

# ADVANCE

A NOVA | GEORGE MASON PARTNERSHIP



A.A. Liberal Arts / B.A. Environmental and Sustainability Studies Pathway  
2026-2027

## A.A. Liberal 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).

	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	CST Course	3	CST 100 Principles of Public Speaking <b>OR</b> CST 110 Introduction to Human Communication	COMM 100 COMM 101	Oral Comm
4	World Language #1	3-4	Any World Language/ASL course sequence 101 <b>OR</b> Any General Education Elective ( <i>if placed out of World Language</i> )	GMU Equivalent	BA College Req or General Elective
5	MTH 154	3	MTH 154 Quantitative Reasoning	MATH 106	Quantitative
6	ENG 112	3	ENG 112 College Composition II	ENGH 101	Written Comm
7	World Language #2	3-4	Any World Language/ASL course sequence 102 <b>OR</b> Any General Education Elective ( <i>if placed out of World Language</i> )	GMU Equivalent	BA College Req or General Elective
8	MTH 245	3	MTH 245 Statistics I <sup>1</sup>	STAT 250	Major
9	Science Course #1	4	ENV 121 Foundations of Environmental Science	EVPP 108/109	Major & Nat Science
10	ENG Literature Elective	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>2</sup>	ENGH 202 or FRLN L330 (ENG 255 only)	Literature
11	World Language #3	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	BA College Req OR General Elective
12	HIS Course #1	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

13	Science Course #2	4	ENV 122 Applications in Environmental Science	EVPP 112/113	Major & Nat Science
14	Social/Behavioral Sciences #1	3	ECO 202 Microeconomics	ECON 103	Soc/Behav & Major
15	World Language #4	3-4	Any World Language/ASL course sequence 202 <b>OR</b> Any General Education Elective ( <i>if placed out of World Language</i> )	GMU Equivalent	BA College Req or General Elective
16	Open Elective #1	3	ITE 152 Introduction to Digital and Information Literacy and Computer Applications	IT 104	Info Tech
17	Open Elective #2 ( <i>This elective must be taken at George Mason if selections for all other requirements total 60 credits or more.</i> )	3	ART 100 Art Appreciation <b>OR</b> ART 101 History of Art: Prehistoric to Gothic <b>OR</b> ART 102 History of Art: Renaissance to Modern <b>OR</b> CST 130 Introduction to Theatre <b>OR</b> CST 151 Film Appreciation I <b>OR</b> MUS 121 Music in Society	ARTH 101 ARTH 200 ARTH 201 THR 101 ENGH L372 MUSI 101	Arts
18	HIS Course #2	3	HIS 203 History of African Civilization I <b>OR</b> HIS 231 Introduction to Latin American History <b>OR</b> HIS 254 History of Modern East Asian Civilizations	HIST 261 HIST 272 HIST 252	General Elective
19	Humanities/Fine Arts	3	PHI 100 Introduction to Philosophy <b>OR</b> PHI 111 Logic <b>OR</b> PHI 220 Ethics and Society <b>OR</b> PHI 227 Biomedical Ethics <b>OR</b> REL 100 Introduction to the Study of Religion <b>OR</b> REL 230 Religions of the World <b>OR</b> REL 237 Religions of the East <b>OR</b> REL 238 Religions of the West	PHIL 100T PHIL 173T PHIL 151T PHIL L309 RELI 100 RELI --- RELI 212 RELI 211	BA College Req: Phil/Rel
20	Social/Behavioral Sciences #2	3	GEO 220 World Regional Geography HIS 203 History of African Civilizations HIS 231 Introduction to Latin American History HIS 254 History of Modern East Asian Civilizations SOC 211 Cultural Anthropology	GGG 101 HIST 261 HIST 272 HIST 252 ANTH 114	BA College Req: Non- Western
21	HUM 298	1	HUM 298 Seminar and Project – Liberal Arts	GENL XXX	General Elective

**A.A. LIBERAL ARTS DEGREE**  
**TOTAL** 61-62

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

## B.A. Environmental & Sustainability Studies

**Concentrations:** Business and Sustainability; Climate Change and Society; Environmental Policy;  
Equity and Environmental Justice; Sustainable Food and Agriculture; Conservation and Sustainability.

GEORGE MASON DEGREE REQUIREMENT	Credits	Course	GEORGE MASON CORE/DEGREE EQUIVALENT
22 Core Courses in Major	4	INTS 210 Sustainable World	Major
23 Core Courses in Major	3	EVPP 336 Tackling Wicked Problems in Society the Environment	Major
24 Gen Ed: Written Communication (Upper level)	3	ENGH 302 Advanced Composition	Written Comm
25 Core Courses in Major	4	INTS 334 Environmental Justice	Writing Intensive & BA 2nd Soc/Behav
26 Core Courses in Major	3	EVPP 361 Introduction to Environmental Policy <b>OR</b> GOVT 361 Introduction to Environmental Policy	Major
27 Concentration in the Major	3	Approved Concentration course <sup>3</sup>	Major
28 Concentration in the Major	3	Approved Concentration course <sup>3</sup>	Major
29 Core Courses in Major	3	EVPP 377 Applied Ecology	Major

30	Concentration in the Major	3	Approved Concentration course <sup>3</sup>	Major
31	General Elective	3	General Electives (Upper-level See: Advisor)	General Elective
32	General Elective	3	General Electives (Upper-level See: Advisor)	General Elective
33	Core Courses in Major	3	EVPP 322 Business and Sustainability	Major
34	Concentration in the Major	3	Approved Concentration course <sup>3</sup>	Major
35	Concentration in the Major	3	Approved Concentration course <sup>3</sup>	Major
36	Concentration in the Major	3	Approved Concentration course <sup>3</sup>	Major
37	Core Courses in Major	3	INTS 390 International Internship <b>OR</b> INTS 398 Field-Based Work <b>OR</b> INTS 498 Field-Based Work <b>OR</b> INTS 490 Internship <b>OR</b> EVPP 395 Undergraduate Research in Environmental Science and Policy <b>OR</b> EVPP 494 Internship	Major
38	Core Courses in the Major & Gen Ed: Apex	4	EVPP 480 Sustainability in Action	Apex
39	General Elective	3	General Electives (Upper-level See: Advisor)	General Elective
40	General Elective	1-2	General Electives (See: Advisor)	General Elective

**B.A. ENVR & SUST. STUDIES**  
**DEGREE TOTAL** 120

**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>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>3</sup>For approved concentration or college requirement course, please visit: <https://catalog.gmu.edu/colleges-schools/science/environmental-policy/environmental-sustainability-studies-ba-cos/#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 60 credits within the major, with a minimum grade of C in each course.
- 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.