

Mason Core Meeting

Thursday, January 26, 2023

1:30-3:00pm

In Attendance: Bethany Usher (Associate Provost for Undergraduate Education), Laura Poms (Mason Core Director), Deb Stroiney (Mason Core Co-Chair), Lauren Cattaneo, Matt Cronin, Jason Kinser, Samaine Lockwood, Liz White, Courtney Wooten, Shun Ye, Gina Polychronopoulos (ex-officio), Shelley Reid (ex-officio), K Shires (recording secretary)

Guests: Laina Lockett, Liz Bartles, Jacquelyn Williamson, Alexandra Maria Patzak, Ellen Drogin Rodgers, Vanessa Meikle Schulman, Tom Polk

Welcome

Announcements

- Meeting management
- Chat disabled

Agenda Items

- Course Proposals

Category	Title	Comments
SBS	EDEP 110: Academic Success Through Self-Regulated Learning	This course was met with enthusiasm but would better meet the outcomes if the assignments were reflective but also had the contextual piece to ensure that students are getting the academic foundation and then engaging in the more “applied” element. The committee requested paring down of the course objectives so that the course map better illustrates how the assignments meet the learning outcomes. Course appears more introspective than social. “Rounding” this out a bit more may be beneficial. VOTE: Rollback and resubmit
Arts	ARTH 317: The Black Pharaohs: Art and Archaeology of Ancient Nubia	The committee was concerned that the somewhat short (2) papers are carrying most of the weight of the assignments that are meeting the learning outcomes. It is recommended that the submitter meet with the Mason Core Director and/or a committee member to remedy this. VOTE: Rollback
GU	ARTH 317: The Black Pharaohs: Art and Archaeology of Ancient Nubia	The committee was concerned that the somewhat short (2) papers are carrying most of the weight of the assignments that are meeting the learning outcomes. It is recommended that the submitter meet with the Mason Core Director and/or a committee member to remedy this. VOTE: Rollback
Arts	ARTH 303: National Traditions	VOTE: Approved as-is

SBS	SOCI 391: Big Data, Technology, and Society	The committee had difficulty seeing how the learning outcomes were being met over the breadth of the various topics week-to-week. There was a bit of confusion as to whether this was a methods course or a theory course. There was some confusion about the inclusion of both grounded theory and big data simultaneously. The final project itself was not clear. How will this large project meet all the goals in 14 weeks? Overall, the committee was a bit lost in the complexity and volume of materials and were not clearly able to tell how the assignments met the learning outcomes. There were also concerns over whether or not this course is appropriate for the SBS category. The concern is that in order to meet the outcomes, the course may need an overhaul and therefore be a cumbersome task for the submitter. VOTE:
Capstone	BAS 493: BAS Capstone	VOTE: Approved as-is

- Culminating Experience Discussion/Vote
 Student focus groups have been identified for consultation on the name of this category. Lauren Long and Laura Poms will meet with these groups and return to the committee with the list of names from the students. Then we will share the final list for a university vote and with Faculty Senate.

The committee reviewed the catalog language and learning outcomes and administrative details for this category and voted on whether or not to bring this forward to Faculty Senate. **VOTE:** Approved

- Global History Transfer Requirements
 After next year we are no longer taking the HIST 101/102 course to meet the Global History category for transfer students. However, the Associate Provost for Undergraduate Education and the Transfer Admissions folks are working together to provide more information for how transfer students can use courses previously taken (from their home institution). Currently there are still issues for students who are using the State Passport option. We still need to address the disparity in the requirements for the Passport students and non-transfer Mason Students and transfer students. Discussion ensued. The committee agreed on option 2/5 and both the Associate Provost for Undergraduate Education and Mason Core Director will bring this back to the transfer folks.