

ADVANCE

A NOVA | MASON PARTNERSHIP

A.S. Social Sciences: Political Science
Major/B.S. Public Administration Pathway
2025-2026

A.S. Social Sciences: Political Science Major

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 | 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 |
| 4 | MTH 154 or MTH 161 or higher | 3 | MTH 154 Quantitative Reasoning | MATH 106 | Quantitative |
| 5 | PLS 135 | 3 | PLS 135 U.S. Government and Politics | GOVT 103 | Major |
| 6 | PLS 241 | 3 | PLS 241 Introduction to International Relations | GOVT 132 | Major |
| 7 | ENG 112 | 3 | ENG 112 College Composition II ¹ | ENGH 101 | Written Comm |
| 8 | ITE 152 | 3 | ITE 152 Introduction to Digital and Information Literacy and Computer Applications | IT 104 | Info Tech |
| 9 | MTH 155 or MTH 245 or higher | 3 | MTH 155 Statistical Reasoning ² OR MTH 245 Statistics I | STAT 105T STAT 250 | Major |
| 10 | PLS 136 | 3 | PLS 136 State and Local Government and Politics | GOVT L304 | Major |
| 11 | 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 |
| 12 | CST Course | 3 | CST 100 Principles of Public Speaking OR CST 110 Introduction to Human Communication | COMM 100 COMM 101 | Oral Comm |
| 13 | 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 ENGH L372 MUSI 101 | Arts |
| 14 | PLS 140 | 3 | PLS 140 Introduction to Comparative Politics | GOVT 133 | General Elective |

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|----|----------------------------|---|--|--|------------------|
| 15 | 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 |
| 16 | SOC Course | 3 | SOC 200 Introduction to Sociology OR SOC 211 Cultural Anthropology OR SOC 268 Social Problems | SOCI 101 ANTH 114 SOCI L352 | General Elective |
| 17 | PLS 200 | 3 | PLS 200 Introduction to Political and Democratic Theory | GOVT 101 | Major |
| 18 | General Education Elective | 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 HUM 210 Introduction to Women and Gender Studies OR HUM 256 Comparative Mythology 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 GGS 103 HIST 121 HIST 122 WMST 200 ENGH 202 PSYC 100 PSYC 211 SOCI 101 ANTH 114 | 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 ³ | ENGH 202 or FRLN L330 (ENG 255 only) | Literature |
| 20 | 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 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 GGS 103 HIST 121 HIST 122 PSYC 100 PSYC 211 SOCI 101 ANTH 114 | Soc/Behav |

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| A. S. SOCIAL SCIENCES (POLITICAL SCI) DEGREE TOTAL | 60 |
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For academic policies and procedures, please see NOVA catalog - <https://www.nvcc.edu/catalog/index.html>

B.S. Public Administration

Concentrations: Administration and Management; Public Policy; Nonprofit Management; US Government Institutions; Economic Policy Analysis; International Political Economy; Individualized.⁴

Note: Students pursuing a concentration will complete the degree by taking four courses (minimum of 12 credits) within one concentration, chosen from the lists of advanced field courses shown below, to complete a minimum of 24 credits of field courses.

| | MASON DEGREE REQUIREMENT | Credits | Course | MASON CORE/DEGREE EQUIVALENT |
|----|-----------------------------|---------|---|------------------------------------|
| 21 | General Electives | 3 | General Electives (See: Advisor) | General Elective |
| 22 | Core Course | 4 | GOVT 300 Research Methods and Analysis | Major |
| 23 | Core Course | 3 | GOVT 351 Administration in the Political System | Major |

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| 24 | Gen Ed: Written Communication (Upper-level) | 3 | ENGH 302 Advanced Composition | | Written Comm |
| 25 | Core Course | 3 | GOVT 367 Money, Markets and Economic Policy | Fall only | Major |
| 26 | Govt. Concentration or Advanced Govt. Field Courses | 3 | Approved Field Study or Concentration Course ^{4,5} | | Major |
| 27 | Core Course | 3 | GOVT 368 Tools for Economic Policy Analysis | Spring only | Major |
| 28 | Govt. Concentration or Advanced Govt. Field Courses | 3 | Approved Field Study or Concentration Course ^{4,5} | | Major |
| 29 | Govt. Concentration or Advanced Govt. Field Courses | 3 | Approved Field Study or Concentration Course ^{4,5} | | Major |
| 30 | Govt. Concentration or Advanced Govt. Field Courses | 3 | Approved Field Study or Concentration Course ^{4,5} | | Major |
| 31 | Govt. Concentration or Advanced Govt. Field Courses | 3 | Approved Field Study or Concentration Course ⁵ | | Major |
| 32 | Govt. Concentration or Advanced Govt. Field Courses | 3 | Approved Field Study or Concentration Course ⁵ | | Major |
| 33 | Govt. Concentration or Advanced Govt. Field Courses | 3 | Approved Field Study or Concentration Course ⁵ | | Major |
| 34 | General Elective | 3 | General Electives (Upper-level See: Advisor) | | General Elective |
| 35 | General Electives | 3 | General Electives (Upper-level See: Advisor) | | General Elective |
| 36 | General Electives | 3 | General Electives (See: Advisor) | | General Elective |
| 37 | General Electives | 3 | General Electives (See: Advisor) | | General Elective |
| 38 | Gen Ed: Apex/Core Requirement | 3 | GOVT 490 Synthesis Seminar OR GOVT 491 Honors Seminar | | Apex & Writing Intensive |
| 39 | General Electives | 3 | General Electives (See: Advisor) | | General Elective |
| 40 | General Electives | 3 | General Electives (See: Advisor) | | General Elective |

B.S. PUBLIC

ADMINISTRATION DEGREE

121

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 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.

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 may complete up to two government concentrations. A concentration consists of four unique courses from the chosen field. If a student has one concentration, then they must complete any four more advanced government field courses to satisfy this requirement. If a student selects two concentrations, then they must complete four unique courses for each concentration. Students who do not pursue any government concentration may choose 24 credits (8 courses) from the advanced government field courses listed below (with restriction) for a broader learning experience. Up to three credits of GOVT 399 Research Practicum and GOVT 480 Internship may be used to fulfill the field course requirement with prior advisor approval. Up to six credits of GOVT 496 Directed Readings and Research may be used to fulfill this requirement with prior advisor approval. GOVT 490 Synthesis Seminar (Mason Core) or GOVT 491 Honors Seminar (Mason Core) may not be used to fulfill this requirement. Advanced government field courses include courses numbered GOVT 301 - GOVT 499.

⁵For a list of approved Field Study or Concentration courses, please visit - <https://catalog.gmu.edu/colleges-schools/policy-government/public-administration-bs/>.

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 earn a minimum grade of 2.00 in each course applied to the major, including GOVT courses as well as the supporting courses in other disciplines used to fulfill the requirements below. See an advisor before registering.
- 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.