

ADVANCE

A NOVA | MASON PARTNERSHIP

A.S. Psychology / B.S. Psychology
Pathway
2025-2026

A.S. Psychology

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.

- 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.
- Students must maintain a minimum 2.5 cumulative GPA at NOVA and must have a minimum 2.5 GPA upon matriculation to Mason.
- 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.
- 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	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	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 & Additional Soc/Behav
4	MTH 154 or MTH 161 or higher	3	MTH 154 Quantitative Reasoning OR MTH 261 Applied Calculus I	MATH 106 MATH 108	Major & Quantitative
5	PSY 200	3	PSY 200 Principles of Psychology	PSYC 100	Major & Soc/Behav
6	CST Course	3	CST 100 Principles of Public Speaking OR CST 110 Introduction to Human Communication	COMM 100 COMM 101	Oral Comm
7	ENG 112	3	ENG 112 College Composition II ¹	ENGH 101	Written Comm
8	Humanities/Fine Arts	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 ENGH L372 MUSI 101	Arts
9	MTH 245	3	MTH 245 Statistics I	STAT 250	Major
10	PSY 200-level Course #1	3	PSY 216 Social Psychology	PSYC 231	Major
11	BIO 101	4	BIO 101 General Biology I	BIOL 103/105	Major & Nat Science
12	ENG Literature Elective	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
13	PSY 210	4	PSY 210 Statistics for Behavioral Sciences	PSYC L300	Major

14	PSY 200-level Course #2	3	PSY 230 Developmental Psychology	PSYC 211	Major
15	Social/Behavioral Sciences	3	ECO 201 Principles of Macroeconomics OR ECO 202 Principles of Microeconomics OR HIS 121 United States History to 1877 OR PLS 135 U.S. Government and Politics OR SOC 200 Introduction to Sociology OR SOC 211 Cultural Anthropology	ECON 104 ECON 103 HIST 121 GOVT 103 SOCI 101 ANTH 114	Additional Soc/Behav
16	BIO 102	4	BIO 102 General Biology II	BIOL 102	Major & Nat Science
17	PSY 211	4	PSY 211 Research Methodology for Behavioral Sciences	PSYC 201T	Major
18	PSY 200-level Course #3	3	PSY 215 Psychopathology (recommended) OR PSY 219 Cross-Cultural Psychology OR PSY 235 Child Psychology OR PSY 225 Theories of Personality OR PSY 240 Health Psychology OR PSY 260 Psychopharmacology and Substance Abuse OR PSY 270 Psychology of Human Sexuality	PSYC L325 PSYC L379 PSYC L313 PSYC L324 PSYC XXX PSYC XXX HEAL L325	Major or General Elective
19	General Education Elective #1	3	REL 100 Introduction to Study of Religion OR REL 237 Religions of the East OR REL 238 Religions of the West	RELI 100 RELI 212 RELI 211	Humanities
20	General Education Elective #2 or ITE 152	3	ITE 152 Introduction to Digital and Information Literacy and Computer Applications	IT 104	Info Tech
A. S. PSYCHOLOGY DEGREE		62			
TOTAL					
For academic policies and procedures, please see NOVA catalog - http://www.nvcc.edu/catalog/index.html					
B.S. Psychology					
Concentrations: Forensic Psychology, Human Factors and Applied Cognition, Work and Organizational Psychology, Developmental Psychology, Educational Psychology, Health Psychology, Clinical Psychology, Cognitive and Behavioral Neuroscience.					
Courses required for a concentration may simultaneously satisfy other degree requirements. The concentrations in Forensic Psychology, Human Factors and Applied Cognition, and Work and Organizational Psychology meet the applied psychology requirement.					
MASON DEGREE REQUIREMENT		Credits	Course	MASON CORE/DEGREE EQUIVALENT	
21	Supporting Courses	3-4	Elective Science Course - any Natural Science	Major	
22	Gen Ed: Written Communication (Upper-level)	3	ENGH 302 Advanced Composition	Written Comm	
23	Supporting Courses	3-4	Elective Science Course - any Natural Science	Major	
24	Foundation Courses	3	PSYC 317 Cognitive Psychology	Major	
25	Biopsychology	3-6	PSYC 372 Biopsychology OR PSYC 375 Brain and Sensory Processes AND PSYC 376 Brain and Behavior	Major	
26	Psychology Lab Course	2-4	PSYC 373 Biopsychology Lab OR PSYC 304 Principles of Learning OR PSYC 309 Sens/Percept/Info Processing OR PSYC 320 Psyc Test and Measurement	Major	
27	Applied Psychology Courses	3-4	PSYC 320 Psyc Test and Measurement OR PSYC 325 Psychopathology OR PSYC 333 Industrial/Organizational Psychology OR PSYC 340 Human Factors Psychology OR PSYC 379 Applied Cross-Cultural Psychology OR PSYC 381 Mental Illness and Criminal Justice OR PSYC 427 Community Engagement for Social Change OR PSYC 430 Clinical Practicum in Psychology	Major	

