

Mason Core Meeting

Thursday, September 11, 2025, from 1:30-3:00pm via Zoom

In attendance: Laura Poms (Mason Core Director), Keith Renshaw (Associate Provost, Co-Chair), Courtney Wooten (Faculty Co-Chair), Abena Aidoo Hewton, Andrea Zach, Megan Erb, Mike Hunzeker, Ana Stoehr, Lauren Cattaneo, Minjoo Kim, Alexandra Masterson, Tom Polk (ex-officio), Chris Lee (ex-officio), Shelley Reid (ex-officio), Tricia Wilson (recording secretary)

Guests: Eunkyong Park, Liz Bartles, Bobbi Nelson

Agenda

- **Welcome**
- **Announcements**
 - Welcome new members!
- **Bylaws**
 - The committee reviewed a final version of the proposed bylaws and voted to approve the bylaws, effective immediately.
- **Assessment Review**
 - Assessment Overview
 - Chirs Lee, Associate Director of Institutional Effectiveness, provided an overview of the assessment cycle and broader purpose of assessment regarding accreditation requirements. Results from the assessment cycle reviewing ITC and QR were covered, along with recommendations for further revisions on outcomes that received lower responses.
 - The committee discussed the impacts of the findings on their future work, considering how they might approach potential revisions to the categories in future meetings.

Proposals

Category	Title	Notes
Global Contexts	HIST 315: STEM and Society: A History	The course was approved, though a brief note will be added to acknowledge that the response to 5b on the Course Management Plan emphasizes evaluation over support. Vote: Approve with added comment
Social/Behavioral Science	WMST 320: Violence, Gender, and Sexuality	The committee felt this proposal was a strong fit. The rationale was clear, and the assignments were assessable and mapped thoughtfully to the learning outcomes.

		Vote: Approve
Social/Behavioral Science	INTS 310: Violence, Gender, and Sexuality	Same comments as WMST 320 (cross listed course) Vote: Approve
Global Contexts	ENGH 371: Global TV	The committee noted concerns about the clarity and alignment of assignments with learning outcomes, particularly LO1, and questioned whether the course effectively addresses issues like inequality, which is central to the category. While some components were stronger than others, the overall integration of multiple category goals may have diluted the course's focus. The committee suggested refining assignments to more explicitly support the intended outcomes. Vote: Rollback with revisions
Mason Apex	FRLN 485: Multilingualism, Identity, and Power	The committee noted the absence of prerequisites for this course. While this doesn't affect approval, the committee recommend adding prerequisites to ensure students are taking the course later in their academic careers as the category intends. Vote: Approve