

MASON CORE

Bethany Usher, Associate Provost for Undergraduate Education

Office of the Provost

Phone: 703-993-3794

Website: masoncore.gmu.edu

The Mason Core at Mason Overview

The Mason Graduate is an Engaged Citizen and Well-Rounded Scholar who is Prepared to Act. The Mason Core is Mason's general education program that builds the foundation for The Mason Graduate. All undergraduates seeking a baccalaureate degree must complete Mason Core requirements. The Mason Core provides a breadth of liberal education courses, complementing the depth of knowledge and skills they build in their majors and minors. Additional requirements for specific degree programs can be found in the college or school sections of this catalog.

The Mason Core prepares students for work in their majors and minors, for their careers, and for life-long learning. Foundation courses build key knowledge and skills needed for academic success. Exploration courses provide a breadth of learning across the university. Integration courses include upper-division courses that are designed to integrate knowledge and skills learned from Foundation and Exploration courses into the major. Courses are designed around learning outcomes that help develop the qualities we expect of all students graduating with a Bachelor's degree from George Mason University.

The Mason Core: Engagement Series (ENCORE) provides an optional pathway for students interested in combining academic coursework with co-curricular activities towards a completion certificate in Sustainability or Well-Being.

All undergraduates seeking a baccalaureate degree must complete Mason Core requirements. Additional requirements for specific degree programs can be found in the college or school sections of this catalog.

Synopsis of Requirements

The Mason Core is divided into three sections: foundation, exploration, and integration. Each section contains courses that have specific learning outcomes for students and are assessed on a regular basis.

Code	Title	Credits
Foundation Requirements		
	Written Communication (ENGH 101)	3
	Oral Communication	3
	Quantitative Reasoning	3
	Information Technology and Computing	3
Exploration Requirements		
	Arts	3
	Global Understanding	3
	Literature	3
	Natural Science	7
	Social and Behavioral Sciences	3
	Western Civilization/World History	3

Integration Requirement

Written Communication (ENGH 302)	3
Writing-Intensive ¹	3
Capstone-or-Synthesis	3
Total Credits	40

¹ Most programs include the writing-intensive course designated for the major as part of the major requirements; this course is therefore not counted towards the total required for Mason Core.

Foundation Requirements (12 credits)

Foundation requirements help ensure that students master the tools and techniques necessary to succeed in college and throughout their lives and careers. These courses emphasize skills—in writing, speaking, and working with numbers and technology—that can be applied to any major field of study and career goal.

Note: The course list reflects approved courses as of press time. Please visit the Mason Core website (<http://masoncore.gmu.edu/general-education-at-mason-2>) for the most recent list of courses as the listed is update throughout the academic year.

Written Communication (3 credits, lower-level)

Learning Outcomes:

Students develop the ability to use written communication as a means of discovering and expressing ideas and meanings: in short, employing writing as a way of thinking. Students begin this process at the Foundation level in English 101 (100 for ESL students) and build higher-level skills at the Integration level in English 302. Writing will be emphasized in many courses throughout a student's career, and at least one course in every student's major is designated "writing intensive" (Integration level).

Required:

The following courses as well as an approved writing-intensive course in the major.

Code	Title	Credits
ENGH 100	Composition for Multilingual Writers (Mason Core)	4
ENGH 101	Composition (Mason Core)	3

Oral Communication (3 credits)

Learning Outcomes:

- Students will demonstrate understanding of and proficiency in constructing and delivering multiple message types.
- Students will understand and practice effective elements of ethical verbal and nonverbal communication.
- Students will develop analytical skills and critical listening skills.
- Students will understand the influence of culture in communication and will know how to cope with cultural differences when presenting information to an audience. Students develop the ability to use oral communication as a way of thinking and learning, as well as sharing ideas.

Required:

One approved course. Students will be expected to continue developing oral communication skills in additional Mason Core courses as appropriate.

Code	Title	Credits
COMM 100	Public Speaking (Mason Core)	3
COMM 101	Fundamentals of Communication (Mason Core)	3
DANC 454	Methods of Teaching Dance (Mason Core)	3
INTS 101	Narratives of Identity (Mason Core)	6
INTS 202	Public Speaking and Critical Thinking Skills (Mason Core)	4

Quantitative Reasoning (3 credits)**Learning Outcomes:**

1. Students are able to interpret quantitative information (i.e., formulas, graphs, tables, models, and schematics) and draw inferences from them.
2. Given a quantitative problem, students are able to formulate the problem quantitatively and use appropriate arithmetical, algebraic, and/or statistical methods to solve the problem.
3. Students are able to evaluate logical arguments using quantitative reasoning.
4. Students are able to communicate and present quantitative results effectively.

Required:

One approved course.

Code	Title	Credits
CDS 292	Introduction to Social Network Analysis (Mason Core)	3
HNRT 125	Applied Quantitative Reasoning (Mason Core)	3
MATH 106	Quantitative Reasoning (Mason Core)	3
MATH 108	Introductory Calculus with Business Applications (Mason Core)	3
MATH 110	Introductory Probability (Mason Core)	3
MATH 111	Linear Mathematical Modeling (Mason Core)	3
MATH 113	Analytic Geometry and Calculus I (Mason Core)	4
MATH 115	Analytic Geometry and Calculus I (Honors) (Mason Core)	4
MATH 124	Calculus with Algebra/Trigonometry, Part B (Mason Core)	3
MATH 125	Discrete Mathematics I (Mason Core)	3
SOCI 313	Statistics for the Behavioral Sciences (Mason Core)	4
STAT 250	Introductory Statistics I (Mason Core)	3

Information Technology and Computing (3 credits)**Learning Outcomes:**

Information technology and computing can significantly augment humans' ability to produce, consume, process, and communicate information. Thus, students need to understand ways to use such

technology to enhance their lives, careers, and society, while being mindful of challenges such as security, source reliability, automation, and ethical implications. These factors have made it essential for students to understand how to effectively navigate the evolving technological landscape. IT courses offered in the majors may focus on disciplinary applications and concerns of information technology.

IT courses meet the following learning outcomes:

1. Students will understand the principles of information storage, exchange, security, and privacy and be aware of related ethical issues.
2. Students will become critical consumers of digital information; they will be capable of selecting and evaluating appropriate, relevant, and trustworthy sources of information.
3. Students can use appropriate information and computing technologies to organize and analyze information and use it to guide decision-making.
4. Students will be able to choose and apply appropriate algorithmic methods to solve a problem.

Required:

One approved 3-credit course that meets all IT requirements or an approved sequence of courses that meet all IT requirements.

Courses meeting IT requirements

Code	Title	Credits
ANTH 395	Work, Technology, and Society: An IT Perspective (Mason Core)	3
CDS 130	Computing for Scientists (Mason Core)	3
CS 100	Principles of Computing (Mason Core)	3
GOVT 300	Research Methods and Analysis (Mason Core)	4
HIST 390	The Digital Past (Mason Core)	3
INTS 345	Introduction to Multimedia (Mason Core)	5
INTS 445	Multimedia Design (Mason Core)	5
IT 104	Introduction to Computing (Mason Core)	3
MIS 303	Introduction to Business Information Systems (Mason Core)	3
MUSI 259	Music in Computer Technology (Mason Core)	3
AVT 180	New Media in the Creative Arts (Mason Core)	3
CS 112	Introduction to Computer Programming (Mason Core)	4
INTS 203	Inquiry for Action: Facilitating Change (Mason Core)	6
INTS 249	Digital Literacy (Mason Core)	4
PHYS 251	Introduction to Computer Techniques in Physics (Mason Core)	3
SOCI 410	Social Surveys and Attitude and Opinion Measurements (Mason Core)	3

The following must be taken in sequence:

PSYC 300	Statistics in Psychology	4
PSYC 301	Research Methods in Psychology	4
PSYC 372	Biopsychology	3

Exploration Requirements (22 credits)

Exploration requirements help ensure that students become acquainted with the broad range of intellectual domains that contribute to a liberal education. By experiencing subject matter and ways of knowing in a variety of fields, students will be better able to synthesize new knowledge, respond to fresh challenges, and meet the demands of a complex world.

The course list reflects approved courses as of press time. See the most current list (<http://masoncore.gmu.edu/general-education-at-mason-2>) for updates.

Note: Beginning Fall 2014, certain courses within the Mason Core can count for more than one category, if approved by the Mason Core committee. Students will be allowed to double count two courses (up to six credit hours) to fulfill their Mason Core requirements. Courses that qualify for double counting will be listed in their individually approved sections. Students may not double count credits in Oral Communication, Written Communication, or Quantitative Reasoning categories.

Arts (3 credits)

Mason courses in the film making, visual and performing arts stress generative, inquiry based learning through direct aesthetic and creative experience in the studio environment. Art history courses address the intrinsic relationship of personal and cultural creativity, and the manifestation of aesthetics, visual culture and visual narrative within historical contexts.

Learning Outcomes:

Students who successfully complete a course in the Arts category must meet the first learning outcome and a minimum of two of the remaining four learning outcomes:

1. Demonstrate an understanding of the relationship between artistic process, and a work's underlying concept, and where appropriate, contexts associated with the work.
2. Identify and analyze the formal elements of a particular art form using vocabulary and critique appropriate to that form.
3. Analyze cultural productions using standards appropriate to the form, as well as the works cultural significance and context.
4. Analyze and interpret the content of material or performance culture through its social, historical, and personal contexts.
5. Engage in generative artistic processes, including conception, creation, and ongoing critical analysis.

Required:

One approved course.

Code	Title	Credits
ARTH 101	Introduction to the Visual Arts (Mason Core)	3
ARTH 102	Symbols and Stories in Art (Mason Core)	3
ARTH 103	Introduction to Architecture (Mason Core)	3
ARTH 104	Design in the 20th Century (Mason Core)	3
ARTH 200	History of Western Art I (Mason Core)	3
ARTH 201	History of Western Art II (Mason Core)	3
ARTH 203	Survey of Asian Art (Mason Core)	3
ARTH 204	Survey of Latin American Art (Mason Core)	3
ARTH 206	Survey of African Art (Mason Core)	3
ARTH 311	Design of Cities (Mason Core)	3

ARTH 321	Greek Art and Archaeology (Mason Core)	3
ARTH 322	Roman Art and Archaeology (Mason Core)	3
ARTH 324	From Alexander the Great to Cleopatra: The Hellenistic World (Mason Core)	3
ARTH 333	Early Christian and Byzantine Art (Mason Core)	3
ARTH 334	Western Medieval Art (Mason Core)	3
ARTH 335	Arts of Medieval England (Mason Core)	3
ARTH 340	Early Renaissance Art in Italy, 1300-1500 (Mason Core)	3
ARTH 341	Northern Renaissance Art (Mason Core)	3
ARTH 342	High Renaissance Art in Italy, 1480-1570 (Mason Core)	3
ARTH 343	The Art of Venice (Mason Core)	3
ARTH 344	Baroque Art in Italy, France, and Spain, 1600-1750 (Mason Core)	3
ARTH 345	Northern Baroque Art, 1600-1750 (Mason Core)	3
ARTH 350	History of Photography (Mason Core)	3
ARTH 360	Nineteenth-Century European Art (Mason Core)	3
ARTH 362	Twentieth-Century European Art (Mason Core)	3
ARTH 370	Arts of the United States (Mason Core)	3
ARTH 371	American Architecture and Material Culture (Mason Core)	3
ARTH 372	Studies in 18th- and 19th-Century Art of the United States (Mason Core)	3
ARTH 373	Studies in 20th-Century Art of the United States (Mason Core)	3
ARTH 376	Twentieth-Century Latin American Art (Mason Core)	3
AVT 103	Introduction to the Artist's Studio (Mason Core)	3
AVT 104	Two-Dimensional Design and Color (Mason Core)	4
AVT 215	Typography (Mason Core)	3
AVT 222	Drawing I (Mason Core)	4
AVT 232	Painting I (Mason Core)	4
AVT 243	Printmaking I (Mason Core)	4
AVT 252	Darkroom Photography I (Mason Core)	4
AVT 253	Digital Photography I (Mason Core)	4
AVT 262	Sculpture I (Mason Core)	4
AVT 272	Interdisciplinary Arts (Mason Core)	4
AVT 385	EcoArt (Mason Core)	3
DANC 101	Dance Appreciation (Mason Core)	3
DANC 119	Dance in Popular Culture: Afro-Latino Dance (Mason Core)	3
DANC 125	Modern/Contemporary Dance I (Mason Core)	3
DANC 131	Beginning Jazz Technique (Mason Core)	3
DANC 145	Ballet I (Mason Core)	3
DANC 161	Beginning Tap Dance (Mason Core)	3
DANC 225	Modern/Contemporary Dance II (Mason Core)	3

DANC 231	Intermediate Jazz Technique (Mason Core)	3
DANC 245	Ballet II (Mason Core)	3
DANC 301	What is Dance? (Mason Core)	3
DANC 325	Modern/Contemporary Dance III (Mason Core)	1-3
DANC 331	Advanced Jazz Dance (Mason Core)	3
DANC 345	Ballet III (Mason Core)	1-3
DANC 390	Dance History I (Mason Core)	3
DANC 391	Dance History II (Mason Core)	3
DANC 425	Modern/Contemporary Dance IV (Mason Core)	1-3
DANC 445	Ballet IV (Mason Core)	1-3
DSGN 102	Design in the Modern World (Mason Core)	3
ENGH 370	Introduction to Documentary (Mason Core)	3
ENGH 371	Television Studies (Mason Core)	3
ENGH 372	Introduction to Film (Mason Core)	3
ENGH 396	Introduction to Creative Writing (Mason Core)	3
FAVS 225	The History of World Cinema (Mason Core)	3
GAME 101	Introduction to Game Design (Mason Core)	3
INTS 103	Human Creativity: Science and Art (Mason Core)	6
INTS 245	Visual Culture and Society (Mason Core)	4
INTS 346	Art as Social Action (Mason Core)	4
INTS 446	Art, Beauty, and Culture (Mason Core)	3-6
MUSI 100	Fundamentals of Music (Mason Core)	3
MUSI 101	Introduction to Classical Music (Mason Core)	3
MUSI 102	Popular Music in America (Mason Core)	3
MUSI 106	Fundamentals of Rock, Blues, and Jazz (Mason Core)	3
MUSI 107	Jazz and Blues in America (Mason Core)	3
MUSI 280	Athletic and Ceremonial Ensemble (Mason Core)	0-1
MUSI 301	Music in Motion Pictures (Mason Core)	3
MUSI 302	American Musical Theater (Mason Core)	3
MUSI 380	Wind Symphony (Mason Core)	1
MUSI 381	University Chorale (Mason Core)	1
MUSI 382	Piano Ensemble (Mason Core)	1
MUSI 383	Symphonic Band (Mason Core)	1
MUSI 385	Chamber Singers (Mason Core)	1
MUSI 387	Symphony Orchestra (Mason Core)	1
MUSI 389	Jazz Ensemble (Mason Core)	1
MUSI 485	Chamber Ensembles (Mason Core)	1
PHIL 156	What Is Art? (Mason Core)	3
THR 101	Theatrical Medium (Mason Core)	3
THR 150	Greeks to Restoration (Mason Core)	3
THR 151	Romanticism to Present (Mason Core)	3
THR 210	Acting I (Mason Core)	3

THR 230	Fundamentals of Production (Mason Core)	3
THR 395	Theater as the Life of the Mind (Mason Core)	3
THR 411	Great Film Directors (Mason Core)	3
THR 412	Great Film Performances (Mason Core)	3

Global Understanding (3 credits)

Learning Outcomes:

The goal of the global understanding category is to help students see the world from multiple perspectives, reflect upon their positions in a global society, and be prepared for future engagement as global citizens. While it may include a historical perspective, global understanding courses focus primarily on a contemporary understanding of one's place in a global society.

Courses in this category must meet a minimum of three of the following learning outcomes:

1. Identify and articulate one's own values and how those values influence their interactions and relationships with others, both locally and globally.
2. Demonstrate understanding of how the patterns and processes of globalization make visible the interconnections and differences among and within contemporary global societies.
3. Demonstrate the development of intercultural competencies.
4. Explore individual and collective responsibilities within a global society through analytical, practical, or creative responses to problems or issues, using resources appropriate to the field.

Note: A student may also meet the Global Understanding requirement through a full-semester study abroad or 12-15 credit hour program; shorter-term study abroad courses must include and meet the learning outcomes listed below and be evaluated prior to departure.

Required:

One approved course.

Code	Title	Credits
ANTH 302	Peoples and Cultures of Latin America (Mason Core)	3
ANTH 307	Ancient Mesoamerica (Mason Core)	3
ANTH 308	Peoples and Cultures of the Middle East (Mason Core)	3
ANTH 309	Peoples and Cultures of India (Mason Core)	3
ANTH 312	Political Anthropology (Mason Core)	3
ANTH 313	Myth, Magic, and Mind (Mason Core)	3
ANTH 331	Refugees (Mason Core)	3
ANTH 332	Cross-Cultural Perspectives on Globalization (Mason Core)	3
ANTH 382	Urban Anthropology (Mason Core)	3
ARTH 319	Art and Archaeology of the Ancient Near East (Mason Core)	3
ARTH 320	Art of the Islamic World (Mason Core)	3
ARTH 382	Arts of India (Mason Core)	3
ARTH 383	Arts of Southeast Asia (Mason Core)	3

ARTH 384	Arts of China (Mason Core)	3	HIST 328	Rise of Russia (Mason Core)	3
ARTH 385	Arts of Japan (Mason Core)	3	HIST 329	Modern Russia and the Soviet Union (Mason Core)	3
ARTH 386	The Silk Road (Mason Core)	3	HIST 354	Modern China (Mason Core)	3
BUS 200	Global Environment of Business (Mason Core)	3	HIST 356	Modern Japan (Mason Core)	3
CEIE 100	Environmental Engineering around the World (Mason Core)	3	HIST 357	Postwar Japan (Mason Core)	3
CEIE 497	Applied Engineering Abroad (Mason Core)	3	HIST 358	Post-1949 China (Mason Core)	3
COMM 305	Foundations of Intercultural Communication (Mason Core)	3	HIST 360	History of South Africa (Mason Core)	3
COMM 456	Comparative Mass Media (Mason Core)	3	HIST 364	Revolution and Radical Politics in Latin America (Mason Core)	3
CONF 340	Global Conflict Analysis and Resolution (Mason Core)	3	HIST 365	Conquest and Colonization in Latin America (Mason Core)	3
CRIM 405	Law and Justice around the World (Mason Core)	3	HIST 384	Global History of Christianity (Mason Core)	3
DANC 118	World Dance (Mason Core)	3	HIST 387	Topics in Global History (Mason Core)	3-6
DANC 318	Global Perspectives: World Dance Forms (Mason Core)	3	HIST 460	Modern Iran (Mason Core)	3
DANC 418	Global Dance Intensive (Mason Core)	3	HIST 462	Women in Islamic Society (Mason Core)	3
ECON 360	Economics of Developing Areas (Mason Core)	3	INTS 102	Global Networks and Communities (Mason Core)	6
ECON 361	Economic Development of Latin America (Mason Core)	3	INTS 303	Introduction to International Studies (Mason Core)	3
ECON 362	African Economic Development (Mason Core)	3	INTS 314	Conflict, Trauma and Healing (Mason Core)	6
ECON 380	Economies in Transition (Mason Core)	3	INTS 315	Spirituality and Conflict Transformation (Mason Core)	6
ECON 390	International Economics (Mason Core)	3	INTS 406	Global Leadership (Mason Core)	3
ENGH 362	Global Voices (Mason Core)	3	INTS 416	Refugee and Internal Displacement (Mason Core)	3
ENGH 366	The Idea of a World Literature (Mason Core)	3	INYO 105	American Cultures (Mason Core)	3
ENGR 398	Applied Engineering Abroad (Mason Core)	3	JAPA 310	Japanese Culture in a Global World (Mason Core)	3
FAVS 300	Global Horror Film (Mason Core)	3	MBUS 305	Introduction to International Business (Mason Core)	3
FRLN 331	Topics in World Cinema (Mason Core)	3	ME 497	Applied Engineering Abroad (Mason Core)	3
GCH 205	Global Health (Mason Core)	3	MUSI 103	Musics of the World (Mason Core)	3
GGS 101	Major World Regions (Mason Core)	3	MUSI 431	Music History in Society III (Mason Core)	3
GLOA 101	Introduction to Global Affairs (Mason Core)	3	PHIL 243	Global Environmental Ethics (Mason Core)	3
GOVT 132	Introduction to International Politics (Mason Core)	3	PROV 150	International Experience: Global Understanding (Mason Core)	0
GOVT 133	Introduction to Comparative Politics (Mason Core)	3	PSYC 379	Applied Cross-Cultural Psychology (Mason Core)	3
HIST 251	Survey of East Asian History (Mason Core)	3	RELI 100	The Human Religious Experience (Mason Core)	3
HIST 252	Survey of East Asian History (Mason Core)	3	RELI 211	Religions of the West (Mason Core)	3
HIST 261	Survey of African History (Mason Core)	3	RELI 212	Religions of Asia (Mason Core)	3
HIST 262	Survey of African History (Mason Core)	3	RELI 313	Hinduism (Mason Core)	3
HIST 271	Survey of Latin American History (Mason Core)	3	RELI 315	Buddhism (Mason Core)	3
HIST 272	Survey of Latin American History (Mason Core)	3	RELI 320	Religion and Revolution in Latin America (Mason Core)	3
HIST 281	Survey of Middle Eastern Civilization (Mason Core)	3	RELI 322	Religions of Africa (Mason Core)	3
HIST 282	Survey of Middle Eastern Civilization (Mason Core)	3	RELI 341	Global Perspectives on Spirituality and Healing (Mason Core)	3
			RELI 374	Islamic Thought (Mason Core)	3

RELI 384	Global History of Christianity (Mason Core)	3	ENGH 203	Western Literary Tradition (Mason Core)	3
RUSS 354	Contemporary Post-Soviet Life (Mason Core)	3	ENGH 204	Western Literary Traditions (Mason Core)	3
SOCI 120	Globalization and Society (Mason Core)	3	FREN 325	Major French Writers (Topic Varies) (Mason Core)	3
SOCI 320	Globalization and Social Change (Mason Core)	3	FREN 329	Problems of Western Civilization in French Literature (Mason Core)	3
SOCI 332	The Urban World (Mason Core)	3	FRLN 330	Topics in World Literature (Mason Core)	3
SPAN 322	Introduction to Latin American Culture (Mason Core)	3	GERM 325	Major Writers (Mason Core)	3
SPAN 466	Latin American Civilization and Culture (Mason Core)	3	HIST 334	American Scriptures (Mason Core)	3
SYST 202	Engineering Systems in a Complex World (Mason Core)	3	INTS 101	Narratives of Identity (Mason Core)	6
SYST 497	Applied Engineering Abroad (Mason Core)	3	ITAL 320	Topics in Italian Film and Literature (Mason Core)	3
THR 359	World Stages (Mason Core)	3	ITAL 325	Major Italian Writers (Mason Core)	3
TOUR 210	Global Understanding through Travel and Tourism (Mason Core)	3	JAPA 340	Topics in Japanese Literature (Mason Core)	3
WMST 100	Global Representations of Women (Mason Core)	3	KORE 311	Modern Korean Literature in Translation (Mason Core)	3
			PHIL 253	Philosophy and Literature (Mason Core)	3
			RELI 235	Religion and Literature (Mason Core)	3
			RELI 333	Spiritual Autobiography (Mason Core)	3
			RUSS 325	Major Russian Writers (Mason Core)	3
			RUSS 326	A Survey of Russian Literature (Mason Core)	3
			RUSS 327	A Survey of Russian Literature (Mason Core)	3
			SPAN 325	Major Hispanic Writers (Mason Core)	3

Literature (3 credits)

Learning Outcomes:

1. Students will be able to read for comprehension, detail, and nuance.
2. Identify the specific literary qualities of language as employed in the texts they read.
3. Analyze the ways specific literary devices contribute to the meaning of a text.
4. Identify and evaluate the contribution of the social, political, historical, and cultural contexts in which a literary text is produced.
5. Evaluate a critical argument in others' writing as well as one's own.

Required:

One approved course.

Code	Title	Credits
ARAB 325	Major Arab Writers/Stories (Mason Core)	3
CHIN 310	Survey of Chinese Literature (Mason Core)	3
CHIN 311	Modern Chinese Literature in Translation (Mason Core)	3
CHIN 325	Major Chinese Writers (Mason Core)	3
CHIN 328	Asian American Women Writers (Mason Core)	3
CLAS 250	Classical Mythology (Mason Core)	3
CLAS 260	The Legacy of Greece and Rome (Mason Core)	3
CLAS 340	Greek and Roman Epic (Mason Core)	3
CLAS 350	Greek and Roman Tragedy (Mason Core)	3
CLAS 360	Greek and Roman Comedy (Mason Core)	3
CLAS 380	Greek and Roman Novels (Mason Core)	3
ELED 358	Children's Literature for Teaching in Diverse Settings (Mason Core)	3
ENGH 201	Reading and Writing about Texts (Mason Core)	3
ENGH 202	Texts and Contexts (Mason Core)	3

Natural Science (7 credits total)

The Mason Core natural sciences courses engage students in scientific exploration; foster their curiosity; enhance their enthusiasm for science; and enable them to apply scientific knowledge and reasoning to personal, professional and public decision-making. Lab courses must meet all five learning outcomes. Non-lab courses must meet learning outcomes 1 through 4.

Learning Outcomes:

1. Understand how scientific inquiry is based on investigation of evidence from the natural world, and that scientific knowledge and understanding: a) evolves based on new evidence, and b) differs from personal and cultural beliefs.
2. Recognize the scope and limits of science.
3. Recognize and articulate the relationship between the natural sciences and society and the application of science to societal challenges (e.g., health, conservation, sustainability, energy, natural disasters, etc.).
4. Evaluate scientific information (e.g., distinguish primary and secondary sources, assess credibility and validity of information).
5. Participate in scientific inquiry and communicate the elements of the process, including: a) making careful and systematic observations, b) developing and testing a hypothesis, c) analyzing evidence, and d) Interpreting results.

Required:

Two approved science courses. At least one course will include laboratory experience.

Non-lab (3 credits)

Code	Title	Credits
ANTH 135	Introduction to Biological Anthropology (Mason Core)	3
ASTR 103	Astronomy (Mason Core)	3
ASTR 302	Foundations of Cosmological Thought (Mason Core)	3
BIOL 107	Intro Biology II Lecture (Mason Core)	3
BIOL 140	Plants and People (Mason Core)	3
CHEM 101	Introduction to Modern Chemistry (Mason Core)	3
CHEM 102	Chemistry for Changing Times (Mason Core)	3
CHEM 271	General Chemistry for Engineers Lecture (Mason Core)	3
CLIM 101	Global Warming: Weather, Climate, and Society (Mason Core)	3
EVPP 201	Environment and You: Issues for the Twenty-First Century (Mason Core)	3
GEOL 134	Evolution and Extinction (Mason Core)	3
GGG 102	Physical Geography (Mason Core)	3
INTS 103	Human Creativity: Science and Art (Mason Core)	6
INTS 211	Introduction to Conservation Studies (Mason Core)	3-6
INTS 301	Science in the News (Mason Core)	3
NEUR 101	Introduction to Neuroscience (Mason Core)	3
NUTR 295	Introduction to Nutrition (Mason Core)	3
PHYS 106	The Quantum World: A Continuous Revolution in What We Know and How We Live (Mason Core)	3
PROV 301	Great Ideas in Science (Mason Core)	3

Lab (4 credits)

Code	Title	Credits
ASTR 111	Introductory Astronomy: The Solar System (Mason Core)	3
ASTR 112	Introductory Astronomy Lab: The Solar System (Mason Core)	1
ASTR 113	Introductory Astronomy: Stars, Galaxies, and the Universe (Mason Core)	3
ASTR 114	Introductory Astronomy Lab: Stars, Galaxies, and the Universe (Mason Core)	1
ASTR 115	Finding New Worlds (Mason Core)	4
BIOL 103	Introductory Biology I (Mason Core)	4
BIOL 106	Introductory Biology II Laboratory (Mason Core)	1
BIOL 213	Cell Structure and Function (Mason Core)	4
CDS 101	Introduction to Computational and Data Sciences (Mason Core)	3
CDS 102	Introduction to Computational and Data Sciences Lab (Mason Core)	1
CHEM 103	Chemical Science in a Modern Society (Mason Core)	4

CHEM 104	Chemistry for Changing Times (Mason Core)	4
CHEM 155	Introduction to Environmental Chemistry I (Mason Core)	4
CHEM 156	Introduction to Environmental Chemistry II (Mason Core)	4
CHEM 211	General Chemistry I (Mason Core)	3
CHEM 212	General Chemistry II (Mason Core)	3
CHEM 213	General Chemistry Laboratory I (Mason Core)	1
CHEM 214	General Chemistry Laboratory II (Mason Core)	1
CHEM 272	General Chemistry for Engineers Lab (Mason Core)	1
CLIM 102	Introduction to Global Climate Change Science (Mason Core)	4
CLIM 111	Introduction to the Fundamentals of Atmospheric Science (Mason Core)	3
CLIM 112	Introduction to the Fundamentals of Atmospheric Science Lab (Mason Core)	1
EVPP 108	Ecosphere - Introduction to Environmental Science I-Lecture (Mason Core)	3
EVPP 109	Ecosphere- Introduction to Environmental Science I- Lab (Mason Core)	1
EVPP 110	The Ecosphere: An Introduction to Environmental Science I (Mason Core)	4
EVPP 111	The Ecosphere: An Introduction to Environmental Science II (Mason Core)	4
EVPP 112	Ecosphere: Introduction to Environmental Science II-Lecture (Mason Core)	3
EVPP 113	Ecosphere: Introduction to Environmental Science II-Lab (Mason Core)	1
GEOL 101	Introductory Geology I (Mason Core)	4
GEOL 102	Introductory Geology II (Mason Core)	4
GGG 121	Dynamic Atmosphere and Hydrosphere (Mason Core)	4
INTS 210	Sustainable World (Mason Core)	4
INTS 311	The Mysteries of Migration: Consequences for Conservation (Mason Core)	6
INTS 401	Conservation Biology (Mason Core)	6
INTS 403	Conservation Behavior (Mason Core)	6
PHYS 103	Physics and Everyday Phenomena I (Mason Core)	4
PHYS 104	Physics and Everyday Phenomena II (Mason Core)	4
PHYS 111	Introduction to the Fundamentals of Atmospheric Science (Mason Core)	3
PHYS 112	Introduction to the Fundamentals of Atmospheric Science Lab (Mason Core)	1
PHYS 160	University Physics I (Mason Core)	3
PHYS 161	University Physics I Laboratory (Mason Core)	1
PHYS 243	College Physics I (Mason Core)	3
PHYS 244	College Physics I Lab (Mason Core)	1
PHYS 245	College Physics II (Mason Core)	3

PHYS 246	College Physics II Lab (Mason Core)	1
PHYS 260	University Physics II (Mason Core)	3
PHYS 261	University Physics II Laboratory (Mason Core)	1
PHYS 262	University Physics III (Mason Core)	3
PHYS 263	University Physics III Laboratory (Mason Core)	1

Social and Behavioral Sciences (3 credits)

Learning Outcomes:

The following three learning outcomes are required goals of disciplinary or interdisciplinary courses:

1. Explain how individuals, groups or institutions are influenced by contextual factors;
2. Demonstrate awareness of changes in social and cultural constructs;
3. Use appropriate methods and resources to apply social and behavioral science concepts, terminology, principles and theories in the analysis of significant human issues, past or present.

