

ADVANCE ACADEMIC COACHING

How can my coach help me?

ADVANCE Academic Coaches support ADVANCE students during their time at NOVA. Academic Coaching provides multiple layers of holistic support for students. ADVANCE Academic Coaches guide and encourage the growth and development of each student's knowledge, skills, attitudes, and beliefs about their ability to succeed in higher education as well as within their chosen field. ADVANCE Coaches will discuss all aspects of a student's life that impact their academic performance, including but not limited to the following nine focus areas:



Academics



School Community



Career



Managing Commitments



Finances



Health & Support



Effectiveness



Commitment to Graduation



Civic Engagement



FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO BE AN ADVANCE STUDENT?

Now that you have been admitted to ADVANCE, you are a NOVA student as well as a non-degree Mason student which gives you access to most signature experiences, facilities and resources at both institutions. It also means that you will not have to submit a transfer application when the time comes for you to transition to Mason.

HOW DOES THE ADVANCE PROGRAM WORK?

ADVANCE students must follow their ADVANCE Pathway to ensure that all courses they are taking satisfy both NOVA & Mason degree requirements. During their last semester at NOVA, students must apply for NOVA graduation. Provided students are meeting all the program milestones listed on their ADVANCE Pathway, ADVANCE students benefit from the smooth transition to Mason where they will take the remaining credits required to earn their bachelor's degree.

CAN I TAKE MASON CLASSES WHILE I AM STILL AT NOVA?

It depends. Some ADVANCE Pathways require students to take co-enrollment courses. Co-enrollment courses are Mason courses that are taken at Mason while students are still at NOVA. If your Pathway requires you to take a co-enrollment course, you will find it highlighted in green on your ADVANCE Pathway. To enroll in a co-enrollment course, students must meet with their assigned ADVANCE Academic Coach.

WHAT IS AN ADVANCE PATHWAY?

Your ADVANCE Pathway is the degree plan that you select to pursue at both NOVA & Mason. It is essential to follow your Pathway at all times when selecting courses as it outlines courses that will count towards your NOVA degree and guarantees the courses transfer to Mason in your selected major. Makes sure to familiarize yourself with the milestones listed in the yellow and green boxes on your Pathway.

I STILL HAVE QUESTIONS!

We are here to help you! Your assigned ADVANCE Academic Coach is your point of contact during your time in ADVANCE at NOVA. Reach out to your Coach to schedule a meeting with them to address all your questions and concerns.

Decoding the ADVANCE Pathway

As an ADVANCE student, you are required to select a pathway upon admission into the program. The ADVANCE pathway helps ensure your academic success in three critical ways:

1. Outlines your entire program of study for your chosen pathway across NOVA and Mason
2. Helps you in partnership with your academic coach maximize the courses you take at NOVA for your specific program and catalog year
3. Allows the ADVANCE Team to ensure you are meeting the ADVANCE "milestones" or progression standards of the program so that we can support you academically and streamline your transition to Mason

Please see below for some helpful tips on how to better understand your ADVANCE pathway:

ADVANCE
A NOVA | MASON PARTNERSHIP

A.S. Information Technology /
B.S. Information Technology Pathway
Online Option Available

The box at the top right-hand side of every ADVANCE pathway notes the following:

- Your currently selected ADVANCE pathway
- The aligned NOVA degree you must be pursuing for your chosen Mason degree
- Your catalog year to ensure course transferability
- If your program has an online option at both institutions, your pathway will also include an "online option available" designation

