

ADVANCE

A NOVA | MASON PARTNERSHIP

A.S. Social Sciences /
B.A. Sociology Pathway
Online Option Available
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 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
4	MTH 154 or MTH 161 or higher	3	MTH 154 Quantitative Reasoning	MATH 106	Quantitative
5	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
6	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
7	ENG 112	3	ENG 112 College Composition II ¹	ENGH 101	Written Comm
8	ITE 152 or General Education Elective	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 245 Statistics I	STAT 250	General Elective
10	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
11	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

12	Social/Behavioral Sciences #1	3	ECO 202 Principles of Microeconomics OR PSY 200 Principles of Psychology OR PSY 230 Developmental Psychology	ECON 103 PSYC 100 PSYC 211	CHSS Soc/Behav
13	CST Course	3	CST 100 Principles of Public Speaking OR CST 110 Introduction to Human Communication	COMM 100 COMM 101	Oral Comm
14	Humanities/Fine Arts #1	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
15	SOC 200	3	SOC 200 Introduction to Sociology	SOCI 101	Major & Soc/Behav
16	General Education Elective	3-4	Any World Language/ASL course sequence 201 OR Any General Education Elective (<i>if placed out of World Language</i>)	GMU Equivalent	CHSS For. Lang or General Elective
17	Social/Behavioral Sciences #2	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 OR SOC 268 Social Problems OR SSC 115 Introduction to Global Affairs	GGG 101 HIST L387T GOVT 133 GOVT 132 PSYC L379 SOCI L352 GLOA 101	General Elective
18	Social/Behavioral Sciences #3	3	SOC 211 Cultural Anthropology	ANTH 114	CHSS Non-Western
19	Humanities/Fine Arts #2	3-4	Any World Language/ASL course sequence 202 OR Any Humanities/Fine Arts Elective (<i>if placed out of World Language</i>)	GMU Equivalent	CHSS For. Lang or General Elective
20	Social/Behavioral Sciences #4 (This course must be taken at Mason if selections for all other requirements total 60 credits or more)	3	SOC 215 Sociology of the Family OR SOC 225 Sociology of Gender OR SOC 236 Criminology OR SOC 266 Race and Ethnicity OR SOC 268 Social Problems	SOCI L309 SOCI 215 SOCI L301 SOCI 208 SOCI L352	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. Sociology

Optional Concentrations: Childhood and Youth; Deviance, Crime, and Social Control; Global Sociology; Inequity and Social Change

	MASON DEGREE REQUIREMENT	Credits	Course	MASON CORE/DEGREE EQUIVALENT
21	Additional Core Courses	3	SOCI 311 Sociological Theory	Major
22	Gen Ed: Written Communication (Upper-level)	3	ENGH 302 Advanced Composition	Written Comm
23	General Electives	3	General Electives (Upper-level: See Advisor)	General Elective
24	Electives in the Major	3	Any sociology (SOCI) course at the 300-400 level (See Advisor) ⁴	Major
25	Electives in the Major or General Electives	3	Any sociology (SOCI) course at the 300-400 level (See Advisor) ⁴ (<i>if not taken at NOVA</i>) OR General Electives (See Advisor)	Major or General Elective
26	Electives in the Major	3	Any sociology (SOCI) course at the 300-400 level (See Advisor) ⁴	Major
27	Additional Core Courses	3	SOCI 303 Methods and Logic of Inquiry	Writing-Intensive
28	Additional Core Courses	4	SOCI 213 Statistics for the Behavioral Sciences	Major
29	General Electives	3	General Electives (Upper-level: See Advisor)	General Elective

30	Electives in the Major	3	Any sociology (SOCl) course at the 300-400 level (See Advisor) ⁴	Major
31	General Electives	3	General Electives (Upper-level: See Advisor)	General Elective
32	Electives in the Major	3	Any sociology (SOCl) course at the 300-400 level (See Advisor) ⁴	Major
33	Capstone Experience/Gen Ed: Apex	3	SOCl 485 Sociological Analysis and Practice OR SOCl 416 Internship in Sociology	Apex
34	Electives in the Major	3	Any sociology (SOCl) course at the 300-400 level (See Advisor) ⁴	Major
35	General Electives	3	General Electives (Upper-level: See Advisor)	General Elective
36	CHSS Philosophy/Religion	3	Any approved CHSS Philosophy/Religion course ⁵	CHSS Phil/Reli
37	General Electives	3	General Elective (See Advisor)	General Elective
38	General Electives	3	General Electives (Upper-level: See Advisor)	General Elective
39	General Electives	3	General Electives (See Advisor)	General Elective
40	General Electives	0-2	General Electives (See Advisor)	General Elective

B.A. SOCIOLOGY DEGREE		120		
TOTAL				

Please note: Some fully online courses may require a campus presence for orientations, tests, final exams, or labs.

Important Academic Information:

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

²If students test out of World Language/ASL 101/102, students may take up to two of the following: SOC 268, SOC 225, or SOC 266.

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 are required to take 15 credits of upper-level SOCl electives. Students may structure 12 of these elective credits into an approved concentration: Childhood & Youth; Deviance, Crime, & Social Control; Global Sociology; or Inequality & Social Change.

⁵For a list of approved college-level requirement courses, please visit <https://catalog.gmu.edu/colleges-schools/humanities-social-sciences/sociology-anthropology/sociology-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:

- Students pursuing this degree must complete 34 credits of sociology courses with a minimum GPA of 2.00 overall and a minimum GPA of 2.00 in each core course. No more than 6 credits of courses with unsatisfactory grades (C- or D) may be applied toward the major electives requirement.
- Students seeking a bachelor's degree must apply at least 45 credits of upper-level courses (numbered 300 or above) toward graduation.