Required:

One approved course.

Code	Title	Credits
AFAM 200	Introduction to African American Studies (Mason Core)	3
ANTH 114	Introduction to Cultural Anthropology (Mason Core)	3
ANTH 120	Unearthing the Past: Prehistory, Culture and Evolution (Mason Core)	3
ANTH 135	Introduction to Biological Anthropology (Mason Core)	3
ANTH 363	Humans, Disease, and Death (Mason Core)	3
ANTH 396	Issues in Anthropology: Social Sciences (Mason Core)	3
BUS 100	Business and Society (Mason Core)	3
CONF 101	Conflict and Our World (Mason Core)	3
CONS 410	Human Dimensions in Conservation (Mason Core)	3
CRIM 100	Introduction to Criminal Justice (Mason Core)	3
ECON 100	Economics for the Citizen (Mason Core)	3
ECON 103	Contemporary Microeconomic Principles (Mason Core)	3
ECON 104	Contemporary Macroeconomic Principles (Mason Core)	3
ECON 105	Environmental Economics for the Citizen (Mason Core)	3
ECON 367	Money, Markets, and Economic Policy (Mason Core)	3
EDUC 200	Introduction to Education: Teaching, Learning and Schools (Mason Core)	3
EDUC 203	Disability in American Culture (Mason Core)	3
EDUC 372	Human Development, Learning, and Teaching (Mason Core)	3

GCH 325	Stress and Well-Being (Mason Core)	3
GGG 103	Human Geography (Mason Core)	3
GOVT 101	Democratic Theory and Practice (Mason Core)	3
GOVT 103	Introduction to American Government (Mason Core)	3
GOVT 367	Money, Markets and Economic Policy (Mason Core)	3
HDFS 200	Individual and Family Development (Mason Core)	3
HEAL 230	Introduction to Health Behavior (Mason Core)	3
HIST 121	Formation of the American Republic (Mason Core)	3
HIST 122	Development of Modern America (Mason Core)	3
INTS 203	Inquiry for Action: Facilitating Change (Mason Core)	6
INTS 300	Law and Justice (Mason Core)	3
INTS 304	Social Movements and Community Activism (Mason Core)	4
INTS 316	Introduction to Childhood Studies (Mason Core)	4
INTS 317	Issues in Family Relationships (Mason Core)	4
INTS 319	Contemporary Youth Studies (Mason Core)	3
INTS 320	Construction of Differences: Race, Class, and Gender (Mason Core)	6
INTS 321	Parent-Child Relations (Mason Core)	3
INTS 331	The Nonprofit Sector (Mason Core)	4
INTS 334	Environmental Justice (Mason Core)	4
INTS 336	Poverty, Wealth and Inequality in the US (Mason Core)	3
INTS 347	Gender Representation in Popular Culture (Mason Core)	3-6
INTS 361	Neighborhood, Community, and Identity (Mason Core)	3-6
INTS 362	Social Justice and Human Rights (Mason Core)	3
INTS 371	Food Systems and Policy (Mason Core)	3
INTS 436	Social Justice Education (Mason Core)	4
INTS 437	Critical Race Studies (Mason Core)	3
INTS 438	Representations of Race (Mason Core)	4
LING 306	General Linguistics (Mason Core)	3
PSYC 100	Basic Concepts in Psychology (Mason Core)	3
PSYC 211	Developmental Psychology (Mason Core)	3
PSYC 231	Social Psychology (Mason Core)	3
SOCI 101	Introductory Sociology (Mason Core)	3
SOCI 352	Social Problems and Solutions (Mason Core)	3
SOCI 355	Social Inequality (Mason Core)	3
TOUR 311	Women and Tourism (Mason Core)	3

WMST 200	Introduction to Women and Gender Studies (Mason Core)	3
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Western Civilization/World History (3 credits)

Learning Outcomes:

Courses must meet at least three of the five learning outcomes.

1. Demonstrate familiarity with the major chronology of Western civilization or world history.
2. Demonstrate the ability to narrate and explain long-term changes and continuities in Western civilization or world history.
3. Identify, evaluate, and appropriately cite online and print resources.
4. Develop multiple historical literacies by analyzing primary sources of various kinds (texts, images, music) and using these sources as evidence to support interpretation of historical events.
5. Communicate effectively—through speech, writing, and use of digital media—their understanding of patterns, process, and themes in the history of Western civilization or the world.

Required:

One approved course.

Code	Title	Credits
HIST 100	History of Western Civilization (Mason Core)	3
HIST 125	Introduction to World History (Mason Core)	3
INTS 102	Global Networks and Communities (Mason Core)	6

Transfer students may substitute one of the following for HIST 100 History of Western Civilization (Mason Core)

Code	Title	Credits
HIST 101	Foundations of Western Civilization	3
HIST 102	Development of Western Civilization	3
HIST 301	Classical Greece	3
HIST 302	Classical Rome	3
HIST 304	Western Europe in the Middle Ages	3
HIST 305	The Renaissance	3
HIST 306	The Reformation	3
HIST 308	Nineteenth-Century Europe	3
HIST 309	Europe in Crisis: 1914-1948	3
HIST 312	Nationalism in Eastern Europe	3
HIST 314	History of Germany	3
HIST 322	Modern Britain	3
HIST 388	Topics in European History	3
HIST 436	European Society and Culture: 19th and 20th Centuries	3

Transfer students may substitute one of the following for HIST 125 Introduction to World History (Mason Core)

Code	Title	Credits
HIST 202	Freshman/Sophomore Seminar in Global History	3
HIST 387	Topics in Global History (Mason Core)	3-6

Integration Requirements (9 credits)

Written Communication (3 credits, upper-level)

Learning Outcomes:

Students develop the ability to use written communication as a means of discovering and expressing ideas and meanings: in short, employing writing as a way of thinking. Students begin this process at the Foundation level in ENGH 101 Composition (Mason Core) (ENGH 100 Composition for Multilingual Writers (Mason Core) for ESL students) and build higher-level skills at the Integration level in ENGH 302 Advanced Composition (Mason Core). Writing will be emphasized in many courses throughout a student's career, and at least one course in every student's major is designated "writing intensive" (Integration level).

Required:

The following course as well as an approved writing-intensive course in the major.

Code	Title	Credits
ENGH 302	Advanced Composition (Mason Core)	3

Writing-Intensive Course Requirement (usually 3 credits)

As part of the university's commitment to student writers in all undergraduate programs, at least one upper-division course in each major has been designated as fulfilling the "writing intensive" (WI) requirement.

The following courses have been approved to meet the writing-intensive requirement.

NOTE: students MUST select the course approved for their major. See specific degree program for details.

Code	Title	Credits
ACCT 461	Assurance and Audit Services	3
ANTH 490	Theories, Methods, and Issues II	3
ARAB 331	Reading and Conversation II	3
ARTH 400	Historiography and Methods of Research in Art History (Topic Varies)	3
ARTH 420	Advanced Studies in Ancient Art	3
ARTH 430	Advanced Studies in Medieval or Islamic Art	3
ARTH 440	RS: Advanced Studies in Renaissance and Baroque Art	3
ARTH 460	RS: Advanced Studies in 20th-Century European Art	3
ARTH 471	Advanced Studies in Art of the United States	3
ARTH 472	RS: Advanced Studies in 20th-Century Latin American Art	3
ARTH 474	Advanced Studies in Contemporary Art	3
ARTH 482	RS: Advanced Studies in Asian Art	3
ARTH 490	Independent Study in Art History	3
ARTH 491	Independent Study in Art History	3
ARTH 492	Honors Directed Readings	3
ARTH 493	Honors Directed Research	3
ARTH 495	RS: Objects and Archives in Art History	3
ARTH 499	Advanced Studies in Art History	3

