

ADVANCE

A NOVA | MASON PARTNERSHIP

A.S. Social Sciences /
B.S.W. Social Work 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	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	3	MTH 154 Quantitative Reasoning	MATH 106	Quantitative
5	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
6	ENG 112	3	ENG 112 College Composition II ¹	ENGH 101	Written Comm
7	ITE 152 or General Education Elective	3	ITE 152 Introduction to Digital and Information Literacy and Computer Applications	IT 104	Info Tech
8	MTH 245 required (NOVA Catalog: MTH 155 or MTH 245, or higher)	3	MTH 245 Statistics I	STAT 250	Major
9	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 GEO 200 Introduction to Physical Geography 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 GGG 102 GEOL 101/103 GEOL 102/104 GEOL 120/121 PHYS 103	Nat Science
10	Social/Behavioral Sciences #1	3	PSY 200 Principles of Psychology	PSYC 100	Major & Soc/Behav

11	CST Course	3	CST 100 Principles of Public Speaking OR CST 110 Introduction to Human Communication	COMM 100 COMM 101	Oral Comm							
	12	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						
				13	SOC 200	3	SOC 200 Introduction to Sociology	SOCI 101	Major			
				14	Social/Behavioral Sciences #2	3	PSY 216 Social Psychology OR PSY 219 Cross-Cultural Psychology OR PSY 230 Developmental Psychology OR SOC 268 Social Problems	PSYC 231 PSYC L379 PSYC 211 SOCI L352	General Elective			
							15	General Education Elective	3	GEO 220 World Regional Geography OR PLS 140 Introduction to Comparative Politics OR PLS 241 Introduction to International Relations OR REL 100 Intro to the Study of Religion OR REL 230 Religions of the World OR REL 237 Religions of the East OR REL 238 Religions of the West OR SSC 115 Introduction to Global Affairs	GGG 101 GOVT 133 GOVT 132 RELI 100 RELI 100 RELI 212 RELI 211 GLOA 101	General Elective
										16	Humanities/Fine Arts #2	3
	17	Social/Behavioral Sciences #3	3	SOCW 200 Introduction to Social Work	SOCW 200	Major						
	18	Social/Behavioral Sciences #4 (This course must be taken at Mason if selections for all other requirements total 60 credits or more)	3	PSY 216 Social Psychology OR PSY 219 Cross-Cultural Psychology OR PSY 230 Developmental Psychology OR SOC 215 Marriage and Family OR SOC 225 Sociology of Gender OR SOC 268 Social Problems	PSYC 231 PSYC L379 PSYC 211 SOCI L309 SOCI L315 SOCI L352	General Elective						
				19	Transfer Elective #1	3	PLS 135 U.S. Government and Politics	GOVT 103	Major			
	20	Transfer Elective #2	3	CST 229 Intercultural Communication OR HUM 210 Introduction to Women and Gender Studies OR HUM 220 Introduction to African-American Studies OR PSY 215 Psychopathology OR PSY 216 Social Psychology OR PSY 219 Cross-Cultural Psychology OR PSY 230 Developmental Psychology OR SOC 215 Marriage and Family OR SOC 225 Sociology of Gender OR SOC 268 Social Problems	COMM L305 WMST 200 AFAM 200 PSYC L325 PSYC 231 PSYC L379 PSYC 211 SOCI L309 SOCI L315 SOCI L352	General Elective						

A. S. SOCIAL SCIENCES		60
DEGREE TOTAL		
For academic policies and procedures, please see NOVA catalog - http://www.nvcc.edu/catalog/index.html		

B.S.W. Social Work

Social Work field requirements are ONLY offered during the daytime hours.

Social Work Program Application Requirements:

- Students must complete 45 credit hours with a cumulative Mason GPA of 2.5 or higher.
- Students must either complete or be registered for ENG 111/112 (ENGH 101), SOC 200 (SOCI 101), PSY 200 (PSYC 100). Additionally, students are encouraged to have completed or be registered for MTH 245 (STAT 250) and ENGH 302 by the time of BSW application.
- Students must earn a C or better in all SOCW courses.
- Students must be enrolled in all other required 300-level SOCW courses.
- Students must complete the Social Work application by December 15th to be eligible to progress into the senior year of the BSW Program.
- Students must complete the following courses (including prerequisites) before beginning the fall semester when you begin the senior practicum: SOCW 200, 311, 312, 357, 361, 358, 362, 375, 380.
- Students must maintain a 2.5 GPA once admitted to the major.

Contact the Social Work program at socw@gmu.edu with any questions about the undergraduate social work program.

	MASON DEGREE REQUIREMENT	Credits	Course		MASON CORE/DEGREE EQUIVALENT
21	Major Requirements	3	SOCW 311 Building Professional Social Work Skills		Major
22	Gen Ed: Written Communication (Upper level)	3	ENGH 302 Advanced Composition (Social Science section)		Written Comm
23	Major Requirements	3	SOCW 357 Methods of Social Work Intervention I ³	Fall only	Major
24	Major Requirements	3	SOCW 361 Methods of Social Work Interventions: Lab ³	Fall only	Major
25	Major Requirement	3	SOCW 375 Human Behavior and the Family Life Course		Major
26	Major Requirements	3	GCH 300 Introduction to Public Health		Major
27	Major Requirements	3	SOCW 312 Knowledge Building for Helping Professionals		Major
28	Major Requirements	3	SOCW 358 Methods of Social Work Intervention II ³	Spring only	Major
29	Major Requirements	3	SOCW 362 Methods of Social Work Intervention II: Lab ³	Spring only	Major
30	Major Requirements	3	SOCW 380 Changing Social Policies and Systems		Major
31	General Electives	3	General Electives (See: Advisor)		General Elective
32	Major Requirements	3	SOCW 471 Research in Social Work ³	Fall only	Major & Writing Intensive
33	Major Requirements	3	Any 400- or 500- level SOCW course not listed above		Major
34	Major Requirements	5	SOCW 495 Field Practicum and Seminar I ^{3,4}	Fall only	Major
35	General Electives	3	General Electives (See: Advisor)		General Elective
36	General Electives	3	General Electives (See: Advisor)		General Elective
37	Social Work Elective	3	Any 400- or 500- level SOCW course not listed above		Major
38	Gen Ed: Apex/Major Requirements	3	SOCW 472 RS: Integrative Methods in Social Action and Social Change ³	Spring only	Apex & Major
39	Major Requirements	5	SOCW 496 Field Practicum and Seminar II ^{3,4}	Spring only	Major

B.S.W. SOCIAL WORK DEGREE

TOTAL 121

Denotes a course that must be taken at George Mason University while attending NOVA. Failure to complete your co-enrollment course(s) while attending NOVA can significantly affect your timeline for Mason graduation. Please see your ADVANCE Coach for more information and 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.

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.

³SOCW 357, SOCW 361 (fall only) and SOCW 358, SOWC 362 (spring only) must be completed in the first year post-transfer. SOCW 471, SOCW 495 (fall only) and SOCW 472, SOCW 496 (spring only) must be completed in the second year post-transfer. Due to these course offering and prerequisite requirements, students who begin at Mason in a spring term require 5 consecutive semesters post-transfer to complete their degree.

⁴Students admitted to the BSW program senior year must complete a 450-hour field placement, 225 of these hours occur in conjunction with SOCW 495, and the remaining 225 with SOCW 496.

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 C or above in all Social Work classes applied to the major and must achieve an overall GPA of 2.5. Class attendance is required for all Social Work courses. Before beginning SOCW 495, students must successfully complete all required 200- and 300- level courses. Social Work faculty evaluate student performance periodically and may require students to withdraw from the program when, in their judgment, performance is not satisfactory.
- 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.