

## Mason Core Meeting

Thursday, April 9, 2026, from 1:30-3:00pm via Zoom

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

Guests: Tiffany Crossgrove, Bobbi Nelson, Liz Bartles

- **Welcome**
- **Announcements**
  - Spillover meeting scheduled for April 23, 2026 on Zoom
  - Working Session scheduled for May 7, 2026
    - Zoom and Merten Hall 3300, 1:30-4:00pm
- **Proposals**

### Proposals

Category	Title	Notes
Writing Intensive	<a href="#">CONF 301: Research and Inquiry in Conflict Resolution</a>	The proposal does not include the writing length for each assignment to ensure the minimum word count in the requirement is met. The committee would also like to see a stronger rationale. The course management plan could also be more developed.  Vote: Rollback for substantive changes
Global Contexts	<a href="#">HIST 362: Modern Korean History</a>	The syllabus outcomes should more clearly be labeled for Global Contexts. More detail is needed in the course management plan on how faculty will be prepared to not just teach a MC course but to teach this particular course.

		Vote: Approved pending administrative changes
Mason Apex	<a href="#">RUSS 400: Contemporary Post-Soviet Life</a>	<p>Course management plan is not specific enough – for example, is there a course coordinator and how will the unit ensure new faculty are prepared?</p> <p>Vote: Approved pending administrative changes</p>
Mason Apex	<a href="#">SEED 478: Implementing Teacher Impact on Student Learning</a>	<p>Generally in good shape, with a minor wording/clarity issue regarding “secondary education program” vs “Undergraduate program”.</p> <p>Vote: Approved pending administrative changes</p>
Quantitative Reasoning	<a href="#">PHIL 173: Logic and Critical Thinking</a>	<p>The committee discussed whether a course rooted on Boolean data could be quantitative. LO2 could be adjusted to meet the outcome to better solve the problem. It’s unclear how students are formulating and solving the problem quantitatively. Language in proposal should be more accessible for people outside the discipline.</p> <p>Vote: Rollback with substantive changes</p>
Arts	<a href="#">FAVS 110: Beyond Screens: Digital Creation</a>	<p>The rationale does not connect the course to the category strongly enough. Additionally, the assignments do not align adequately to the learning outcomes. It does not seem like the department has taken advantage of resources to strengthen the connections to this category.</p> <p>Vote: Rollback without encouragement to resubmit</p>

Literature	<a href="#">CONF 250: Narratives of Conflict</a>	<p>More information is needed around the assessability of the assignments included, such as the commonplace book. Please keep in mind that only one assignment is needed for each outcome.</p> <p>Narrowing the application to the assignment to most closely connects to each outcome might improve the proposal.</p> <p>Vote: Rollback for substantive changes</p>
Arts	<a href="#">FAVS 260: Video Editing for Film</a>	<p>The assignment for learning outcome 1 does not appear to be assessable. The committee highlighted the importance of incorporating a reflection piece that allows students the opportunity to articulate how the outcome is being met.</p> <p>Vote: Rollback for substantive changes</p>
Arts	<a href="#">MUSI 387: Symphony Orchestra</a>	<p>Same issues as previous Music courses, such as limited enrollment, not teaching to the outcomes, and only offering the course at one credit. The unit has been given a one year reprieve to work on changes.</p> <p>Vote: Rollback for substantive changes</p>
Literature	<a href="#">RELI 333: Spiritual Autobiography</a>	<p>The committee is supportive of this course, but there are issues with the assignment used for learning outcome 5. As provided, it is missing an evaluation of one's own writing. Additionally, the committee noted some outdated references in the syllabus to Blackboard and the honor code.</p>

		Vote: Rollback for substantive changes
Social and Behavioral Science	<a href="#">WMST 200: Introduction to Women and Gender Studies</a>	Vote: Approve
Arts	<a href="#">ITAL 320: Italian Cinema</a>	Vote: Approve
Mason Apex	<a href="#">EVPP 425: RS: Ecological Sustainability</a>	Vote: Approve

Due to timing constraints, the following courses will be held until the spillover meeting on April 23.

Social and Behavioral Science	<a href="#">GOVT 204: Lies, Misinformation, and Statistics</a>	Vote:
Mason Apex	<a href="#">SPAN 495: Introduction to Latina/o Studies</a>	Vote:
Arts	<a href="#">KORE 350: Korean Cinema in Global Contexts</a>	Vote: