

ADVANCE

A NOVA | MASON PARTNERSHIP

A.S. Social Sciences / B.A. Human
Development and Family Science Pathway
2025-2026

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 Mason and/or result in termination from ADVANCE. For Milestones #4-#7, failure to meet these milestones may delay matriculation to Mason.

1. Students must graduate with the NOVA degree aligned with their ADVANCE academic pathway within 4 years of being admitted into ADVANCE. Students are highly encouraged to be continuously enrolled at NOVA/Mason to support progress towards degree completion.
2. Students must maintain a minimum 2.5 cumulative GPA at NOVA and must have a minimum 2.5 GPA upon matriculation to Mason.
3. Students who wish to enroll at 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 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	MASON TRANSFER EQUIVALENT	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 ¹	ENGH XXX	General Elective
3	CST Course	3	CST 100 Principles of Public Speaking OR CST 110 Introduction to Human Communication	COMM 100 COMM 101	Oral Comm
4	Transfer Elective #1	3-4	Any World Language/ASL course sequence 101 OR Any General Education Elective (<i>if placed out of World Language</i>) ²	GMU Equivalent	CHSS For. Lang or General Elective
5	MTH 154	3	MTH 154 Quantitative Reasoning ³	MATH 106	Quantitative
6	ENG 112	3	ENG 112 College Composition II ¹	ENGH 101	Written Comm
7	Transfer Elective #2	3-4	Any World Language/ASL course sequence 102 OR Any General Education Elective (<i>if placed out of World Language</i>) ²	GMU Equivalent	CHSS For. Lang or General Elective
8	MTH 155 or MTH 245	3	MTH 245 Statistics I ³	STAT 250	Major or General Elective
9	Science Course #1	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
10	Humanities/Fine Arts #1	3	ENG 225 Reading Literature: Culture and Ideas OR ENG 245 British Literature OR ENG 246 American Literature OR ENG 250 Children's Literature (recommended) OR ENG 255 World Literature OR ENG 258 African American Literature OR ENG 275 Women in Literature OR Any 200-Level ENG Literature course ⁴	ENGH 202 or FRLN L330 (ENG 255 only)	Major or Literature
11	Humanities/Fine Arts #2	3-4	Any World Language/ASL course sequence 201 OR Any Humanities/Fine Arts Elective (<i>if placed out of World Language</i>) ²	GMU Equivalent	CHSS For. Lang or General Elective

12	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
13	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 OR ENV 122 Applications in Environmental Science 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
14	PSY 200	3	PSY 200 Principles of Psychology	PSYC 100	Soc/Behav
15	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>) ²	GMU Equivalent	CHSS For. Lang or General Elective
16	Social/Behavioral Sciences #1	3	PSY 230 Developmental Psychology	PSYC 211	Major
17	Social/Behavioral Sciences #2	3	SOC 200 Introduction to Sociology	SOCI 101	CHSS Soc/Behav
18	Social/Behavioral Sciences #3	3	HDFS 200 Individual and Family Development (co-enrollment course) OR GEO 220 World Regional Geography OR SOC 211 Cultural Anthropology	HDFS 200 GGG 101 ANTH 114	Major or CHSS Non-Western
19	ITE 152 or General Education Elective	3	ITE 152 Introduction to Digital and Information Literacy and Computer Applications OR PHI 100 Introduction to Philosophy OR PHI 111 Logic OR PHI 220 Ethics and Society OR PHI 227 Biomedical Ethics OR REL 100 Introduction to the Study of Religion OR REL 230 Religions of the World OR REL 233 Introduction to Islam OR REL 237 Religions of the East OR REL 238 Religions of the West	IT 104 PHIL 100T PHIL 173T PHIL 151T PHIL L309 RELI 100 RELI 100 RELI L312 RELI 212 RELI 211	Info Tech or CHSS Phil/Rel
20	Social/Behavioral Sciences #4 (This elective is not needed if selections for all other requirements total 60 credits or more.)	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 (<i>recommended</i>) OR SSC 115 Introduction to Global Affairs	GGG 101 HIST L387 GOVT 133 GOVT 132 PSYC L379 GLOA 101	Major

A. S. SOCIAL SCIENCES

DEGREE TOTAL 60-62

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

B.A. Human Development & Family Science

Students will select 12 credits of major electives. Elective choices follow career and professional interests. Elective courses are suggested by advisors and mentors and approved by the Academic Program Coordinator. Areas of focus include: Families and Individuals Across the Life Span, Family Advocacy, Research and Policy.