ASTR 402	RS: Methods of Observational Astronomy (Mason Core)	4	GCH 465	Community Health Capstone (Mason Core)	3
AVT 395	Writing for Artists	3	GEOL 305	Environmental Geology	3
AVT 396	Writing for Designers	3	GEOL 317	Geomorphology	4
BENG 304	Modeling and Control of Physiological Systems	3	GEOL 334	Vertebrate Paleontology	4
BENG 495	Bioengineering Senior Seminar II	1	GGG 415	Seminar in Geography	3
BIOL 308	Foundations of Ecology and Evolution	5	GOVT 490	Synthesis Seminar (Mason Core)	3
BIOL 338	Lab for Fundamentals of Ecology and Evolution	2	GOVT 491	Honors Seminar (Mason Core)	3
BIS 390	The Research Process	3	HAP 465	Integration of Professional Skills and Issues (Mason Core)	3
CDS 302	Scientific Data and Databases	3	HDFS 401	Family Law and Public Policy	3
CEIE 301	Engineering and Economic Models in Civil Engineering	3	HIST 300	Introduction to Historical Method (Mason Core)	3
CHEM 336	Physical Chemistry Lab I	2	HIST 499	RS: Senior Seminar in History (Mason Core)	3
CHEM 465	Biochemistry Lab	2	INTS 308	American Landscapes in Fiction, Film, and History (Mason Core)	6
CHIN 480	Fourth-Year Chinese I	3	INTS 311	The Mysteries of Migration: Consequences for Conservation (Mason Core)	6
CLIM 408	Senior Research	3	INTS 318	Exploring Virginia's Watersheds	4
COMM 300	Rhetorical Theory and Criticism	3	INTS 334	Environmental Justice (Mason Core)	4
CONF 302	Culture, Identity, and Conflict	3	INTS 337	Social Justice Consciousness and Personal Transformation	3
CRIM 495	Capstone in Criminology, Law and Society (Mason Core)	3	INTS 338	Animal Rights and Humane Education	3
CS 306	Synthesis of Ethics and Law for the Computing Professional (Mason Core)	3	INTS 345	Introduction to Multimedia (Mason Core)	5
CS 321	Software Engineering	3	INTS 391	Understanding Integrative Studies	3
CYSE 491	Engineering Senior Seminar	2	INTS 446	Art, Beauty, and Culture (Mason Core)	3-6
DANC 390	Dance History I (Mason Core)	3	INTS 491	The Senior Capstone Experience	3
DANC 391	Dance History II (Mason Core)	3	INTS 492	Graduation Portfolio	0
ECE 333	Linear Electronics I	3	INTS 498	Field-Based Work	1-15
ECE 491	Engineering Seminar	1	IT 343	IT Project Management	3
ECED 411	Assessment of Diverse Young Learners	3	KINE 450	Research Methods	3
ECON 355	The Political Economy of Nonprofit Institutions	3	LAS 499	Research Seminar in Latin American Studies (Mason Core)	3
ECON 365	Topics in Economic History	3	MATH 290	Introduction to Advanced Mathematics	3
ECON 435	Economics of Energy	3	ME 444	Mechanical Design II (Mason Core)	3
ECON 470	Economics of Regulation	3	MGMT 313	Organizational Behavior	3
ECON 485	Smithian Political Economy I	3	MIS 330	Systems Analysis and Design	3
ELED 459	Research and Assessment in Elementary Education	3	MKTG 471	Marketing Management	3
ENGH 305	Dimensions of Writing and Literature	3	MLAB 300	Science Writing	2
ENGH 373	Film and Video Forms	3	MUSI 332	Music History in Society II	3
EVPP 337	Environmental Policy Making in Developing Countries	3	MUSI 438	Music History in Society B	3
FAVS 380	TV Writing	3	NEUR 410	Current Topics in Neuroscience	3
FAVS 496	Advanced Visual Storytelling (Mason Core)	3	NEUR 411	Seminar in Neuroscience	3
FAVS 498	Development for Senior Project	3	NURS 465	Examination and Integration of Professional and Health Care Issues (Mason Core)	3
FNAN 498	RS: Contemporary Topics in Finance	3	NUTR 326	Food Systems	3
FREN 309	Reading and Writing Skills Development	6	PHED 340	Social and Cultural Issues in Physical Education	3
FRSC 302	Forensic Trace Analysis	3	PHIL 421	Seminar (Mason Core)	3
FRSC 304	Forensic Chemistry	3	PHIL 422	Honors Seminar (Mason Core)	3
GAME 332	RS: Story Design for Computer Games	3			
GCH 411	Health Program Planning and Evaluation	3			

PHYS 407	Senior Laboratory in Modern Physics (Mason Core)	4	ARTH 394	The Museum (Mason Core)	3
PHYS 410	Computational Physics Capstone (Mason Core)	4	AVT 385	EcoArt (Mason Core)	3
PSYC 301	Research Methods in Psychology	4	AVT 497	Senior Project (Mason Core)	3
PSYC 304	Principles of Learning	4	AVT 498	Senior Design Project (Mason Core)	3
PSYC 309	Sensation, Perception, and Information Processing	4	BENG 492	Senior Advanced Design Project I (Mason Core)	3
RELI 420	Seminar	3	BENG 493	RS: Senior Advanced Design Project II (Mason Core)	3
RHBS 455	Research in Rehabilitation Science (Mason Core)	3	BINF 354	Foundations in Mathematical Biology (Mason Core)	3
RUSS 302	Russian Conversation and Composition	3	BIOL 301	Biology and Society (Mason Core)	3
RUSS 325	Major Russian Writers (Mason Core)	3	BIS 490	RS: Senior Project (Mason Core)	4
SOCI 412	Contemporary Sociological Theory	3	CEIE 490	Senior Design Project (Mason Core)	3
SOCW 471	Research in Social Work	3	COMM 326	Rhetoric of Social Movements and Political Controversy (Mason Core)	3
SPAN 370	Spanish Writing and Stylistics	3	COMM 362	Argument and Public Policy (Mason Core)	3
SRST 450	Research Methods	3	COMM 454	Free Speech and Ethics (Mason Core)	3
STAT 489	Pre-Capstone Professional Development	3	CONF 490	RS: Integration (Mason Core)	3
SYST 489	Senior Seminar	3	CONS 490	RS: Integrated Conservation Strategies (Mason Core)	3
THR 350	Script Analysis	3	CONS 491	RS: Conservation Management Planning (Mason Core)	4
THR 482	Advanced Screenplay Workshop	3	CRIM 495	Capstone in Criminology, Law and Society (Mason Core)	3

Synthesis or Capstone Experience Requirement (minimum 3 credits)

The purpose of the synthesis course is to provide students with the opportunity to synthesize the knowledge, skills and values gained from the Mason Core curriculum. Synthesis courses strive to expand students' ability to master new content, think critically, and develop life-long learning skills across the disciplines. While it is not feasible to design courses that cover "all" areas of general education, synthesis courses should function as a careful alignment of disciplinary goals with a range of Mason Core learning outcomes.

Learning Outcomes for Synthesis:

The Mason Core synthesis course must address outcomes 1 and 2, and at least one outcome under 3. Upon completing a synthesis course, students will be able to:

1. Communicate effectively in both oral and written forms, applying appropriate rhetorical standards (e.g., audience adaptation, language, argument, organization, evidence, etc.)
2. Using perspectives from two or more disciplines, connect issues in a given field to wider intellectual, community or societal concerns
3. Apply critical thinking skills to:
 - a. Evaluate the quality, credibility and limitations of an argument or a solution using appropriate evidence or resources, OR,
 - b. Judge the quality or value of an idea, work, or principle based on appropriate analytics and standards

Required: One approved course.

Note: The course list reflects approved courses as of press time. See the most current list (<http://masoncore.gmu.edu/general-education-at-mason-2>) for updates.

