). Students who withdraw from ADVANCE and transfer without the associate degree or UCGS are required to complete each Mason Core general education category.

**Additional General Notes & Resources:**

- Students pursuing this degree must complete 36 credits within the major, with a minimum GPA of 2.00.
- For academic policies and procedures, please see the George Mason catalog - <https://catalog.gmu.edu/policies/>
- Students seeking a bachelor's degree must apply at least 45 credits of upper-level courses (numbered 300 or above) toward graduation.