

# ADVANCE

A NOVA | GEORGE MASON PARTNERSHIP



A.S. Criminology and Criminal Justice / B.A.  
Criminology, Law and Society Pathway  
2026-2027

## A.S. Criminology and Criminal Justice

### 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.

- 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.
- Students must maintain a minimum 2.5 cumulative GPA at NOVA and must have a minimum 2.5 GPA upon matriculation to George Mason.
- 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.
- Students must begin developmental coursework no later than the first semester in ADVANCE at NOVA.
- 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).
- In the first 30 credits, students must complete ENG 111 and ENG 112 with a C or better.
- 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><br>SDV 101 Orientation to XXX  | UNIV 100   | General Elective                    |
| 2  | ENG 111   | 3       | ENG 111 College Composition I   | ENGH XXX   | General Elective                    |
| 3  | ADJ 100   | 3       | ADJ 100 Survey of Criminal Justice  | CRIM 100   | Major & Soc/Behav                   |
| 4  | HIS Course  | 3       | HIS 101 Western Civilizations Pre-1600 CE <b>OR</b><br>HIS 102 Western Civilizations Post-1600 CE <b>OR</b><br>HIS 112 World Civilizations Post-1500 CE ( <i>recommended</i> )  | HIST 101T<br>HIST 102T<br>HIST 125   | Global History                      |
| 5  | MTH 154 or MTH 155                                      | 3       | MTH 154 Quantitative Reasoning <b>OR</b><br>MTH 155 Statistical Reasoning   | MATH 106<br>STAT 105T  | Quantitative                        |
| 6  | ADJ 201   | 3       | ADJ 201 Criminology   | CRIM 210   | Major                               |
| 7  | CST 100 or CST 110                                      | 3       | CST 100 Principles of Public Speaking <b>OR</b><br>CST 110 Introduction to Human Communication  | COMM 100<br>COMM 101   | Oral Comm                           |
| 8  | ENG 112   | 3       | ENG 112 College Composition II  | ENGH 101   | Written Comm                        |
| 9  | ITE 152   | 3       | ITE 152 Introduction to Digital and Information Literacy and Computer Applications  | IT 104   | Info Tech                           |
| 10 | PSY 200   | 3       | PSY 200 Principles of Psychology  | PSYC 100   | Add'l Soc/Behav                     |
| 11 | ADJ 105, ADJ 211, ADJ 234                               | 3       | ADJ 105 Juvenile Justice System <b>OR</b><br>ADJ 211 Criminal Law, Evidence, and Procedures I <b>OR</b><br>ADJ 234 Terrorism and Counter-Terrorism  | CRIM L302<br>CRIM L490<br>CRIM L475  | Major                               |
| 12 | ADJ 140   | 3       | ADJ 140 Introduction to Corrections   | CRIM L402  | Major                               |
| 13 | Physical Life Science or Life Science Elective with Lab | 4       | BIO 101 General Biology I <b>OR</b><br>CHM 101 Introductory Chemistry <b>OR</b><br>ENV 121 Foundations of Environmental Science <b>OR</b><br>GOL 105 Physical Geology <b>OR</b><br>GOL 111 Oceanography I <b>OR</b><br>PHY 100 Elements of Physics  | BIOL 103/105<br>CHEM 103<br>EVPP 108/109<br>GEOL 101/103<br>GEOL 120/121<br>PHYS 103 | Nat Science                         |
| 14 | SOC 266 or SOC 268 or General Education Elective        | 3       | SOC 266 Race and Ethnicity <b>OR</b><br>SOC 268 Social Problems <b>OR</b><br>CST 229 Intercultural Communication <b>OR</b><br>PLS 241 Introduction to International Relations <b>OR</b><br>REL 100 Introduction to the Study of Religion <b>OR</b><br>REL 230 Religions of the World <b>OR</b><br>REL 237 Religions of the East | SOCI L308<br>SOCI L352<br>COMM L305<br>GOVT 132<br>RELI 100<br>RELI 100<br>RELI 212  | General Elective or CHSS PHIL/REL   |

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|----|--|---|---|--|------------------|
| 15 | <b>SOC 200</b>   | 3 | SOC 200 Introduction to Sociology   | SOCI 101   | General Elective |
| 16 | <b>ADJ 133</b>   | 3 | ADJ 133 Ethics and the Criminal Justice Profession  | CRIM L306  | Major            |
| 17 | <b>ADJ 229 or ADJ 236</b>                                      | 3 | ADJ 229 Community Policing Modern Society <b>OR</b><br>ADJ 236 Principles of Criminal Investigations  | CRIM L409<br>CRIM L410   | Major            |
| 18 | <b>Humanities/Fine Arts</b>                                    | 3 | ART 100 Art Appreciation <b>OR</b><br>ART 101 History of Art: Prehistoric to Gothic <b>OR</b><br>ART 102 History of Art: Renaissance to Modern <b>OR</b><br>CST 130 Introduction to Theatre <b>OR</b><br>CST 151 Film Appreciation I <b>OR</b><br>MUS 121 Music in Society  | ARTH 101<br>ARTH 200<br>ARTH 201<br>THR 101<br>ENGH L372<br>MUSI 101   | Arts             |
| 19 | <b>Physical Life Science or Life Science Elective with Lab</b> | 4 | BIO 101 General Biology I <b>OR</b><br>BIO 102 General Biology II <b>OR</b><br>CHM 101 Introductory Chemistry <b>OR</b><br>ENV 121 Foundations of Environmental Science <b>OR</b><br>ENV 122 Applications in Environmental Science <b>OR</b><br>GOL 105 Physical Geology <b>OR</b><br>GOL 106 Historical Geology <b>OR</b><br>GOL 111 Oceanography I <b>OR</b><br>PHY 100 Elements of Physics | BIOL 103/105<br>BIOL 102<br>CHEM 103<br>EVPP 108/109<br>EVPP 112/113<br>GEOL 101/103<br>GEOL 102/104<br>GEOL 120/121<br>PHYS 103 | Nat Science      |
| 20 | <b>ENG Literature</b>  | 3 | ENG 225 Reading Literature: Culture and Ideas <b>OR</b><br>ENG 245 British Literature <b>OR</b><br>ENG 246 American Literature <b>OR</b><br>ENG 255 World Literature <b>OR</b><br>ENG 258 African American Literature <b>OR</b><br>ENG 275 Women in Literature <b>OR</b><br>Any 200-Level ENG Literature course <sup>1</sup>  | ENGH 202 or<br>FRLN L330 (ENG 255 only)  | Literature       |