A.S. Information Technology				
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. In the following courses, students must earn a B or higher to receive the equivalent Mason credit: ITP 120 or ITP 150, ITE 170, and ITD 256. 2. Students must have a minimum 2.85 GPA upon matriculation to Mason. Please note this program GPA requirement is higher than the ADVANCE program requirement indicated in milestone #2 above.				
NOVA DEGREE REQUIREMENT	Credits	Courses	MASON TRANSFER EQUIVALENT	MASON CORE/DEGREE EQUIVALENT
1 SOV Course	1	SOV 100 College Success Skills OR SOV 101 Orientation to Information Technology	UNIV 100	General Elective
2 ENG 111	3	ENG 111 College Composition I ¹	ENGL 101	Written Comm
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 (recommended)	HIST 101 HIST 102 HIST 125	Global History
4 ITE 152	3	ITE 152 Introduction to Digital and Information Literacy and Computer Applications	IT 104	Major
5 MTH 161	3	MTH 161 PreCalculus I ¹	MATH 103T	General Elective
6 Social/Behavioral Sciences #1	3	ECON 201 Principles of Macroeconomics OR ECON 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 PLS 135 U.S. Government and Politics 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 GOVT 103 PSYC 100 PSYC 211 SOC 101 ANTH 114	Soc/Behav
		ENG 112 College Composition II ¹	ENGL XXX	General Elective
		MTH 261 Applied Calculus I	MATH 108	Major & Quantitative
		ITE 170 Multimedia Software ¹	IT 213	Major
9 Technical Elective #1	3	ITD 256 Advanced Database Management ¹	IT 214	Major
10 Technical Elective #2	3	ITD 256 Advanced Database Management ¹	IT 214	Major
11 Technical Elective #3	3	ITD 256 Advanced Database Management ¹	IT 214	Major

The yellow and green boxes denote the "ADVANCE milestones" or academic progression standards each ADVANCE student must meet in order to remain in the program and/or successfully matriculate to Mason in a timely manner.

- Please note NOVA degree completion timelines GPA requirements, and other course requirements for matriculation to Mason
- Please note that some programs have additional "ADVANCE-program specific requirements that must be met in order to matriculate

Some ADVANCE pathways have up to 9 credits of co-enrollment (taking a class at Mason while attending NOVA) to ensure students are taking the right class the first time

- Only select ADVANCE programs have co-enrollment built-in. Pathways without co-enrollment means all courses can be completed at NOVA. If co-enrollment is denoted on your pathway, you are required to meet with your Academic Coach prior to registration

Decoding the ADVANCE Pathway

12	IST Course	3	CST 100 Principles of Public Speaking OR CST 110 Introduction to Human Communication	COMM 100 COMM 101	Oral Comm
13	Programming Elective	3	ITE 150 Python Programming I OR ITE 160 Java Programming OR ART 101 History of Art: Prehistory to Gothic OR ART 102 History of Art: Renaissance to Modern OR CST 151 Film Appreciation I OR ENG 111 Literature in Society	ITE 150 ITE 160 ARTH 101 ARTH 200 ARTH 201 FTH 101 FTHM 117 VHS 101	Major
14	Humanities/Fine Arts #1	3	BIO 101 General Biology I OR CHM 101 Introductory Chemistry OR ENV 121 General Environmental Science I OR GEO 105 Physical Geology OR PHS 100 Elements of Physics	BIO 101/105 CHEM 103 EVPP 108/109 GEO 101/105 PHYS 101	Arts
15	Science Course #1	4			Real Science
16	Technical Elective #1	3	ITE 100 Introduction to Telecommunications	see ITE 221	Major
17	Technical Elective #5	3	ITE 221 PC Hardware and OS Architecture	ITE 105 and ITE 200*	Major & General Elective
18	Humanities/Fine Arts #2	3	ENG 225 Reading Literature: Culture and Ideas OR ENG 245 British Literature OR ENG 246 American Literature OR ENG 258 African American Literature OR ENG 275 Women in Literature OR Any 200-Level ENG Literature Select*	ENG 202 or FTH 133/ENG 255 ORV	Literature
19	Science Course #2	4	BIO 102 General Biology II OR CHM 102 Introductory Chemistry II OR ENV 122 General Environmental Science II OR ENV 123 General Environmental Science II OR GEO 105 Physical Geology OR GEO 106 Historical Geology OR PHS 100 Elements of Physics I GEO 220 World Regional Geography OR HIS 111 World Civilizations Pre-1500 CE OR HIS 112 World Civilizations 1500-1800 CE OR PLS 140 Introduction to Comparative Politics OR PLS 244 Introduction to International Relations OR PSY 219 Cross-Cultural Psychology OR SOC 115 Introduction to Global Affairs	BIO 102/105 BIO 102 CHEM 103 EVPP 108/109 EVPP 112/113 GEO 101/104 GEO 102/104 PHYS 101 SOC 101 HIST 1387 GOVT 135 GOVT 132 PSTC 1479 GLOA 101	Real Science
20	Social/Behavioral Sciences #2	3			Global Understanding
A.S. INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY DEGREE TOTAL		61			

