

## A.S. Education

### 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 complete their NOVA degree 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 Mason Core Quantitative Reasoning course equivalent with a C or better no later than one semester before NOVA graduation. Refer to your pathway to select the appropriate MTH course(s).

### ADVANCE Program-Specific Requirements:

1. Students in licensure concentrations (Adapted K-12, General K-12 and Blindness and Visual Impairment PK-12) must maintain a 2.5 in their major coursework.
2. Licensure testing requirements are determined by the Commonwealth of Virginia and may change at any time. If changes to these requirements occur, students must meet the current testing and licensure requirements as set forth in the legal code of Virginia.
3. Students must pass the Virginia Communication and Literacy Assessment (VCLA) and other state-mandated licensure exams prior to applying for Mason internship: <https://education.gmu.edu/teacher-track/test-requirements>.
4. By completion of 90 credits, students in all licensure concentrations must pass and submit the following VCLA and Emergency First Aid, CPR, and AED certification. Students in the General K-12 and the Blindness and Visual Impairment PK-12 concentrations must also complete the Praxis Teaching Reading: Elementary.
5. For the Blindness and Visual Impairment concentration only, students must pass and submit the Praxis II: Braille Proficiency after the completion of EDSE 419. The Praxis II exam must be complete prior to Mason graduation.

	NOVA DEGREE REQUIREMENT	Credits	Courses	MASON TRANSFER	MASON CORE/DEGREE
1	SDV Course	1	SDV 100 College Success Skills	UNIV 100	General Elective
2	ENG 111	3	ENG 111 College Composition I <sup>1</sup>	ENGH XXX	General Elective
3	EDU 207 or PSY 230	3	EDU 207 Human Growth and Development <b>OR</b> PSY 230 Developmental Psychology	EDUC L302 PSYC 211	Major
4	MTH 154 or Higher	3	MTH 154 Quantitative Reasoning	MATH 106	Quantitative
5	Science Course #1	4	BIO 101 General Biology I <b>OR</b> CHM 101 Introductory Chemistry I <b>OR</b> ENV 121 Foundations of Environmental Science <b>OR</b> GOL 105 Physical Geology <b>OR</b> GOL 106 Historical Geology <b>OR</b> PHY 100 Elements of Physics	BIOL 103/105 CHEM 103 EVPP 108/109 GEOL 101/103 GEOL 102/104 PHYS 103	Nat Science
6	ENG 112	3	ENG 112 College Composition II <sup>1</sup>	ENGH 101	Written Comm
7	HIS Course	3	HIS 121 United States History to 1877 <b>OR</b> HIS 122 United States History Since 1865	HIST 121 HIST 122	General Elective
8	EDU 200	3	EDU 200 Foundations of Education	EDUC 200	Major & Social Behavioral Science
9	MTH 245 or Higher	3	MTH 245 Statistics I	STAT 250	General Elective

10	Science Course #2	4	BIO 101 General Biology I <b>OR</b> CHM 101 Introductory Chemistry I <b>OR</b> ENV 121 Foundations of Environmental Science <b>OR</b> GOL 105 Physical Geology <b>OR</b> GOL 106 Historical Geology <b>OR</b> PHY 100 Elements of Physics	BIOL 103/105 CHEM 103 EVPP 108/109 GEOL 101/103 GEOL 102/104 PHYS 103	Nat Science
11	CST Course	3	CST 100 Principles of Public Speaking <b>OR</b> CST 110 Introduction to Human Communication	COMM 100 COMM 101	Oral Comm
12	Education Elective #1	3	<b>EDU 206 Classroom Management</b>	EDSE 251	Major
13	ENG Literature	3	ENG 245 British Literature <b>OR</b> ENG 246 American Literature <b>OR</b> ENG 250 Children's Literature <b>OR</b> ENG 255 World Literature <b>OR</b> ENG 258 African American Literature	ENGH 202 or FRLN L330 (ENG 255 only)	Literature
14	Social/ Behavioral Sciences Elective	3	GEO 220 World Regional Geography	GGG 101	General Elective
15	Education Elective #2	3	HIS 101 Western Civilizations Pre-1600 CE <b>OR</b> HIS 102 Western Civilizations Post 1600 CE <b>OR</b> HIS 112 History Civilization post-1500 CE ( <i>recommended</i> )	HIST 101T HIST 102T HIST 125	Global History
16	EDU 250	3	EDU 250 Foundations of Exceptional Education	EDSE 201	Major
17	EDU 204	3	EDU 204 Teaching in a Diverse Society	EDUC L301	General Elective
18	Humanities/Fine Arts	3	ART 101 History of Art: Prehistoric to Gothic <b>OR</b> ART 102 History of Art: Renaissance to Modern <b>OR</b> MUS 121 Music in Society	ARTH 200 ARTH 201 MUSI 101	Arts
19	Education Elective #3	3	EDU 270 Intro to Autism Spectrum Disorders	EDSE 230	Major or General Elective
20	Education Elective #4	3	EDU 280 Introduction to Instructional Technologies	ELED 257	Info Tech

**A.S. EDUCATION DEGREE TOTAL      60**

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

## B.S.Ed Special Education - All Concentrations

Students can complete a concentration in General K-12 Licensure, Adapted K-12 Licensure, or Blindness and Visual Impairments PK-12 Licensure. Alternatively, students who are not interested in teacher licensure through this degree may select No Concentration.  
Note: Students in licensure concentrations must maintain a 2.5 GPA in major coursework. Some courses may only be offered once a year. Please consult your Mason Advisor.

