

ADVANCE

A NOVA | GEORGE MASON PARTNERSHIP



A.S. Social Sciences /
B.A. Economics Pathway
Online Option Available
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 OR SDV 101 Orientation to XXX	UNIV 100	General Elective
2 ENG 111	3	ENG 111 College Composition I	ENGH XXX	Written Comm
3 HIS 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
4 MTH 161 Required (NOVA Catalog: MTH 154 or MTH 161 or higher)	3	MTH 161 PreCalculus I	MATH 103T	General Elective
5 Transfer Elective #1	3-4	Any World Language/ASL course sequence 101 OR Any Transfer Elective (<i>if placed out of World Language</i>) ¹	GMU Equivalent	CHSS For. Lang or General Elective
6 Science Course #1	4	BIO 101 General Biology I OR CHM 101 Introductory Chemistry OR ENV 121 Foundations of Environmental Science I 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
7 ENG 112	3	ENG 112 College Composition II	ENGH 101	General Elective
8 Transfer Elective #2	3	ITE 152 Introduction to Digital and Information Literacy and Computer Applications	IT 104	Info Tech
9 MTH 261 Required (NOVA Catalog: MTH 155 or MTH 245 or higher)	3	MTH 261 Applied Calculus I	MATH 108	Major & Quantitative
10 Science Course #2	4	BIO 101 General Biology I OR BIO 102 General Biology II OR CHM 101 Introductory Chemistry OR ENV 121 Foundations of Environmental Science I OR ENV 122 Applications in Environmental Science II OR GOL 105 Physical Geology OR GOL 106 Historical Geology OR GOL 111 Oceanography I OR 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 OR Any Transfer Elective (<i>if placed out of World Language</i>) ¹	GMU Equivalent	CHSS For. Lang or General Elective

12	Social/Behavioral Sciences #1	3	ECO 201 Principles of Macroeconomics	ECON 104	Soc/Behav & Major
13	CST Course	3	CST 100 Principles of Public Speaking OR CST 110 Introduction to Human Communication	COMM 100 COMM 101	Oral Comm
14	Humanities/Fine Arts #1	3-4	Any World Language/ASL course sequence 201 OR Any Humanities/Fine Arts Elective (<i>if placed out of World Language</i>)	GMU Equivalent	CHSS For. Lang or General Elective
15	PSY 200 or SOC 200	3	PSY 200 Principles of Psychology OR SOC 200 Introduction to Sociology	PSYC 100 SOCI 101	CHSS Soc/Behav
16	Social/Behavioral Sciences #2	3	ECO 202 Principles of Microeconomics	ECON 103	Major
17	Social/Behavioral Sciences #3	3	GEO 220 World Regional Geography OR HIS 111 World Civilizations Pre-1500 CE OR HIS 203 History of African Civilizations OR HIS 231 Introduction to Latin American History OR HIS 254 History of Modern East Asian Civilizations OR SOC 211 Cultural Anthropology	GGS 101 HIST L387T HIST 261 HIST 272 HIST 252 ANTH 114	CHSS Non-Western
18	General Education Elective	3-4	Any World Language/ASL course sequence 202 OR Any General Education Elective (<i>if placed out of World Language</i>)	GMU Equivalent	CHSS For. Lang or General Elective
19	Humanities/Fine Arts #2	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
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	ECO 230 Money and Banking OR GEO 220 World Regional Geography OR HIS 111 World Civilizations Pre-1500 CE OR HIS 203 History of African Civilizations OR HIS 231 Introduction to Latin American History OR HIS 254 History of Modern East Asian Civilizations OR SOC 211 Cultural Anthropology	ECON L310 GGS 101 HIST L387T HIST 261 HIST 272 HIST 252 ANTH 114	Major or General Elective

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. Economics

Concentration: Philosophy, Politics, and Economics.

NOTE: Students should meet with a George Mason Economics Advisor to create a graduation plan.

GEORGE MASON DEGREE REQUIREMENT	Credits	Course	GEORGE MASON CORE/DEGREE EQUIVALENT
21 Major Core Courses	3	ECON 306 Intermediate Microeconomics	Major
22 Major Core Courses	3	ECON 309 Economic Problems and Public Policies	Major
23 Major Core Courses	3	ECON 311 Intermediate Macroeconomics	Major
24 Major Core Courses	3	STAT 250 Introductory Statistics I	Major
25 Major Core Courses	3	STAT 350 Introductory Statistics II	Major
26 Gen Ed: Written Communication (Upper-level)	3	ENGH 302 Advanced Composition	Written Comm
27 Electives in Major or General Electives	3	Any 300-400 level Economics (ECON) coursework (excludes ECON 385) OR General Elective (<i>if ECO 230/ECON L310 taken at NOVA</i>)	Major or General Elective
28 Major Core Courses	3	ECON 345: Introduction to Econometrics	Major
29 Electives in Major	3	Any 300-400 level Economics (ECON) coursework (excludes ECON 385)	Major
30 Electives in Major	3	Any 300-400 level Economics (ECON) coursework (excludes ECON 385)	Major

31	Electives in Major	3	Any 300-400 level Economics (ECON) coursework (excludes ECON 385)	Major
32	Electives in Major	3	Approved ECON Writing Intensive course (See: Advisor)	Writing Intensive
33	Electives in Major	3	Any 400-level Economics (ECON) coursework	Major
34	Electives in Major or General Electives	3	Any 400-level Economics (ECON) coursework OR Upper-level General Elective (See: Advisor) if course taken for Apex requirement is ECON 491, 493, or 495	Major
35	CHSS Phil/Reli	3	Any approved PHIL/RELI course ³	CHSS Phil/Reli
36	General Electives	3	General Elective (See: Advisor)	General Elective
37	Apex Requirement	3	ECON 491 Capstone in Economics OR ECON 493 Capstone Internship OR ECON 495 RS: Honors Thesis in Economics OR Other approved course for Apex requirement	Apex
38	General Electives	3	Upper-level General Elective (See: Advisor)	Major
39	General Electives	3	General Elective (See: Advisor)	General Elective
40	General Electives	1-3	General Elective (See: Advisor)	General Elective

B.A. ECONOMICS DEGREE	120
TOTAL	

Please note: Some fully online courses may require a campus presence for orientations, tests, final exams, or labs.

Important Academic Information:

¹If students test out of World Language/ASL 101, it is recommended students take MTH 245. If students test out of World Language/ASL 102, it is recommended they take a class that fulfills the Arts Mason Core requirement.

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 CHSS required courses, please visit - <https://catalog.gmu.edu/colleges-schools/humanities-social-sciences/economics/economics-ba/#requirementstext>

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 a minimum of 48 credits of required coursework with a minimum GPA of 2.00. Students completing a concentration will complete additional credits.
- 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.