

Mason Core Committee
November 4, 2014
11:00 – 12:30 p.m., Merten Hall, D3300

Attending: Janette Muir (Chair), Dominique Banville, Melissa Broeckelman-Post, Kelly Dunne, Kim Eby, Becky Ericson, Doug Eyman, Marcy Glover, Tamara Maddox, Frank Allen Philpot, Mara Schoeny, Hugh Sockett, Carol Urban

Out: Rick Diecchio, Stephanie Hazel, Peter Winant

Agenda:

1. Faculty Senate meeting on November 5
2. Proposals

Check In

- Janette introduced Mara Schoeny, our newest member from the School of Conflict Analysis and Resolution.

Faculty Senate meeting on November 5

- Janette will be presenting our final, revised version of the Synthesis or Capstone Experience proposal. Suzanne Slayden has reviewed it and does not anticipate any objections. The clause mandating that the Oral and Written Communication requirements must be met first will help put those courses in the proper sequence in a student's career. There is a substantial waitlist for ENGH 302 and this brought to light that there is a course pattern problem. Hopefully the change in our requirement will work towards correcting that.

Course Proposals

- **Study Abroad proposals – general discussion**
There was a lengthy and involved discussion about the proposals in general, rather than individually. The decision was made to form a special subcommittee to generate guidelines for what a study abroad course would need to be considered for inclusion in the Mason Core. This group will meet during the intersession. The following members volunteered to be on the committee: Kelly Dunne, Mara Schoeny, Doug Eyman, Carol Urban, and Janette will chair.
One of the items that came up during the discussion was the strategic plan (a meaningful global experience for all of our students) and concerns that we need to revisit the Global Understanding category as a whole, both against the strategic plan and our own goals for what a Mason Graduate should have after completing the Mason Core.
- **ENGH 371 – ARTS – APPROVED**
The subcommittee did not come to a consensus on this proposal, so the discussion was opened to the entire group. One member did not see a discreet connection to art; the other members asked if the goal of the course was to make a connection to the learning outcomes. If the answer was yes, then the course met the requirements. After general group discussion, the course was approved.
- **HDFS 400 – SYNTHESIS – RETURNED**
There was no subcommittee recommendation on this course, however, the committee had read it and had the following comments: Well written; strong interdisciplinary focus; oral communication was limited; can we see a rubric for the course?