**A.S. CRIMINOLOGY & CRIM JUSTICE DEGREE TOTAL** 60

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

## B.A. Criminology, Law and Society

**Optional Concentrations:** Criminal Justice; Homeland Security and Justice; Law and Society

| GEORGE MASON DEGREE REQUIREMENT                       | Credits | Course   | GEORGE MASON CORE/DEGREE EQUIVALENT |
|---|---------|--|-------------------------------------|
| 21 <b>Core Courses in the Major</b>                   | 3       | CRIM 315 Research Methods and Analysis in Criminology  | Major                               |
| 22 <b>College Requirement: Foreign Language</b>       | 6       | Approved foreign language course <sup>2</sup><br><i>Students may opt to take a two course, 101/102 sequence if available</i> | CHSS Foreign Language               |
| 23 <b>General Electives</b>                           | 3       | General Electives (Upper-level, See: Advisor)  | General Elective                    |
| 24 <b>College Requirement: Non-Western</b>            | 3       | Approved Non-Western Culture course (Upper-level) <sup>3</sup>   | CHSS Non-Western                    |
| 25 <b>Core Courses in the Major</b>                   | 3       | CRIM 424 Constitutional Law: Criminal Process and Rights   | Major                               |
| 26 <b>Electives in the Major</b>                      | 3       | Upper-level CRIM Elective (Major) <sup>3</sup>   | Major                               |
| 27 <b>Electives in the Major</b>                      | 3       | Upper-level CRIM Elective (Major) <sup>3</sup>   | Major                               |
| 28 <b>College Requirement: Foreign Language</b>       | 3       | Approved foreign language course <sup>2</sup>  | CHSS Foreign Language               |
| 29 <b>Gen Ed: Written Communication (Upper-level)</b> | 3       | ENGH 302 Advanced Composition  | Written Comm                        |
| 30 <b>Electives in the Major</b>                      | 3       | Upper-level CRIM Elective (Major) <sup>3</sup>   | Major                               |
| 31 <b>Electives in the Major</b>                      | 3       | Upper-level CRIM Elective (Major) <sup>3</sup>   | Major                               |
| 32 <b>Electives in the Major</b>                      | 3       | Upper-level CRIM Elective (Major) <sup>3</sup>   | Major                               |

|    |   |   |   |                                    |
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| 33 | College Requirement:<br>Phil/Reli or General Elective | 3 | Approved course in Philosophy or Religion <sup>3</sup> OR General Elective ( <i>if PHI/REL is completed at NOVA</i> ) | CHSS Phil/Reli or General Elective |
| 34 | College Requirement:<br>Foreign Language              | 3 | Approved foreign language course <sup>2</sup>   | CHSS Foreign Language              |
| 35 | General Electives                                     | 3 | General Electives (Upper-level, See: Advisor)   | General Elective                   |
| 36 | General Electives                                     | 3 | General Electives (Upper-level, See: Advisor)   | General Elective                   |
| 37 | General Electives                                     | 3 | General Electives (Upper-level, See: Advisor)   | General Elective                   |
| 38 | Gen Ed: Apex & Major                                  | 3 | CRIM 495 Capstone in Criminology, Law and Society   | Apex & Writing Intensive           |
| 39 | General Electives                                     | 3 | General Electives (Upper level, See: Advisor)   | General Elective                   |

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| <b>B.A. CRIM, LAW AND SOCIETY DEGREE TOTAL</b> | <b>120</b> |
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**Important Academic Information:**

<sup>1</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. Students are encouraged to complete this course prior to their last semester at NOVA.

<sup>2</sup>For approved Foreign Language Courses, please visit - <https://catalog.gmu.edu/colleges-schools/humanities-social-sciences/criminology-law-society/criminology-law-society-ba/#requirements>

<sup>3</sup>For approved College Requirements and CRIM Electives, please visit - <https://catalog.gmu.edu/colleges-schools/humanities-social-sciences/criminology-law-society/criminology-law-society-ba/> .

**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 42 credits within the major, with a minimum GPA of 2.00. Students may apply a maximum of 18 credits of transferable ADJ courses from the Virginia Community College System (VCCS) or comparable courses at another community college to fulfill the degree requirements. Once a student matriculates at George Mason, no courses may be taken at another institution without prior written approval from the program and the dean.
- No more than 12 credits of CRIM 485 Study Abroad can be applied to the major. No more than 15 credits of CRIM 490 Special Topics can be applied to the major. A maximum of 6 credits of INTS 417 Human Trafficking and Smuggling and/or CRIM 490 Special Topics when topic is Human Trafficking can be applied to the major.
- For academic policies and procedures, please see 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.