

Mason Core Meeting

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

In attendance: Keith Renshaw (Associate Provost, Co-Chair), Laura Poms (Mason Core Director), Courtney Wooten (Faculty Co-Chair), Minjoo Kim, Don Starr, Liz White, Megan Erb, Andrea Zach, Abena Aidoo Hewton, Lauren Cattaneo, Mike Hunzeker, Deb Stroiney, Ana Stoehr, Alessaundra Shallal (student rep), Margaret Calkins (ex-officio), Tom Polk (ex-officio), Shelley Reid (ex-officio), Chris Lee (ex-officio), Tricia Wilson

Guests: Liz Bartles

- **Welcome**
- **Announcements**
 - DANC 118 was approved administratively for Global Contexts
 - HIST 300 removed Mason Apex designation
- **Proposals**

Proposals

Category	Title	Notes
Global Contexts	HIST 326: Stalinism	The committee was supportive of this course for the category, but the proposal requires more specific connections to the learning outcomes in the assignment prompts. Additionally, the course management plan does not adequately address the long-term management of the course. Vote: Rollback
Social and Behavioral Science	GOVT 202: The Climate Emergency	The committee was supportive of this course for the category, but some of the assignments used in the proposal are not assessable. The connections to SBS theories should also be more overt in the assignment prompts. Vote: Rollback
Writing Intensive	COMM 369: Multimedia Storytelling	The course seems like a strong fit for the category, but the proposal application isn't clear about how the assignments lead to individual work or what the artifacts will be. Vote: Rollback

Writing Intensive	COMM 380: Media Criticism	<p>The committee felt this course was a strong fit for the category, and the proposal was well developed and supported.</p> <p>Vote: Approved</p>
Global Contexts	MUSI 431: Music History in Society III	<p>The committee expressed concern that this course is intended for majors only and does not encourage mixing with nonmajors. Additionally, the committee discussed their concern about leveling, as the current recommended prerequisites on the course imply that students without major experience will struggle in the course. As this is counter to Mason Core Exploration goals, the committee does not feel this course is an appropriate fit for the category.</p> <p>Vote: Rollback, no encouragement to resubmit</p>
Arts	INTS 346: Art as Social Action	<p>The committee is supportive of this course for the category, but the proposal application isn't clear about how the assignments lead to individual work or what the artifacts will be. More clarity is needed in the proposal.</p> <p>Vote: Rollback</p>
Social and Behavioral Science	SYST 375: Engineering Economy	<p>The committee expressed concern that this course is intended for majors only. This course excludes undecided, undeclared, and exploratory students and has several prerequisites, which are appropriately needed for student success in the course. As this is counter to Mason Core Exploration goals, the committee does not feel this course is an appropriate fit for the category.</p> <p>Vote: Rollback, no encouragement to resubmit</p>
Social and Behavioral Science	GOVT 203: Immigration Politics	<p>The committee is supportive of this course, but more information is needed to ensure that students can be successful in meeting the outcomes, such as the exam questions for learning outcome 3.</p> <p>Vote: Rollback</p>