MASON CORE

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Overview

Mason Core is Mason's general education program that builds the foundation for the Mason Graduate – an engaged citizen and well-rounded scholar who is prepared to act. Mason Core is a set of required courses that create the foundation of a student's undergraduate degree. It provides a breadth of liberal education courses, complementing the depth of knowledge and skills students build in their majors and minors. All undergraduates seeking a baccalaureate degree must complete Mason Core requirements.

Mason Core prepares students for work in their majors and minors, for their careers, and for life-long learning. Foundation courses build key knowledge and skills needed for academic success. Exploration courses provide a breadth of learning across the university. Integration courses include upper-division courses that are designed to integrate knowledge and skills learned from Foundation and Exploration courses into the major. Courses are designed around learning outcomes that help develop the qualities we expect of all students graduating with a Bachelor's degree from George Mason University.

Foundation Requirements (12 credits)

Foundation requirements help ensure that students master the tools and techniques necessary to succeed in college and throughout their lives and careers. These courses emphasize skills—in writing, speaking, and working with numbers and technology—that can be applied to any major field of study and career goal.

Written Communication (lower-level)

The Mason Core curriculum offers students a unique opportunity to develop writing competencies across their educational experience that prepares them to participate in academic, professional, and civic communities. It does so in part by providing students with a "vertical" writing curriculum: a carefully sequenced series of courses designed to facilitate the long-term growth of writers as they develop expertise in the production and circulation of knowledge across a range of contexts and audiences. Students begin this process at the Foundation level in English 100 or 101 and build higher-level skills at the Integration level in English 302 and in Writing Intensive courses in their majors.

Learning Outcomes:

As the first course in Mason's vertical writing curriculum, students learn to see writing as a social, rhetorical act and are taught to effectively analyze and respond to a variety of writing situations in academic and non-academic contexts through analyzing, researching, and producing texts of varying genres that engage a range of audiences.

Required:

One approved course.

Code	Title	Credits
ENGH 100	Composition for Multilingual Writers (Mason Core)	4
ENGH 101	Composition (Mason Core)	3

Oral Communication (3 credits)

Oral Communication focuses on developing students' ability to create and deliver a variety of message types. Students will learn to monitor and ethically practice their own verbal and nonverbal communication to become an effective communicator, demonstrating respect and consideration for a multitude of audiences with whom they will communicate in a range of intercultural, personal, and professional contexts. They will learn to use oral communication as a way of thinking and learning, as well as to share ideas.

Learning Outcomes:

Upon completing an Oral Communication course, students will be able to:

1. Demonstrate understanding of and proficiency in constructing and delivering multiple message types.
2. Understand and practice effective elements of ethical verbal and nonverbal communication.
3. Develop analytical skills and critical listening skills.
4. Understand the influence of culture in communication and will know how to cope with cultural differences when presenting information to an audience.

Required:

COMM 101 should be taken by all students unless their degree program specifies a different requirement. Students will be expected to continue developing oral communication skills in additional Mason Core courses as appropriate.

Code	Title	Credits
COMM 100	Public Speaking (Mason Core)	3
COMM 101	Fundamentals of Communication (Mason Core)	3
DANC 454	Methods of Teaching Dance (Mason Core)	3
INTS 101	Narratives of Identity (Mason Core)	6
INTS 202	Public Speaking and Critical Thinking Skills (Mason Core)	4

Quantitative Reasoning (3 credits)

Quantitative Reasoning courses develop critical thinking skills using mathematical and statistical concepts (i.e., formulas, graphs, tables, models, and schematics) to analyze and make sense of data, patterns, and relationships. By learning to evaluate problems using quantitative reasoning, students will be better equipped to make well-supported decisions in personal, academic, and workplace situations.

Learning Outcomes:

Upon completing a Quantitative Reasoning course, students will be able to:

1. Interpret quantitative information (i.e., formulas, graphs, tables, models, and schematics) and draw inferences from them.

2. Formulate a given problem quantitatively and use appropriate arithmetical, algebraic, and/or statistical methods to solve the problem.
3. Evaluate logical arguments using quantitative reasoning.
4. Communicate and present quantitative results effectively.