Synthesis Courses

Code	Title	Credits
ANTH 400	Engaging the World: Anthropological Perspectives (Mason Core)	3
ARTH 394	The Museum (Mason Core)	3
AVT 385	EcoArt (Mason Core)	3
AVT 497	Senior Project (Mason Core)	3
AVT 498	Senior Design Project (Mason Core)	3
BENG 492	Senior Advanced Design Project I (Mason Core)	3
BENG 493	RS: Senior Advanced Design Project II (Mason Core)	3
BINF 354	Foundations in Mathematical Biology (Mason Core)	3
BIOL 301	Biology and Society (Mason Core)	3
BIS 490	RS: Senior Project (Mason Core)	4
CEIE 490	Senior Design Project (Mason Core)	3
COMM 326	Rhetoric of Social Movements and Political Controversy (Mason Core)	3
COMM 362	Argument and Public Policy (Mason Core)	3
COMM 454	Free Speech and Ethics (Mason Core)	3
CONF 490	RS: Integration (Mason Core)	3
CONS 490	RS: Integrated Conservation Strategies (Mason Core)	3
CONS 491	RS: Conservation Management Planning (Mason Core)	4
CRIM 495	Capstone in Criminology, Law and Society (Mason Core)	3
CS 306	Synthesis of Ethics and Law for the Computing Professional (Mason Core)	3
DANC 490	Senior Dance Seminar (Mason Core)	3
ECE 492	Senior Advanced Design Project I (Mason Core)	1
ECE 493	RS: Senior Advanced Design Project II (Mason Core)	2
ECON 309	Economic Problems and Public Policies (Mason Core)	3
EVPP 480	Sustainability in Action (Mason Core)	4
FAVS 352	Ethics of Film and Video (Mason Core)	3
FRLN 385	Multilingualism, Identity, and Power (Mason Core)	3
GAME 490	Senior Game Design Capstone (Mason Core)	3
GEOL 420	Earth Science and Policy (Mason Core)	3
GGG 303	Geography of Resource Conservation (Mason Core)	3
GGG 304	Population Geography (Mason Core)	3
GOVT 490	Synthesis Seminar (Mason Core)	3
GOVT 491	Honors Seminar (Mason Core)	3
HAP 465	Integration of Professional Skills and Issues (Mason Core)	3
HDFS 400	Advanced Family Processes (Mason Core)	3
HIST 300	Introduction to Historical Method (Mason Core)	3
HIST 499	RS: Senior Seminar in History (Mason Core)	3
INTS 308	American Landscapes in Fiction, Film, and History (Mason Core)	6

IT 492	Senior Design Project I (Mason Core)	3
LAS 499	Research Seminar in Latin American Studies (Mason Core)	3
MATH 400	History of Math (Topic Varies) (Mason Core)	3
NURS 465	Examination and Integration of Professional and Health Care Issues (Mason Core)	3
PHIL 309	Bioethics (Mason Core)	3
PHIL 343	Topics in Environmental Philosophy (Mason Core)	3
PHIL 377	Darwin: Biology and Beyond (Mason Core)	3
PHIL 379	Perspectives on Time (Mason Core)	3
PHYS 346	Quarks to Strings (Mason Core)	3
PROV 342	The George Mason Debates in Current Affairs (Mason Core)	3
PSYC 405	Mystery, Madness, and Murder (Mason Core)	3
PSYC 406	Psychology of Communication (Mason Core)	3
PSYC 427	Community Engagement for Social Change (Mason Core)	3
RELI 490	Comparative Study of Religions (Mason Core)	3
RUSS 353	Russian Civilization (Mason Core)	3
SOCI 377	Art and Society (Mason Core)	3
SOCI 483	The Sociology of Higher Education (Mason Core)	3
SOCW 375	Human Behavior and the Family Life Course (Mason Core)	3
SPAN 388	Introduction to Latina/o Studies (Mason Core)	3
SYST 495	Senior Design Project II (Mason Core)	3
THR 440	Advanced Studies in Directing/ Dramaturgy (Mason Core)	3
THR 496	Text in Production (Mason Core)	3

The purpose of the capstone course or sequence of courses is to provide a high impact, culminating element of an undergraduate education, helping students develop a more comprehensive and integrative understanding of their area of study and to utilize critical thinking skills. Capstone courses provide students opportunities to apply and demonstrate their knowledge and generally involve integrative /applied/ experiential projects. Student learning in a Capstone course is assessed using a set of identified learning outcomes, and for critical thinking, as defined by the American Association of Colleges & Universities.

While each academic degree program defines its learning outcomes, a Capstone course or sequence should follow these guidelines:

- Minimum of 3 credits
- Later in the curriculum, after a student has taken at least 85 credits, and at the 400 course level
- No more than 35 students in the course or equivalent instructional/ mentored support
- Emphasis on experiential/applied/integrative learning
- Allow students to apply critical thinking skills
- Learning outcomes defined by the degree program

Required: One approved upper-division course. Please speak with an advisor to determine the appropriate course to fulfill your major's requirement.

Capstone Courses

Code	Title	Credits
ARAB 351	Media Arabic II (Spoken Media) (Mason Core)	3
ARAB 440	Topics in Arabic Religious Thought and Texts (Mason Core)	3
ASTR 402	RS: Methods of Observational Astronomy (Mason Core)	4
ATEP 441	Senior Seminar in Athletic Training (Mason Core)	3
AVT 497	Senior Project (Mason Core)	3
AVT 498	Senior Design Project (Mason Core)	3
BAS 491	Applied Sciences Capstone (Mason Core)	3
BENG 492	Senior Advanced Design Project I (Mason Core)	3
BENG 493	RS: Senior Advanced Design Project II (Mason Core)	3
BIOL 379	RS: Ecological Sustainability (Mason Core)	4
BUS 498	Capstone Course: Advanced Business Models (Mason Core)	3
CEIE 490	Senior Design Project (Mason Core)	3
CHIN 318	Introduction to Classical Chinese (Mason Core)	3
CHIN 355	Readings in Chinese Poetry and Poetics (Mason Core)	3
CHIN 475	Chinese Popular Culture (Mason Core)	3
CONS 496	Research in Conservation (Mason Core)	6
CYSE 493	Senior Advanced Design Project II (Mason Core)	3
ECE 492	Senior Advanced Design Project I (Mason Core)	1
ECE 493	RS: Senior Advanced Design Project II (Mason Core)	2
ELED 490	Internship in Elementary Education (Mason Core)	3-9
ENGH 401	RS: Honors Thesis Writing Seminar (Mason Core)	3
ENGH 417	RS: Topics in Folklore Research (Mason Core)	3
ENGH 458	RS: Topics in Literary Research (Mason Core)	3
ENGH 470	RS: Topics in Film/Media History (Mason Core)	3
ENGH 484	RS: Writing Ethnography (Mason Core)	3
ENGH 486	RS: Writing Nonfiction for Publication (Mason Core)	3
ENGH 495	Capstone and Thesis (Mason Core)	3
EVPP 378	RS: Ecological Sustainability (Mason Core)	4
FAVS 496	Advanced Visual Storytelling (Mason Core)	3

FAVS 497	Senior Film Practicum (Mason Core)	3
FAVS 499	Senior Project (Mason Core)	3
GAME 490	Senior Game Design Capstone (Mason Core)	3
GCH 465	Community Health Capstone (Mason Core)	3
GLOA 400	Global Affairs Capstone (Mason Core)	3
HAP 489	Pre-Internship Seminar (Mason Core)	3
HAP 498	Health Administration Internship (Mason Core)	4
IT 492	Senior Design Project I (Mason Core)	3
IT 493	Senior Design Project II (Mason Core)	4
KINE 490	Kinesiology Internship III (Mason Core)	12
LING 480	First Language Acquisition (Mason Core)	3
MATH 401	Mathematics through 3D Printing (Mason Core)	3
ME 444	Mechanical Design II (Mason Core)	3
MUSI 324	Junior Recital (Mason Core)	1
MUSI 424	Senior Recital (Mason Core)	1
MUSI 490	RS: Musical Communication in Context (Mason Core)	3
MUSI 491	Musical Communication in Performance (Mason Core)	1
MUSI 495	Internship in Music Education (Mason Core)	6-12
PHED 415	Student Teaching in Physical Education (Mason Core)	12
PHIL 421	Seminar (Mason Core)	3
PHIL 422	Honors Seminar (Mason Core)	3
PHYS 407	Senior Laboratory in Modern Physics (Mason Core)	4
PHYS 410	Computational Physics Capstone (Mason Core)	4
PRLS 490	Recreation Management Internship (Mason Core)	12
RHBS 455	Research in Rehabilitation Science (Mason Core)	3
SOCI 485	RS: Sociological Analysis and Practice (Mason Core)	3
SOCW 472	RS: Integrative Methods in Social Action and Social Change (Mason Core)	3
SPMT 490	Internship (Mason Core)	12
STAT 490	Capstone in Statistics (Mason Core)	3
SYST 495	Senior Design Project II (Mason Core)	3
TOUR 490	Hospitality, Tourism, and Events Management Internship (Mason Core)	12

Mason Core Engagement Series (ENCORE)

Creating more opportunities for students to make meaning of the Mason Core educational offerings, to draw greater connections to the larger university community, and to develop additional marketable skill sets, the Mason Core Engagement Series (ENCORE) begins Fall 2016 with the entering freshmen class. This program is an optional pathway for students interested in combining academic coursework with co-

curricular activities towards a completion certificate in a specific area of engagement.

