

ADVANCE

A NOVA | GEORGE MASON PARTNERSHIP



A.S. Science / B.S. Environmental Science
Pathway
2026-2027

A.S. Science

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	General Elective
3	General Education Elective	3	ITE 152 Introduction to Digital and Information Literacy and Computer Applications ¹	IT 104	Major & Info Tech
4	MTH 167	5	MTH 167 PreCalculus with Trigonometry ²	MATH 105	General Elective
5	MTH 263	4	MTH 263 Calculus I	MATH 113	Major & Quantitative
6	ENG 112	3	ENG 112 College Composition II	ENGH 101	Written Comm
7	MTH 245 Required (NOVA Catalog: MTH 264)	3	MTH 245 Statistics I	STAT 250	Major
8	Science Course #1	4	CHM 111 General Chemistry I	CHEM 211-213	Major & Nat Science
9	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 HIS 121 United States History to 1877 OR HIS 122 United States History Since 1865 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 GGG 103 HIST 121 HIST 122 GOVT 103 PSYC 100 PSYC 211 SOCI 101 ANTH 114	Soc/Behav
10	HIS Course	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

11	Humanities/Fine Arts #1	3	ART 100 Art Appreciation OR ART 101 History of Art: Prehistoric to Gothic OR ART 102 History of Art: Renaissance to Modern OR CST 130 Introduction to Theatre OR CST 151 Film Appreciation I OR MUS 121 Music in Society	ARTH 101 ARTH 200 ARTH 201 THR 101 ENGL L372 MUSI 101	Arts
12	Math or Science #1	4	BIO 101 General Biology I	BIOL 103/105	General Elective
13	Math or Science #2	4	CHM 112 General Chemistry II	CHEM 212-214	Major & Nat Science
14	General Education Elective	3	GEO 220 World Regional Geography OR PLS 140 Introduction to Comparative Politics OR PLS 241 Introduction to International Relations	GGG 101 GOVT 133 GOVT 132	General Elective
15	CST Course	3	CST 100 Principles of Public Speaking OR CST 110 Introduction to Human Communication	COMM 100 COMM 101	Oral Comm
16	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 ³	ENGL 202 or FRLN L330 (ENG 255 only)	Literature
17	Math or Science #3	4	BIO 206 Cell Biology ⁴	BIOL 213/215 ⁴	Major
18	Science Course #2	4	GOL 106 Historical Geology	GEOL 102/104	Major

A.S. SCIENCE DEGREE TOTAL 60

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

B.S. Environmental Science

Concentrations: Conservation; Ecological Science; Environmental Health; Human and Ecosystem Response to Climate Change; Marine, Estuarine and Freshwater Ecology; Wildlife

GEORGE MASON DEGREE REQUIREMENT	Credits	Course	GEORGE MASON CORE/DEGREE EQUIVALENT
19 Gen Ed: Written Communication (Upper-Level)	3	ENGL 302 Advanced Composition	Written Comm
20 Major Requirements	4	EVPP 301 Environmental Science: Biological Diversity and Ecosystems	Major
21 Major Requirements	4	EVPP 305 Environmental Microbiology Essentials AND EVPP 306 Environmental Microbiology Essentials Lab	Major
22 Major Requirements	3	EVPP 337 Environmental Policy Making in Developing Countries	Major & Writing Intensive
23 Major Requirements	4	EVPP 302 Environmental Science: Biomes and Human Dimensions	Major
24 Major Requirements	3	EVPP 336 Tackling Wicked Problems in Society & the Environment OR EVPP 338 Economics of Environmental Policy OR EVPP 362 Intermediate Environmental Policy OR EVPP 475 Global Biodiversity Governance	Major
25 Major Requirements	3	EVPP 361 Introduction to Environmental Policy	Major
26 Major Requirements	3	EVPP 430 Fundamentals of Environmental Geographic Information Systems	Major
27 Major Requirements	3	EVPP 377 Applied Ecology	Major
28 Concentration Requirements	3	Approved Concentration Course ⁵	Major
29 Concentration Requirements	3	Approved Concentration Course ⁵	Major

30	Concentration Requirements	3	Approved Concentration Course ⁵	Major
31	Concentration Requirements	3	Approved Concentration Course ⁵	Major
32	Concentration Requirements	3	Approved Concentration Course ⁵	Major
33	Concentration Requirements	3	Approved Concentration Course ⁵	Major
34	Concentration Requirements	3	Approved Concentration Course ⁵	Major
35	General Elective	3	General Elective (See: Advisor)	General Elective
36	General Elective	2	General Elective (See: Advisor)	General Elective
37	Gen Ed: Apex/Major Requirement ⁶	4	EVPP 480 Sustainability in Action OR EVPP 425 Ecological Sustainability	Apex

B.S. ENVR SCIENCE DEGREE

120

TOTAL

Important Academic Information:

¹ITE 152 transfers as IT 104 and will fulfill the CDS 130 requirement in the Environmental Science, BS. See the George Mason Environmental Science advisor to complete this course substitution after matriculation to George Mason.

²Students who place directly into MTH 263 may take any transferrable Physical/Life Science approved to fulfill the Science, AS degree requirement in place of MTH 167, including BIO 101, BIO 102, BIO 110, BIO 207, GOL 105, GOL 225, PHY 201, PHY 202, PHY 241, or PHY 242.

³200-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.

⁴Students who complete BIO 206 (BIOL 213-215) will receive transfer credit to fulfill the EVPP 210 major requirement.

⁵For approved Concentration courses, please visit - <https://catalog.gmu.edu/colleges-schools/science/environmental-policy/environmental-science-bs/>

⁶CONS 490 RS: Integrated Conservation Strategies may complete this requirement if attending the Smithsonian-Mason Semester.

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:

- Some Mason Core requirements may already be fulfilled by the major requirements listed above. Students are strongly encouraged to consult their advisors to ensure they fulfill all remaining Mason Core requirements.
- 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.