

**George Mason University BS in Biology**  
**Piedmont Virginia Community College AS in Physical and Natural**  
**Sciences**  
**2025-2026**

**ADVANCE**  
 PART OF THE MASON VIRGINIA PROMISE



**Transfer Requirements**

1. Complete the associate degree with a 2.5 or higher cumulative GPA.
2. ENG 111, ENG 112, and a college-level math course must be completed with a C or higher in the first 45 credits. See the pathway to select the correct math course(s) for the intended major
3. Transfer to Mason for the fall or spring semester immediately following the conferral of the pathway associate degree.
4. Grades of C or higher are required for transfer credit. Select programs may require a higher grade in specified courses. See the program-specific requirements noted on the pathway.
5. Students must complete their associate degree within five years of entering the program.

**Associate Degree Requirements**

#	Associate Degree Requirement & Course	Credits	Mason Equivalent	Mason Degree Requirement
1	SDV 100	1	UNIV 100	General Elective
2	ENG 111	3	ENGH —	General Elective
3	UCGS Mathematics Elective: MTH 161	3	MATH —	Gen Ed: Quant Reasoning Prerequisite for MTH 162
4	CHM 111	4	CHEM 211/213	Major & Gen Ed: Natural Science
5	Science with Lab Elective: BIO 101	4	BIOL 103/105	Major & Gen Ed: Natural Science
6	ENG 112	3	ENGH 101	Gen Ed: Written Comm
7	CHM 112	4	CHEM 212/214	Major
8	UCGS Mathematics Elective: MTH 162	3	MATH 105	General Elective
9	UCGS Mathematics Elective or Science with Lab Elective: MTH 263	4	MATH 113	Major & Gen Ed: Quantitative
10	UCGS Social /Behavioral Science Elective: ECO 201, ECO 202, GEO 210, PLS 135, PLS 241, PSY 200, SOC 200, SOC 211, SOC 268	3	Mason Equivalent <sup>1</sup>	Gen Ed: Social/Behavioral Science
11	Science with Lab Elective: BIO 206	4	BIOL 213	Major
12	UCGS Mathematics Elective or Science with Lab Elective PHY 201 or PHY 241	4	PHYS 243/244 or PHYS 160/161	Major
13	UCGS History Elective: HIS 101, HIS 102, HIS 111, HIS 112 (recommended)	3	HIST 101T, HIST 102T, HIST L387T, HIST 125	Gen Ed: Global History
14	UCGS Humanities/Fine Arts/Literature Elective ENG 225, ENG 245, ENG 246, ENG 250, ENG 255, ENG 258, or ENG 275	3	Mason Equivalent <sup>1</sup>	Gen Ed: Literature
15	UCGS Mathematics Elective or Science with Lab Elective PHY 202 or PHY 242	4	PHYS 245/246 or PHYS 260/261	Major
16	BIO 299	2	COS 120	General Elective
17	UCGS Transfer Elective: ITE 152	3	IT 104	Major & Gen Ed: Info Tech
18	UCGS History Elective: Choose from any PVCC UCGS History Elective	3	Mason Equivalent <sup>1</sup>	General Elective
19	UCGS Humanities/Fine Arts/Literature Elective ART 100, ART 101, ART 102, ART 121, ART 131, CST 130, CST 151, MUS 121, MUS 221, MUS 222	3	Mason Equivalent <sup>1</sup>	Gen Ed: Arts
	<b>Associate degree total:</b> <i>Students must apply to graduate by the community college graduation application deadline.</i>	<b>61</b>		

## Bachelor's Degree Requirements

#	Degree Requirement & Course	Credits	Notes
20	Gen Ed: Written Comm: ENGH 302	3	
21	BIOL 214	4	
22	BIOL 102	4	
23	BIOL 308	5	Writing Intensive. Alternatively, students may complete BIOL 300 and a Writing Intensive Course (BIOL 400 or MLAB 300). See your Mason advisor to select the best option based on your goals.
24	BIOL 311	4	
25	CHEM 313/315	5	
26	Biology Electives	20	20 total electives needed, 15 of which must be upper level and two of the upper level courses must include a lab. See Biology advisor to select appropriate electives.
27	Additional Science courses: CHEM 314/318, or a 300/400 level CHEM course, or GEOL 101/103 + GEOL 102 + 104	3-8	
28	Gen Ed: Apex	3	
29	General Electives	3-8	Some general electives may needed to meet the 45 upper-level credit requirement, depending on other selections in the degree
	<b>Total post-transfer credits:</b>	<b>59</b>	
	<b>Pathway total:</b>	<b>120</b>	

### Footnotes:

1. To confirm Mason equivalencies, visit: [Mason Transfer Credit Matrix](#).

### Additional Academic Information:

- Students who complete a VCCS transfer associate degree (AS, AA, AA&S, or AFA) will receive a waiver of the Foundation and Exploration (lower division) Mason Core general education categories. 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 Transfer Requirements 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.
- All students seeking a bachelor's degree must apply at least 45 credits of upper-level courses (numbered 300 or above) toward graduation.
- For academic policies and procedures relating to the associate degree, please navigate to your specific catalog year using the Archive Catalog link: [Piedmont College Catalog](#). Navigate to your specific catalog year requirements using the catalog archive drop down at the top of the catalog page.
- For academic policies and procedures relating to the bachelor's degree, please visit: [George Mason Catalog](#). Navigate to your specific catalog year requirements using the catalog archive: [George Mason Catalog Archive](#).