Required:
One approved course.

Code	Title	Credits
BUS 210	Business Analytics I (Mason Core)	3
CDS 292	Introduction to Social Network Analysis (Mason Core)	3
EDRS 220	Introduction to Applied Quantitative Analysis (Mason Core)	3
HNRT 125	Applied Quantitative Reasoning (Mason Core)	3
MATH 106	Quantitative Reasoning (Mason Core)	3
MATH 108	Introductory Calculus with Business Applications (Mason Core)	3
MATH 110	Introductory Probability (Mason Core)	3
MATH 111	Linear Mathematical Modeling (Mason Core)	4
MATH 113	Analytic Geometry and Calculus I (Mason Core)	4
MATH 115	Analytic Geometry and Calculus I (Honors) (Mason Core)	4
MATH 124	Calculus with Algebra/Trigonometry, Part B (Mason Core)	3
MATH 125	Discrete Mathematics I (Mason Core)	3
MATH 272	Mathematics for the Elementary School Teachers II (Mason Core)	3
SOCI 313	Statistics for the Behavioral Sciences (Mason Core)	4
STAT 250	Introductory Statistics I (Mason Core)	3

Information Technology and Computing (3 credits)

Information technology and computing can significantly augment humans' ability to produce, consume, process, and communicate information. Thus, students need to understand ways to use such technology to enhance their lives, careers, and society, while being mindful of challenges such as security, source reliability, automation, and ethical implications. These factors have made it essential for students to understand how to effectively navigate the evolving technological landscape. IT courses offered in the majors may focus on disciplinary applications and concerns of information technology.

Learning Outcomes:

Upon completing an Information Technology and Computing course, students will be able to:

1. Understand the principles of information storage, exchange, security, and privacy and be aware of related ethical issues.
2. Consume digital information critically, capable of selecting and evaluating appropriate, relevant, and trustworthy sources of information.
3. Use appropriate information and computing technologies to organize and analyze information and use it to guide decision-making.

4. Choose and apply appropriate algorithmic methods to solve a problem.

Required:
One approved 3-credit course that meets all IT requirements or an approved sequence of courses that meet all IT requirements.

Courses meeting IT requirements

Code	Title	Credits
ANTH 395	Work, Technology, and Society: An IT Perspective (Mason Core)	3
AVT 110	Digital Design Studio (Mason Core)	3
AVT 180	New Media in the Creative Arts (Mason Core)	3
CDS 130	Computing for Scientists (Mason Core)	3
CS 100	Principles of Computing (Mason Core)	3
CS 108	Intro to Computer Programming, Part A (Mason Core)	3
CS 112	Introduction to Computer Programming (Mason Core)	4
CYSE 130	Introduction to Computing for Digital Systems Engineering (Mason Core)	3
ELED 257	Integrating Technology in PreK-6 (Mason Core)	3
GOVT 300	Research Methods and Analysis (Mason Core)	4
HIST 390	The Digital Past (Mason Core)	3
INTS 203	Inquiry for Action: Facilitating Change (Mason Core)	6
INTS 249	Digital Literacy (Mason Core)	4
IT 104	Introduction to Computing (Mason Core)	3
MIS 303	Introduction to Business Information Systems (Mason Core)	3
MUSI 259	Music in Computer Technology (Mason Core)	3
PHYS 251	Introduction to Computer Methods in Physics (Mason Core)	3
SOCI 410	Social Surveys and Attitude and Opinion Measurements (Mason Core)	3
SYST 130	Introduction to Computing for Digital Systems Engineering (Mason Core)	3
The following must be taken in sequence:		
PSYC 300	Statistics in Psychology	4
PSYC 301	Research Methods in Psychology	4
PSYC 372	Biopsychology	3

Exploration Requirements (22 credits)

Exploration requirements help ensure that students#become acquainted with#the broad range of intellectual domains that contribute to a liberal education. By experiencing subject matter and ways of knowing in a variety of fields, students will be better able to synthesize new knowledge, respond to fresh challenges, and meet the demands of a complex world.

