

Mason Core Meeting

Thursday, March 19, 2026, from 1:30-3:00pm via Zoom

In Attendance: Keith Renshaw (Associate Provost, Co-Chair), Courtney Wooten (Faculty Co-Chair), Abena Aidoo Hewton, Ana Stoehr, Andrea Zach, Don Starr, Lauren Cattaneo, Liz White, Megan Erb, Michael Hunzeker, Minjoo Kim, Shun Ye, Efrata Tewodros (student rep), Shelley Reid (ex-officio), Tom Polk (ex-officio), Chris Lee (ex-officio)

Guests: Bobbi Nelson, Liz Bartles, Tiffany Crossgrove

- **Welcome**
- **Announcements**
- **Proposals**

Proposals

Category	Title	Notes
Global Contexts	SPAN 215: Intermediate Spanish for Heritage Speakers	<p>The committee noted questions about the recommended prerequisite/Spanish requirements and was generally comfortable with a recommended pre-req precedent; however, the primary concern was that the “heritage speaker” framing appears to restrict enrollment based on background rather than proficiency, creating an exclusionary/accessibility issue.</p> <p>Vote: Rollback without encouragement to resubmit</p>
Global Contexts	HIST 363: History of Modern South Asia: from Mughals to Modi	<p>The committee found the rationale strong and was generally supportive of this course for the category. However, more details are needed in the assignment map, and the assignment prompts are also required for the committee to better review their alignment to the outcomes.</p> <p>Vote: Rollback for substantive changes with encouragement to resubmit</p>
Mason Apex	COMM 459: Argument and Public Policy	<p>The committee noted that the current LO2 artifact is not suitable for outside assessment and recommended recording the presentations and clearly identifying each student’s responsibilities to provide an assessable individual artifact.</p>

		Vote: Rollback for substantive changes with encouragement to resubmit
Global Contexts	JAPA 310: Japanese Culture in a Global World	Vote: Approved
Writing Intensive	COMM 369: Multimedia Storytelling	Vote: Approved
Oral Communication	INTS 202: Public Speaking and Critical Thinking Skills	The committee noted that key concerns remain unresolved, including an insufficient rationale and continued lack of clarity around learning outcomes 3 and 4. Members also expressed ongoing confusion about the MOU-based justification, which did not appear relevant or supportive of the proposal. Vote: Rollback without encouragement to resubmit
Social and Behavioral Science	KINE 110: Physical Activity and Wellness	Vote: Approved
Information Technology and Computing	CULT 362: AI & Culture	The committee noted that learning outcome 1 would benefit from a clearer “foundational principles” assignment and that adding a definition of what counts as foundational knowledge would strengthen the proposal, since current assignments appear to assume (or go beyond) those basics without clearly demonstrating them. Members also flagged the staffing plan, which appears to rely on graduate students teaching the course. Vote: Rollback for substantive changes with encouragement to resubmit
Global Contexts	TOUR 290: Global Perspectives in Wedding Planning	The committee noted that learning outcomes 2 and 3 are not clearly aligned with the category’s outcomes and would benefit from stronger reflective components. Additionally, they noted that the assignment for outcome 1 does not explicitly demonstrate interdependence, and that while problems are clearly identified in learning outcome 3, the assignment does not require students to analyze proposed solutions to those problems. Vote: Rollback for substantive changes with encouragement to resubmit
Mason Apex	EVPP 425: RS: Ecological Sustainability	The committee noted that since the syllabus references Individual/group assessment, it remains unclear what students will submit

		<p>individually and what artifacts outside assessors will be able to review. Additionally, the presentation-based artifact for learning outcome 2 is not clearly defined (including what, specifically, will be evaluated), raising broader accessibility concerns.</p> <p>Vote: Rollback for substantive changes with encouragement to resubmit</p>
Global Contexts	DANC 418: Global Dance Intensive	<p>The committee noted that reviewing the full assignment prompts would help confirm the outcome-to-assessment mapping. More information is also needed regarding the connection to DANC 118.</p> <p>Vote: Rollback for substantive changes with encouragement to resubmit</p>
Writing Intensive	RUSS 400: Contemporary Post-Soviet Life	Vote: Approved
Literature	HIST 334: American Scriptures	Vote: Approved
Literature	RELI 334: American Scriptures	Vote: Approved

Due to timing constraints, the following courses were not discussed. These will be held until the next committee meeting in April.

Writing Intensive	CONF 301: Research and Inquiry in Conflict Resolution
Global Contexts	HIST 362: Modern Korean History
Mason Apex	RUSS 400: Contemporary Post-Soviet Life
Mason Apex	SEED 478: Implementing Teacher Impact on Student Learning
Quantitative Reasoning	PHIL 173: Logic and Critical Thinking
Arts	FAVS 110: Beyond Screens: Digital Creation
Literature	CONF 250: Narratives of Conflict
Arts	FAVS 260: Video Editing for Film
Arts	MUSI 387: Symphony Orchestra
Literature	RELI 333: Spiritual Autobiography