How does the Engagement Series work?

Academic connections

Each ENCORE program combines courses within the Mason Core categories with co-curricular activities that enhance classroom learning. Courses are identified in the catalog and in the schedule of classes, enabling a student to select those relevant to the specific engagement series. Out of the approximately 40 credits of Mason Core requirements, at least 18 credits must be related to the relevant ENCORE program.

Co-curricular connections

Working in conjunction with University Life and the Patriot Experience, each Engagement Series maps to one of four pathways – career readiness, civic learning/community engagement, global/multicultural, or well-being.

What happens once the Engagement Series is completed?

After completing the Mason Core classes and the Patriot Experience pathway, students will earn a Mason Core completion certificate. This achievement will be recognized on the academic transcript and honored at graduation.

What programs are currently available?

Mason Core: Engagement Series - Sustainability

Required: 19 credits

Sustainability programs at Mason seek to guide students as they critically assess the environmental, social, economic and ethical impacts of technology and policy decisions. The Engagement Series in Sustainability identifies Green Leaf Programs and Courses designated offerings that contribute significantly to students' understanding and practice of sustainability. These offerings extend beyond environmental management, natural resources protection and conservation studies alone to embrace economic development and social responsibility. Both sustainability-focused and sustainability-related courses may receive the green leaf designation.

Students who complete the Engagement Series in Sustainability will be able to:

1. Characterize the meaning of sustainability (including its focus on fulfilling needs and its social, economic and ecological dimensions).
2. Distinguish sustainable from unsustainable human activities and practices.
3. Integrate concepts and principles of sustainability to analyze and address complex societal issues.
4. Present working knowledge of the University's sustainability history, goals, initiatives and pertinent decision-making processes.
5. Demonstrate the ability to lead and apply sustainability knowledge to make a positive societal impact on campus and/or in our community.

Requirements and approved courses

All students pursuing the sustainability engagement series must take one credit of INTS 295 Field-Based Work with the topic, 'Leadership for Sustainability', as the series' gateway. Additional requirements include 18 credits of Mason Core courses that have the Green Leaf Programs and Courses designation. (At least 6 Mason Core categories include one or more Green Leaf course options.)

The following courses have been identified as meeting the criteria for inclusion in the Engagement Series in Sustainability curriculum. The co-curricular section of the certificate is completed through the Patriot Experience, located online (<http://patriotexperience.gmu.edu>).

Code	Title	Credits
AVT 385	EcoArt (Mason Core)	3
BIOL 140	Plants and People (Mason Core)	3
BUS 200	Global Environment of Business (Mason Core)	3
CEIE 100	Environmental Engineering around the World (Mason Core)	3
CHEM 155	Introduction to Environmental Chemistry I (Mason Core)	4
CHEM 156	Introduction to Environmental Chemistry II (Mason Core)	4
CLIM 101	Global Warming: Weather, Climate, and Society (Mason Core)	3
CLIM 102	Introduction to Global Climate Change Science (Mason Core)	4
CLIM 111	Introduction to the Fundamentals of Atmospheric Science (Mason Core)	3
CLIM 112	Introduction to the Fundamentals of Atmospheric Science Lab (Mason Core)	1
CONS 410	Human Dimensions in Conservation (Mason Core)	3
CONS 490	RS: Integrated Conservation Strategies (Mason Core)	3
CONS 491	RS: Conservation Management Planning (Mason Core)	4
ECON 105	Environmental Economics for the Citizen (Mason Core)	3
EVPP 110	The Ecosphere: An Introduction to Environmental Science I (Mason Core)	4
EVPP 111	The Ecosphere: An Introduction to Environmental Science II (Mason Core)	4
EVPP 201	Environment and You: Issues for the Twenty-First Century (Mason Core)	3
EVPP 480	Sustainability in Action (Mason Core)	4
GEOL 101	Introductory Geology I (Mason Core)	4
GEOL 102	Introductory Geology II (Mason Core)	4
GEOL 134	Evolution and Extinction (Mason Core)	3
GEOL 420	Earth Science and Policy (Mason Core)	3
GGG 102	Physical Geography (Mason Core)	3
GGG 103	Human Geography (Mason Core)	3
GGG 121	Dynamic Atmosphere and Hydrosphere (Mason Core)	4
GGG 303	Geography of Resource Conservation (Mason Core)	3
GGG 304	Population Geography (Mason Core)	3
PHIL 243	Global Environmental Ethics (Mason Core)	3
PHIL 343	Topics in Environmental Philosophy (Mason Core)	3
PHYS 111	Introduction to the Fundamentals of Atmospheric Science (Mason Core)	3

PHYS 112	Introduction to the Fundamentals of Atmospheric Science Lab (Mason Core)	1
SOCI 320	Globalization and Social Change (Mason Core)	3

Mason Core: Engagement Series - Well-Being

Required: 18 credits

The ability to thrive and succeed as students, employees, organizations, and in life, directly correlates to one's sense of well-being. Mason has committed to being a "Well-Being University" focused on helping students, faculty and staff build lives with vitality, purpose, and resilience. The Engagement Series in Well-Being identifies offerings that contribute significantly to students' understanding and practice of well-being. These offerings include both well-being-focused and well-being-related courses that are designated in the catalog and in the schedule of classes.

Students who complete the Engagement Series in Well-Being will be able to:

1. Describe and apply methods to enhance interpersonal communication and empathy. This will help the student to create sustainable, quality relationships and social support networks, at a one-on-one and small group level.
2. Demonstrate skills for communication (written, oral, and/or somatic) about well-being.
3. Demonstrate the ability to practice methods to enhance well-being, self-care, self-awareness, and awareness of others.
4. Articulate societal factors impacting community and global well-being, and/or to engage in practices which build greater sensitivity to the needs of others and the inter-dependent nature of life on the earth.
5. Describe the science of stress and its effects – both constructive and destructive – as well as the methodologies used to respond to stress, promote resilience, and enhance well-being.

The following courses have been identified as meeting the criteria for inclusion in the Engagement Series in Well-Being curriculum. To complete the certification, students must select a minimum of 18 credits across the categories offered below. Please note, in several of these courses only specific sections will count for meeting the requirement. No substitutions will be made. Information on courses that count at the section level will be included in the Schedule of Classes, found on Patriot Web. The co-curricular section of the certificate is completed through the Patriot Experience, located online (<http://patriotexperience.gmu.edu>).

Code	Title	Credits
AVT 385	EcoArt (Mason Core)	3
DANC 125	Modern/Contemporary Dance I (Mason Core)	3
DANC 145	Ballet I (Mason Core)	3
HEAL 230	Introduction to Health Behavior (Mason Core)	3
PHIL 243	Global Environmental Ethics (Mason Core)	3
RELI 341	Global Perspectives on Spirituality and Healing (Mason Core)	3

Only specific sections of the following courses will fulfill the well-being requirement:

ENGH 302	Advanced Composition (Mason Core)	3
COMM 101	Fundamentals of Communication (Mason Core)	3
HIST 390	The Digital Past (Mason Core)	3
GLOA 101	Introduction to Global Affairs (Mason Core)	3