

Schar School of Policy and Government - Government and International Politics, BA

Catalog Year: 2019 - 2020		Grades		
Mason Core Requirements (28 credits)	Course Information	Credits	Earned	Needed
Written Communication:	ENGH 101 (100)	3		
Oral Communication:		3		
Quantitative Reasoning		3		
*Information Technology	*Satisfied by Major Requirement (GOVT 300)			
Arts		3		
*Global Understanding	*Satisfied by Major Requirement (GOVT 132 or 133)			
Literature		3		
Natural Science Overview		3		
Natural Science with Lab		4		
*Social and Behavioral Sciences	*Satisfied by Major Requirement (GOVT 101 or 103)			
Western Civilization/World History		3		
Written Communication:	ENGH 302	3		
*Synthesis/Capstone	*Satisfied by Major Requirement (GOVT 490 or 491)			
College Level Requirements for the BA Degree				
*Philosophy or Religious Studies	Satisfied by Concentration Requirements			
(PHIL 323, 324, 327, 393, 460 cannot be used to fulfill this requirement. Phil 253 and RELI 235 cannot be used to fulfill both the PHIL/RELI requirement and the Mason Core literature requirement)				
*Additional Social & Behavioral Sciences:	*Satisfied by Concentration Requirement			
(The two courses used to fulfill the combined college and university requirements must be from different disciplines. This requirement may be fulfilled by completing any course in ANTH, CRIM, ECON, GOVT, HIST (except 100 or 125), LING, PSYC, or SOCI & these courses in GGS: 101, 103, 110, 301, 303, 304, 305, 306, 315, 316, 320, 325, 330, 357, 380)				
Foreign Language		0-12		
(Intermediate level in a single language by completing a course in a foreign language numbered 202 (or higher); or achieving a satisfactory score on an approved proficiency test; or by completing the following ASL three course sequence EDSE 115, 116, and EDSE 219; or students who are already proficient in a second language may be eligible for a waiver of this requirement)				
Non-Western Culture		3		
(Approved courses for this requirement may be found under Degree Requirements for the major listed within the University Catalog. The course used for this requirement may not simultaneously fulfill Mason Core Global Understanding)				
Major Requirements with Concentration in Philosophy, Politics, and Economics (67 credits)				
Grade of "C" or better in all courses used to fulfill major requirements				
GOVT 101	Democratic Theory and Practice	3		
GOVT 103	Introduction to American Government	3		
GOVT 132	Introduction to International Politics	3		
GOVT 133	Introduction to Comparative Politics	3		
GOVT 300	Research Methods and Analysis	4		
GOVT 490 or GOVT 491	Synthesis Seminar or Honors Seminar	3		
American Politics: Chose one course from: GOVT 301 - 319; 401 - 419		3		
GOVT 323	Classical Western Political Theory	3		
International and Comparative Politics: Chose one from: GOVT 330 - 349; 430 - 449		3		
GOVT 467	Current Issues in Economic Policy	3		
GOVT 469	Philosophy, Politics, and Economics	3		
GOVT 422	Constitutional Interpretation	3		
Two additional upper division GOVT Courses		6		
PHIL 324 or PHIL 327	Modern Western or Contemporary Political Theory	3		
PHIL 357 or 371	Philosophy of the Social or Natural Sciences	3		
PHIL 358	Ethics and Economics	3		
PHIL 411	Theories of Decision	3		
ECON 103	Contemporary Microeconomic Principles	3		
ECON 104	Contemporary Macroeconomic Principles	3		
ECON 306	Intermediate Microeconomics	3		
ECON 412	Game Theory and Economics of Institutions	3		
Degree Notes				
Any credits of elective courses to bring the degree total to 120 with 45 credits at the 300/400 level				



BA GVIP ROADMAP TO SUCCESS: SAMPLE 4-YEAR PLAN

Some courses might double-count! See your advisor for details.

FIRST YEAR: Fall Semester	Hrs
GOVT 101	3
GOVT 132	3
ENGH 101 or COMM 101	3
Western Civ / World History	3
Philosophy/Religion	3
Total	15

Spring Semester	Hrs
GOVT 103	3
GOVT 133	3
ENGH 101 or COMM 101	3
Quant reasoning (STAT 250 is recommended)	3
Social and Behavioral Science II	3
Total	15

SECOND YEAR: Fall Semester	Hrs
Language 110	6
Arts	3
GOVT 300	4
Elective/Minor	3
Total	16

Spring Semester	Hrs
Literature	3
Language 201	3
GOVT Field 1	3
GOVT Field 2	3
GOVT Field 3	3
Total	15

THIRD YEAR: Fall Semester	Hrs
ENGH 302	3
Non Western Culture	3
Nat Science I	4
GOVT Field 4	3
Language 202	3
Total	16

Spring Semester	Hrs
Nat Science II	3
GOVT Field 5	3
GOVT Field 6	3
Elective/Minor	3
UL elective	3
Total	15

FOURTH YEAR: Fall Semester	Hrs
GOVT Field 7	3
GOVT Field 8	3
UL elective	3
Elective/Minor	3
Elective/Minor	3
Total	15

Spring Semester	Hrs
GOVT 490	3
UL elective	3
UL elective	3
Elective/Minor	3
Elective/Minor	3
Total	15

Other options:

- GOVT 480 Internship 3 or 6 credits
- Study abroad 3 / 6 / 9 / 12 / 15 credits
- GOVT 399 research practicum
- Schar Honors sequence: GOVT 491 / 496

Summer options:

- Always offered: 300, 490, some GOVT fields
- Internship or study abroad

What should I be doing?

ALSO CHECK OUT → https://careers.gmu.edu/sites/career_svcs/files/successRoadmap.pdf

FRESHMEN

GOVT 101
GOVT 103
GOVT 132
GOVT 133
STAT 250



- Join a club
- Attend on campus events
- Get to know your advising team

SOPHOMORES

GOVT 300 in Fall
ENGH 302 in Spring
Major field classes

- Look into internships
- Do research (URAP program)
- Visit the Career Center
- Consider applying to SCHAR Honors program (junior or senior year)
- Plan for an accelerated master's program

JUNIORS

Major field classes
Minor classes

- Study abroad
- Complete an internship
- Do research (URAP program)
- Research graduate schools
- Consider applying to SCHAR Honors program (junior or senior year)

SENIORS

Major field classes
GOVT 490

- Apply to jobs
- Apply to graduate school