Note: Courses within the Mason Core can count for more than one category, if approved by the Mason#Core committee. Students will be allowed to double count two courses (up to six credit hours) to fulfill

their Mason Core requirements. Courses that qualify for double counting will be listed in their individually approved sections.

Arts (3 credits)

Mason courses in the film making, visual, and performing arts stress generative, inquiry based learning through direct aesthetic and creative experience in the studio environment. Art history courses address the intrinsic relationship of personal and cultural creativity, and the manifestation of aesthetics, visual culture, and visual narrative within historical contexts.

Learning Outcomes:

Courses in the Arts category must meet the first learning outcome and a minimum of two of the remaining learning outcomes. Upon completing an Arts course, students will be able to:

1. Demonstrate an understanding of the relationship among artistic process, a work's underlying concept, and, where appropriate, contexts associated with the work.
2. Identify and analyze the formal elements of a particular art form using vocabulary and critique appropriate to that form.
3. Analyze cultural productions using standards appropriate to the form, as well as the works cultural significance and context.
4. Analyze and interpret the content of material or performance culture through its social, historical, and personal contexts.
5. Engage in generative artistic processes, including conception, creation, and ongoing critical analysis.

Required:

One approved course.

Code	Title	Credits
ARTH 101	Introduction to the Visual Arts (Mason Core)	3
ARTH 102	Symbols and Stories in Art (Mason Core)	3
ARTH 103	Introduction to Architecture (Mason Core)	3
ARTH 104	Design in the 20th Century (Mason Core)	3
ARTH 200	History of Western Art I (Mason Core)	3
ARTH 201	History of Western Art II (Mason Core)	3
ARTH 203	Survey of Asian Art (Mason Core)	3
ARTH 204	Survey of Latin American Art (Mason Core)	3
ARTH 206	Survey of African Art (Mason Core)	3
ARTH 303	National Traditions (Mason Core)	1-3
ARTH 311	Design of Cities (Mason Core)	3
ARTH 315	Modern Architecture (Mason Core)	3
ARTH 321	Greek Art and Archaeology (Mason Core)	3
ARTH 322	Roman Art and Archaeology (Mason Core)	3
ARTH 324	From Alexander the Great to Cleopatra: The Hellenistic World (Mason Core)	3
ARTH 333	Early Christian and Byzantine Art (Mason Core)	3
ARTH 334	Western Medieval Art (Mason Core)	3
ARTH 335	Arts of Medieval England (Mason Core)	3
ARTH 340	Early Renaissance Art in Italy, 1300-1500 (Mason Core)	3
ARTH 341	Northern Renaissance Art (Mason Core)	3
ARTH 342	High Renaissance Art in Italy, 1480-1570 (Mason Core)	3
ARTH 343	The Art of Venice (Mason Core)	3
ARTH 344	Baroque Art in Italy, France, and Spain, 1600-1750 (Mason Core)	3
ARTH 345	Northern Baroque Art, 1600-1750 (Mason Core)	3
ARTH 350	History of Photography (Mason Core)	3
ARTH 360	Nineteenth-Century European Art (Mason Core)	3
ARTH 362	Twentieth-Century European Art (Mason Core)	3
ARTH 370	Arts of the United States (Mason Core)	3
ARTH 371	American Architecture and Material Culture (Mason Core)	3
ARTH 372	Studies in 18th- and 19th-Century Art of the United States (Mason Core)	3
ARTH 373	Studies in 20th-Century Art of the United States (Mason Core)	3
ARTH 375	Indigenous Arts of the US and Canada (Mason Core)	3
ARTH 376	Twentieth-Century Latin American Art (Mason Core)	3
AVT 103	Introduction to the Artist's Studio (Mason Core)	3
AVT 104	Two-Dimensional Design and Color (Mason Core)	3
AVT 105	Three-Dimensional Design and Beyond (Mason Core)	3
AVT 215	Typography (Mason Core)	3
AVT 222	Drawing I (Mason Core)	3
AVT 232	Painting I (Mason Core)	3
AVT 243	Printmaking I (Mason Core)	3
AVT 252	Darkroom Photography I (Mason Core)	3
AVT 253	Digital Photography I (Mason Core)	3
AVT 262	Sculpture I (Mason Core)	3
AVT 272	Interdisciplinary Arts (Mason Core)	3
AVT 385	EcoArt (Mason Core)	3
DANC 101	Dance Appreciation (Mason Core)	3
DANC 119	Dance in Popular Culture (Mason Core)	3
DANC 125	Modern/Contemporary Dance I (Mason Core)	3
DANC 131	Beginning Jazz Technique (Mason Core)	3
DANC 145	Ballet I (Mason Core)	3
DANC 161	Beginning Tap Dance (Mason Core)	3
DANC 225	Modern/Contemporary Dance II (Mason Core)	3
DANC 231	Intermediate Jazz Technique (Mason Core)	3
DANC 245	Ballet II (Mason Core)	3
DANC 301	What is Dance? (Mason Core)	3
DANC 325	Modern/Contemporary Dance III (Mason Core)	1-3
DANC 331	Advanced Jazz Dance (Mason Core)	3
DANC 345	Ballet III (Mason Core)	1-3