	MASON DEGREE REQUIREMENT	Credits	Course	MASON CORE/DEGREE EQUIVALENT
21	Program Core Requirements	3	EDSE 251 Classroom Management and Positive Behavior Supports ( <i>Fall only</i> ) <b>OR</b> General Elective ( <i>if EDSE 251 is taken while at NOVA</i> )	Major
22	Program Core Requirements	3	EDSE 352 Assessment ( <i>Fall only</i> )	Major
23	Program Core Requirements	3	EDSE 381 Exploratory Field Experience in Special Education ( <i>Fall only</i> )	Major
24	Gen Ed: Written Communication (Upper Level)	3	ENGH 302 Advanced Composition	Written Comm
25	Program Core Requirements	3	EDSE 353 Individualized Behavior Supports ( <i>Spring only</i> )	Major
26	Program Core Requirements	3	EDSE 354 Consultation and Collaboration ( <i>Fall only</i> )	Major
27	Program Core Requirements	3	EDSE 451 Transition and Self-Determination ( <i>Spring only</i> )	Major
28	Program Core Requirements	3	EDSE 452 Intersectionality and Disability ( <i>Fall only</i> )	Writing Intensive
29	Program Core Requirements	3	EDSE 351 Technology Integration for Specialized Instruction ( <i>Spring only</i> )	Major

Students select one of the concentrations in rows 30 - 33 below				
30	Concentration Requirements: No Concentration (Non-Licensure)	21	Approved special education courses <sup>2</sup> <b>(15 credits)</b> General Electives as needed to complete degree <b>(6 credits)</b>	Major or General Elective
31	Concentration Requirements: General K-12 Licensure	21	EDSE 241 Characteristics of Students w/ Disabilities who Access the General Curriculum <b>(Spring only)</b> EDSE 341 Language Acquisition and Reading and Writing Development <b>(Spring only)</b> EDSE 441 Instructional Strategies for Reading and Writing <b>(Fall only)</b> EDSE 443 Instructional Strategies for Math <b>(Fall only)</b> EDSE 445 Clinical Practice and Seminar I: General <b>(Spring only)</b> EDSE 446 Clinical Practice and Seminar II: General <b>(Fall only)</b> General Elective as needed to complete degree <b>(3 credits)</b>	Major or General Elective
32	Concentration Requirements: Adapted K-12 Licensure	21	EDSE 361 Characteristics of Students with Severe Disabilities <b>(Spring only)</b> EDSE 362 Communication with Severe Disabilities <b>(Fall only)</b> EDSE 463 Curriculum and Methods in Severe Disabilities <b>(Spring only)</b> EDSE 465 Clinical Practice & Seminar I: Adapted (Severe Disabilities) <b>(Spring only)</b> EDSE 466 Clinical Practice & Seminar II: Adapted (Severe Disabilities) <b>(Fall only)</b> EDSE 467 Foundations of Language and Literacy for Individuals with Severe Disabilities <b>(Fall only)</b> EDSE 469 Individualized Supports and Specialized Care of Students with Severe Disabilities <b>(Fall only)</b>	Major or General Elective
33	Concentration Requirements: Blindness & Visual Impairments PK-12 Licensure	26	EDSE 311 Characteristics of Students with Blindness and Visual Impairments <b>(Fall only)</b> EDSE 341 Language Acquisition and Reading and Writing Development <b>(Spring only)</b> EDSE 412 Braille Code <b>(Fall only)</b> EDSE 413 Medical and Educational Implications of Blindness and Visual Impairments <b>(Fall only)</b> EDSE 414 Orientation and Mobility for Students with Blindness and Visual Impairments <b>(Summer only)</b> EDSE 417 Teaching Methods for Students with Blindness and Visual Impairments <b>(Summer only)</b> EDSE 418 Curriculum and Assessment of Students with Blindness and Visual Impairments <b>(Spring only)</b> EDSE 419 Braille Reading and Writing <b>(Spring only)</b> EDAT 422 Assistive Tech for Individuals with Sensory Impairments <b>(Fall only)</b>	Major or General Elective
34	Gen Ed: Apex/Program Core Requirement	12	<b>Adapted K-12:</b> EDSE 483 Internship: Adapted (Severe Disabilities) <b>(Spring only)</b> <b>Blindness &amp; Visual Impairments PK-12:</b> EDSE 484 Internship: Blindness and Visual Impairments <b>(Spring only)</b> <b>General K-12:</b> EDSE 482 Internship: General <b>(Spring only)</b> <b>No Concentration:</b> EDSE 481 Internship: Professional Services <b>(Spring only)</b>	Apex
<b>B.S.ED SPECIAL EDUCATION DEGREE TOTAL 120 -125</b>				
<b>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.</b>				
<b>Important Academic Information:</b>				
<sup>1</sup> Students who complete ENG 111 after Spring 2024 will earn ENGH elective for ENG 111 and ENGH 101 for ENG 112.				
<sup>2</sup> For approved Special Education course options, please visit: <a href="https://catalog.gmu.edu/colleges-schools/education-human-development/school-education/special-education-bsed/">https://catalog.gmu.edu/colleges-schools/education-human-development/school-education/special-education-bsed/</a> .				

**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 in a concentration must maintain a 2.5 GPA in their major coursework and successfully complete all Commonwealth of Virginia mandated tests for licensure.
- 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.