	MASON DEGREE REQUIREMENT	Credits	Course	MASON CORE/DEGREE EQUIVALENT
21	College Requirement: Non-Western or Major Requirements	3	Any approved Non-Western Culture course ⁵ (<i>if not completed at NOVA</i>) OR HDFS 200 Individual and Family Development (<i>if not taken through co-enrollment</i>)	CHSS Non-West or Major
22	Gen Ed: Written Communication (Upper-level)	3	ENGH 302 Advanced Composition	Written Comm

23	Gen Ed: CEHD Philosophy/Religion	3	Any PHIL or RELI course ⁵ OR General Elective <i>(if PHIL/REL completed at NOVA)</i>	CHSS Phil/Reli or General Elective
24	Core Courses in the Major	3	HDFS 401 Family Law & Public Policy OR HDFS 250 Family Financial Literacy and Resource Management OR HDFS 301 The Hospitalized Child and Family OR HDFS 302 Therapeutic Benefits of Play	Major
25	Core Courses in the Major	4	INTS 321 Parent-Child Relations	Writing Intensive
26	Core Courses in the Major	3	HDFS 300 Individual and Family Services Delivery	Major
27	Major Elective Choices	3	Approved Upper Level course from major electives ⁵	Major
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29	Core Courses in the Major	3	SOCI 303 Methods and Logic of Inquiry OR PSYC 301 Research Methods in Psychology OR INTS 434 Research for Social Change	Major
30	Core Courses in the Major	3	HDFS 400 Advance Family Processes OR INTS 317 Issues in Family Relationships OR SOCI 309 Contemporary Families and Intimate Relationships	Major
31	Major Requirements	3	HDFS 498 Internship in Human Development and Family Sciences	Major
32	Major Elective Choices	3	Approved Upper Level course from major electives ⁵	Major
33	Core Courses in the Major	3	HDFS 480 Special Topics in Human Development and Family Science	Major
34	General Electives	3	General Electives (Upper-level See: Advisor)	General Elective
35	General Electives	3	General Electives (Upper-level See: Advisor)	General Elective
36	Major Elective Choices	3	Approved Upper Level courses from major electives ⁵ OR General Elective (Upper-level See: Advisor) <i>(if PSY 219 is taken at NOVA)</i>	Major or General Elective
37	General Electives	3	General Elective (Upper-level See: Advisor)	General Elective
38	Gen Ed: Apex & Major Requirement	3	HDFS 499 Advanced Internship Analysis in Human Development and Family Sciences	Apex
39	General Electives	3	General Electives	General Elective
40	General Electives	0-2	General Electives	General Elective

B.A. HDFS DEGREE TOTAL 120

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

Important Academic Information:

¹Students who complete ENG 111 after Spring 2024 will earn ENGH elective for ENG 111 and ENGH 101 for ENG 112.

²Students may use credit by exam to fulfill language requirements; minimum exam scores needed for requirements may be different at NOVA and Mason. Student must carefully check that the requirements fulfill BOTH NOVA (<https://www.nvcc.edu/prior-learning/>) and Mason requirements (<https://www.gmu.edu/admissions-aid/apply-now/how-apply/transfer/transfer-credit-policy>). If students plan to use credit by exam for languages at NOVA/Mason, students must complete the exams no later than the semester prior to matriculation. Consult with your ADVANCE Coach or advisor.

³ 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.

⁴200-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.

⁵For approved HDFS major electives and college-required courses, please visit -<https://catalog.gmu.edu/colleges-schools/humanities-social-sciences/integrative-studies/human-development-and-family-science-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 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:

- For academic policies and procedures, please see 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.