

ADVANCE

A NOVA | GEORGE MASON PARTNERSHIP



A.F.A. Visual Arts /
B.A. Art and Visual Technology
2026-2027

A.F.A. Visual Arts 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).

The School of Art offers a Bachelor of Arts (BA) and a Bachelor of Fine Arts (BFA) in the Art and Visual Technology major. The BA degree offers a studio arts program with 12 studio art credits in combination with supporting art history and theory coursework. BA students are required to demonstrate 200-level proficiency in a foreign language or declare and fulfill a minor area of study in addition to their major. The BFA is a more comprehensive studio-focused program that has 24 studio art credits along with additional critical thinking courses, providing BFA students with an enhanced studio portfolio and potential graduate study.

	NOVA DEGREE REQUIREMENT	Credits	Courses	GEORGE MASON TRANSFER EQUIVALENT	MASON CORE/DEGREE EQUIVALENT
1	SDV Course	1	SDV 101 Orientation to Fine Arts	UNIV 100	General Elective
2	ENG 111	3	ENG 111 College Composition I	ENGH XXX	General Elective
3	ART 101	3	ART 101 History of Art: Prehistoric to Gothic	ARTH 200	Arts
4	ART 121	3	ART 121 Foundations of Drawing	AVT 222	Major
5	ART 131	3	ART 131 Two-Dimensional Design	AVT 104	Major
6	ART 140	3	ART 140 Introduction to Graphic Skills	AVT 110	Major & Info Tech
7	ART 102	3	ART 102 History of Art: Renaissance to Modern	ARTH 201	Major
8	ART 223	3	ART 223 Life Drawing	AVT L324	Major
9	ART 132	3	ART 132 Three-Dimensional Design	AVT 105	Major
10	ENG 112	3	ENG 112 College Composition II	ENGH 101	Written Comm
11	MTH 154 or MTH 155 or higher	3	MTH 154 Quantitative Reasoning OR MTH 155 Statistical Reasoning	MATH 106 STAT 105T	Quantitative
12	ART or PHT Elective or General Education Elective	3	HIS 101 Western Civilizations Pre-1600 CE OR HIS 102 Western Civilizations Post-1600 CE OR HIS 112 World Civilizations Post-1500 CE (<i>recommended</i>)	HIST 101T HIST 102T HIST 125	Global History
13	ART 298	3	ART 298 Visual Art Portfolio Development	AVT 202	Major
14	Science Course	4	BIO 101 General Biology I OR CHM 101 Introductory Chemistry OR ENV 121 Foundations of Environmental Science OR GOL 105 Physical Geology OR GOL 111 Oceanography I OR PHY 100 Elements of Physics	BIOL 103/105 CHEM 103 EVPP 108/109 GEOL 101/103 GEOL 120/121 PHYS 103	Nat Science

15	ART or PHT Elective #1	3	ART 116 Design for the Web I OR ART 130 Introduction to Multimedia OR ART 141 Typography I OR ART 153 Ceramics Handbuilding I OR ART 231 Sculpture I OR ART 241 Painting I OR ART 271 Printmaking I OR PHT 101 Photography I OR PHT 103 Black and White Darkroom Photography I OR AVT 217 Introductions to Web Design¹ OR AVT 232 Painting I¹ OR AVT 243 Printmaking I¹ OR AVT 252 Darkroom Photography I¹ OR AVT 253 Digital Photography I¹ OR AVT 262 Sculpture I¹ OR AVT 280 Introduction to New Media Arts¹	AVT 217 AVT 280 AVT 215 AVT 153T AVT 262 AVT 232 AVT 243 AVT 253 AVT 252 AVT 217 AVT 232 AVT 243 AVT 252 AVT 253 AVT 262 AVT 280	Major
16	ART or PHT Elective #2	3	ART 116 Design for the Web I OR ART 130 Introduction to Multimedia OR ART 141 Typography I OR ART 153 Ceramics Handbuilding I OR ART 231 Sculpture I OR ART 241 Painting I OR ART 271 Printmaking I OR PHT 101 Photography I OR PHT 103 Black and White Darkroom Photography I OR AVT 217 Introductions to Web Design¹ OR AVT 232 Painting I¹ OR AVT 243 Printmaking I¹ OR AVT 252 Darkroom Photography I¹ OR AVT 253 Digital Photography I¹ OR AVT 262 Sculpture I¹ OR AVT 280 Introduction to New Media Arts¹	AVT 217 AVT 280 AVT 215 AVT 153T AVT 262 AVT 232 AVT 243 AVT 253 AVT 252 AVT 217 AVT 232 AVT 243 AVT 252 AVT 253 AVT 262 AVT 280	Major
17	ART or PHT Elective or General Education Elective	3	GEO 220 World Regional Geography OR HIS 111 World Civilizations Pre-1500 CE OR PLS 140 Introduction to Comparative Politics OR PLS 241 Introduction to International Relations OR PSY 219 Cross-Cultural Psychology OR REL 237 Religions of the East OR REL 238 Religions of the West	GGS 101 HIST L387 GOVT 133 GOVT 132 PSYC L379 RELI 212 RELI 211	General Elective
18	ART 215, ART 250, PHT 110, or General Education Elective	3	ART 215 History of Modern Art OR ART 250 History of Design OR PHT 110 History of Photography	ARTH L362 AVT L318 ARTH L350	General Elective
19	Social/Behavioral Sciences	3	ECO 201 Principles of Macroeconomics OR ECO 202 Principles of Microeconomics OR GEO 210 People and the Land: An Introduction to Cultural Geography OR PLS 135 U.S. Government and Politics OR PSY 200 Principles of Psychology OR PSY 230 Developmental Psychology OR SOC 200 Introduction to Sociology OR SOC 211 Cultural Anthropology	ECON 104 ECON 103 GGS 103 GOVT 103 PSYC 100 PSYC 211 SOCI 101 ANTH 114	Soc/Behav
20	CST Course	3	CST 100 Principles of Public Speaking OR CST 110 Introduction to Human Communication	COMM 100 COMM 101	Oral Comm