28	Applied Psychology Courses or Major Elective	3-4	PSYC 320 Psyc Test and Measurement OR PSYC 325 Psychopathology OR PSYC 333 Industrial/Organizational Psychology OR PSYC 340 Human Factors Psychology OR PSYC 379 Applied Cross-Cultural Psychology OR PSYC 381 Mental Illness and Criminal Justice OR PSYC 427 Community Engagement for Social Change OR PSYC 430 Clinical Practicum in Psychology <i>(See: Advisor as some requirements may double count)</i>	Major
29	Professional Development	3	PSYC 399 College to Career OR PSYC 327 Psychology in the Community OR PSYC 427 Community Engagement for Social Change OR PSYC 430 Clinical Practicum in Psychology OR PSYC 491 Psychology Honors II OR PSYC 492 RS: Psychology Honors III OR PSYC 461 Special Topics (with approval) <i>(See: Advisor as some requirements may double count)</i>	Major
30	Gen Ed: Apex	3	PSYC 405 Mystery, Madness, and Murder OR PSYC 406 Psychology of Communication OR PSYC 427 Community Engagement for Social Change	Apex
31	Supporting Courses: Technical Writing	4	PSYC 304 Principles of Learning ³ OR PSYC 309 Sens/Percept/Info Processing ³	Major & Writing Intensive
32	Electives in the Major	3	300/400 Psychology Elective (See: Advisor as some requirements may double count)	Major
33	Electives in the Major	3	300/400 Psychology Elective (See: Advisor as some requirements may double count)	Major
34	General Electives or Electives in the Major	3	General Elective (Upper-Level, See: Advisor) OR 300/400 Psychology Elective <i>(if major course not taken in line #18)</i>	General Elective or Major
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	General Electives	0-3	General Electives	General Elective
39	General Electives	0-3	General Electives	General Elective
40	General Electives	0-1	General Electives	General Elective
B.S. PSYCHOLOGY DEGREE				
TOTAL		120		

Important Academic Information:

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

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.

³Student must select a designated Writing Intensive option when choosing a technical writing elective.

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:

- Students must have a minimum GPA of 2.00 in major courses with a minimum grade of 1.67 (C-) in each one. Courses taken to fulfill these requirements may simultaneously satisfy a concentration.
- Students complete the 39 required credits with electives in psychology (PSYC) with the following restrictions:
 1. A maximum of 6 credits of PSYC 327 Psychology in the Community and PSYC 328 Psychology in the Community Laboratory may be applied to required psychology credits.
 2. A maximum of 6 credits of PSYC 260 Basic Research Methods in Psychology, PSYC 350 Directed Reading and Research in Psychology, and PSYC 460 Independent Study in Psychology may be applied to required psychology credits.
 3. No more than 9 credits of PSYC 327 Psychology in the Community, PSYC 328 Psychology in the Community Laboratory, PSYC 260 Basic Research Methods in Psychology, PSYC 350 Directed Reading and Research in Psychology, and PSYC 460 Independent Study in Psychology can be taken without written permission of the department chair.
 4. No more than 6 credits of D may be applied toward major elective requirement at Mason.
- If an approved psychology course is used to meet the technical writing requirement, it may also be applied as a psychology elective.
- 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.