Mason Core Meeting

Thursday, April 20, 2023 from 1:30-3:00pm via [Zoom](#)

In Attendance: Laura Poms – Mason Core Director, Deb Stroiney – Mason Core co-chair, Abena Aidoo, Lauren Cattaneo, Jason Kinser, Liz White, Shun Ye, Samaine Lockwood, Courtney Wooten, Gina Polychronopoulos (ex officio), Nishok Chitvel (student rep), Krista Shires, Tricia Wilson (recording secretary)

Guests: Liz Bartles, Tom Polk, Laina Lockett, Rachel Debuque, Cynthia Fuchs, Alexandra Patzak, Ellen Rodgers, Michelle Buehl, Jane Hooper, Lauren Wagner

Welcome

Announcements

- Meeting management

Proposals

Category	Title	Notes
Global History	HIST 394: Globalization and History	The course received positive feedback overall, but the Committee was concerned by the prerequisite requirement since this is a Mason Core course. However, since it is a 300-level course, not having a prerequisite might also create problems with lower-level students. Suggestion to add in a recommended hour requirement (ie: you must have ___ credits before enrolling). Vote: Approve, but rollback for admin edits
Capstone	AVT 453: Professional Practices	This course was met with enthusiasm, but the Committee was concerned about the clarity of the curriculum map. Suggestion made to clarify/remove discipline-specific language. The Committee also recommended the department revise syllabus and learning outcomes to match Mason Apex. The Committee would also like to see stronger connections to critical thinking on the assignment map. Dr. Poms recommended a meeting to discuss. Vote: Rollback (revise and resubmit)
Arts	FAVS 110: Reading and Making Media	While the course seems like a great fit for Mason Core, the Committee was concerned that the assignments provided did not effectively meet the learning outcomes. Specifically, LOs 2, 3, and 4 were highlighted as not having many connections. The Committee suggested limiting the number of LOs to only three (with is the category requirement). For example,

		proof of effective analysis is not clear in the assignments provided; perhaps focus on how three LOs really work for the class and leave off the others. If there is analysis on an assignment, bring it to the forefront – clarify what students are analyzing and what outcome it connects to. Dr. Poms can meet with the department to provide additional assistance. Vote: Rollback (revise and resubmit)
Arts	[FAVS 260: Video Editing for Film](#)	This course was met with enthusiasm, but overall, the Committee was concerned that the assignments provided did not effectively meet the learning outcomes. The Committee suggested limiting the number of LOs to only three (with is the category requirement). Dr. Poms can meet with the department to provide additional assistance. Vote: Rollback (revise and resubmit)
Social and Behavioral Sciences	[EDEP 110: Academic Success Through Self-Regulated Learning](#)	No discussion. Vote: Approve as is

Old Business

- Professional development workshops
  - There are a few workshops remaining this semester for faculty to work on the new Global Context category and Just Societies flag. Please visit the [Stearns Center event calendar](#) to register for one.
- Mason Core Committee charge
  - Mason Core Committee approved the edits to the Mason Core Charge, and Organization & Operations approved as well. The charge revisions are on the April 26th agenda for Faculty Senate to approve the final vote.

New Business

- Survey form feedback
  - There was a discussion reviewing the structure of the new survey/proposal worksheets. The sustainability section on the new proposal worksheet caused some confusion, and the committee discussed options to clarify. A suggestion was made to rename that section "Course Management".
- Best way to communicate about reviews
  - The Committee discussed the best way to receive the survey information prior to Mason Core meetings. The Committee overwhelmingly responded that email was the best way to receive reminders, with the documents housed in the Microsoft Teams channel. Moving forward, communications and reminders will be sent through both Teams and email.