B.S. Information Technology

Concentrations: Cyber Security, Database Technology and Programming, Health Information Technology, Network and Telecommunications, Web Development					
MASON DEGREE REQUIREMENT	Credits	Course	MASON CORE/DEGREE EQUIVALENT		
21 Gen Ed Written Communication (Upper Level)	3	ENG 301 Advanced Composition	Written Comm		
22 IT Foundation Course	3	ITE 206 Object Oriented Techniques for IT Problem Solving OR ITE 200 Introduction to Object Oriented Programming	Major		
23 IT Foundation Course	3	ITE 216 Systems Analysis and Design	Major		
24 IT Foundation Course	3	STAT 250 Introductory Statistics I	Major		
25 IT Core Course	3	ITE 207 Applied IT Programming	Major		

26 IT Core Course	3	ITE 221 Information Security Fundamentals	Major		
27 IT Core Course	3	ITE 100 Modern Telecommunications	Major		
28 IT Core Course	3	ITE 304 IT in the Global Economy	Major		
29 IT Core Course	3	ITE 344 Data Communications and Network Principles	Major		
30 IT Core Course	3	ITE 342 Operating Systems Fundamentals	Major		
31 IT Core Course	3	ITE 343 IT Project Management	Major		
32 IT Core Course	3	MBUS 100 Accounting in a Global Economy	Major		
33 IT Core Course	3	SKST 489 Human Computer Interaction	Major		
34 Gen Ed: Capstone/Synthesis	3	ITE 492 Senior Design Project I	Synthesis		
35 Gen Ed: Capstone/Synthesis	4	ITE 493 Senior Design Project II	Synthesis		
36 Other Major Requirements	1	ITE 253 Applied IT Junior Transition	Major		
37 IT Concentration Course #1	3	Approved Concentration Course*	Major		
38 IT Concentration Course #2	3	Approved Concentration Course*	Major		
39 IT Concentration Course #3	3	Approved Concentration Course*	Major		
40 IT Concentration Course #4	3	Approved Concentration Course*	Major		
41 IT Concentration Course #5	3	Approved Concentration Course*	Major		
B.S. INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY DEGREE TOTAL		123			

*Students who complete a VCCS transfer associate degree (AS, AA, & AFA) will receive a waiver of the Foundation and Exploration (lower division) Mason Core general education categories. To be eligible for the waiver, the student 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.

*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.

The NOVA portion of the pathway is organized to show the following:

- Degree requirement of the program at NOVA
- The course an ADVANCE student is required to take (or the course options that will fulfill the degree requirement) at NOVA
- The Mason equivalent of the course(s)
- The corresponding degree requirement that the NOVA course fulfills at Mason

The Mason portion of the pathway is organized to show the following:

- All additional degree requirements left at Mason for your program and catalog year
- Your catalog year will be retained upon matriculation to Mason
- Your Mason academic advisor will assist you with any questions and/or academic planning upon transition to Mason

Please note any additional footnotes and resources for your specific ADVANCE pathway

Questions about your ADVANCE Pathway?
Please contact your assigned ADVANCE Academic Coach for information and assistance at advance@nvcc.edu

MY ADVANCE TO DO LIST

ACCEPTED INTO ADVANCE

- Select your ADVANCE Pathway
- Complete NOVA ADVANCE Orientation on Canvas
- Activate Mason Patriot Pass account
- Access Mason email
- Submit Immunization records
- Meet with your assigned ADVANCE Academic Coach
- Get your Mason ID
- Attend ADVANCE Welcome Event

AT NOVA

- Meet with ADVANCE Academic Coach every semester
- Follow ADVANCE Pathway when selecting courses
- Maintain all ADVANCE milestones listed on your Pathway
- Register for co-enrollment courses (if part of the Pathway)

TRANSITIONING TO MASON

- Meet with your ADVANCE Academic Coach to ensure all NOVA degree requirements are complete
- Apply for Graduation from NOVA*
- Follow transition to Mason instructions received from ADVANCE Admissions to your NVCC email inbox
- Sign up for and attend Mason Transfer Orientation
- Meet with Mason Academic Advisor and register for Mason classes

AT MASON

- Meet with assigned Academic Advisor every semester
- Meet with your new ADVANCE Success Coach every semester
- Apply for Graduation via Patriot Web