21	ENG Literature Course	3	ENG 225 Reading Literature: Culture and Ideas OR ENG 245 British Literature OR ENG 246 American Literature OR ENG 255 World Literature OR ENG 258 African American Literature OR ENG 275 Women in Literature OR Any 200-Level ENG Literature course ²	ENGH 202 or FRLN L330 (ENG 255 only)	Literature
A.F.A. VISUAL ARTS DEGREE		62			
TOTAL					

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

B.A. Art and Visual Technology

GEORGE MASON DEGREE REQUIREMENT	Credits	Course	MASON CORE/DEGREE EQUIVALENT
22	Studio Core & Research Practicum	3 AVT 101 New Majors Colloquium	Major
23	Gen Ed: Written Communication (UL)	3 ENGH 302 Advanced Composition	Written Comm
24	Interdisciplinary Arts Requirements	3 Any AVT 300 or AVT 400 level studio course ³	Major
25	Foundation Electives	3 Approved Foundation Elective course (Upper Level See: Advisor) ³	Major
26	Art History	3 ARTH 374 Art Now	Major
27	Critical Analysis & Contemporary Practice	3 AVT 395 Writing for Artists	Writing Intensive
28	Interdisciplinary Arts Requirements	3 Any AVT 300 or AVT 400 level studio course ³	Major
29	Interdisciplinary Arts Requirements	3 Any AVT 300 or AVT 400 level studio course ³	Major
30	General Electives	3 General Elective (Upper level See: Advisor)	General Elective
31	Studio Core & Research Practicum	3 AVT 303 Junior Core	Major
32	Critical Analysis & Contemporary Practice	3 AVT 307 Aesthetics	Major
33	BA Foreign Language, Minor, Double Major or Double Degree	3 <p>BA Students must complete one of the following:⁴ Minor OR Double Major OR Double Degree OR Intermediate level proficiency in one foreign language <i>See your George Mason academic advisor to develop a plan to complete this requirement</i></p>	Major
34	Gen Ed: Apex & Major	3 AVT 453 Professional Practices	Apex
35	BA Foreign Language, Minor, Double Major or Double Degree	3 <p>BA Students must complete one of the following:⁴ Minor OR Double Major OR Double Degree OR Intermediate level proficiency in one foreign language <i>See your George Mason academic advisor to develop a plan to complete this requirement</i></p>	Major
36	BA Foreign Language, Minor, Double Major or Double Degree	3 <p>BA Students must complete one of the following:⁴ Minor OR Double Major OR Double Degree OR Intermediate level proficiency in one foreign language <i>See your George Mason academic advisor to develop a plan to complete this requirement</i></p>	Major

37	BA Foreign Language, Minor, Double Major or Double Degree	3	BA Students must complete one of the following: ⁴ Minor OR Double Major OR Double Degree OR Intermediate level proficiency in one foreign language <i>See your George Mason academic advisor to develop a plan to complete this requirement</i>	Major
38	BA Foreign Language, Minor, Double Major or Double Degree or General Electives	3	BA Students must complete one of the following: ⁴ Upper Level Minor Course OR Upper Level Double Major Course OR Upper Level Double Degree Course OR General Elective (Upper Level See: Advisor) <i>See your George Mason academic advisor to develop a plan to complete this requirement</i>	Major
39	BA Foreign Language, Minor, Double Major or Double Degree or General Electives	3	BA Students must complete one of the following: ⁴ Upper Level Minor Course OR Upper Level Double Major Course OR Upper Level Double Degree Course OR General Elective (Upper Level See: Advisor) <i>See your George Mason academic advisor to develop a plan to complete this requirement</i>	Major
40	General Elective	3	General Elective (Upper Level See: Advisor) ⁵	General Elective
41	General Elective	3	General Elective (Upper Level See: Advisor) ⁵	General Elective

B.A. ART AND VISUAL TECHNOLOGY DEGREE TOTAL 122

Denotes a course that must be taken at George Mason University. Please see your ADVANCE Coach to enroll.

Important Academic Information:

¹When selecting co-enrollment courses, students should take care to select course(s) that are not equivalent to ART courses taken at NOVA. For instance, students should not take Painting I at both NOVA (ART 241) and through co-enrollment at George Mason (AVT 232). Credit for the same course twice cannot be applied to the George Mason degree.

²200-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.

³For approved Foundation Electives, and Interdisciplinary Arts courses, please visit: <https://catalog.gmu.edu/colleges-schools/visual-performing-arts/art/art-visual-technology-ba/>

⁴Pathway assumes that the selection to fulfill the BA foreign language, minor, double major, or double degree requirement will require 12-18 credits. Some selections, like a double degree, will require more credits. See your advisor in your first term at George Mason to develop a plan for fulfilling this requirement.

⁵Students who select a minor above 18 credits, a double major, or a double degree can replace this general elective with an upper level course required by their minor, double major, or double degree.

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:

- Undergraduate students earning CVPA degrees must earn a minimum 2.00 cumulative GPA in their major. AVT majors may not choose AVT courses to meet this requirement, and they may not double-count ARTH courses toward both the AVT major and the Mason Core arts requirement. AVT majors may not double-count ARTH courses toward both AVT major requirements and the Mason Core Global Contexts requirement.
- 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.