DANC 390	Dance History I (Mason Core)	3
DANC 391	Dance History II (Mason Core)	3
DANC 425	Advanced Modern/Contemporary Dance I (Mason Core)	1-3
DSGN 102	Design in the Modern World (Mason Core)	3
ENGH 315	Folklore and Folklife (Mason Core)	3
ENGH 370	Introduction to Documentary (Mason Core)	3
ENGH 371	Television Studies (Mason Core)	3
ENGH 372	Introduction to Film (Mason Core)	3
ENGH 374	Screening the Global City (Mason Core)	3
ENGH 396	Introduction to Creative Writing (Mason Core)	3
FAVS 204	Ways of Seeing: Perception, Form and Film (Mason Core)	3
FAVS 225	Introduction to World Cinema (Mason Core)	3
FAVS 280	Writing for the Moving Image (Mason Core)	3
GAME 101	Introduction to Game Design (Mason Core)	3
HIST 316	History of Modern Architecture (Mason Core)	3
INTS 103	Human Creativity: Science and Art (Mason Core)	6
INTS 245	Visual Culture and Society (Mason Core)	4
INTS 346	Art as Social Action (Mason Core)	4
MUSI 100	Fundamentals of Music (Mason Core)	3
MUSI 101	Introduction to Classical Music (Mason Core)	3
MUSI 102	Popular Music in America (Mason Core)	3
MUSI 106	Fundamentals of Rock, Blues, and Jazz (Mason Core)	3
MUSI 107	Jazz and Blues in America (Mason Core)	3
MUSI 280	Athletic and Ceremonial Ensemble (Mason Core)	0-1
MUSI 301	Music in Motion Pictures (Mason Core)	3
MUSI 302	American Musical Theater (Mason Core)	3
MUSI 380	Wind Symphony (Mason Core)	0-1
MUSI 381	University Chorale (Mason Core)	0-1
MUSI 382	Piano Ensemble (Mason Core)	1
MUSI 383	Symphonic Band (Mason Core)	0-1
MUSI 385	Chamber Singers (Mason Core)	0-1
MUSI 387	Symphony Orchestra (Mason Core)	0-1
MUSI 389	Jazz Ensemble (Mason Core)	0-1
MUSI 485	Chamber Ensembles (Mason Core)	0-1
PHIL 156	What Is Art? (Mason Core)	3
RELI 237	Religion and Art (Mason Core)	3
THR 101	Theatrical Medium (Mason Core)	3
THR 150	Global Theater Histories I (Mason Core)	3
THR 151	Global Theater Histories II (Mason Core)	3
THR 210	Acting I (Mason Core)	3
THR 230	Fundamentals of Production (Mason Core)	3
THR 395	Theater as the Life of the Mind (Mason Core)	3
THR 411	Great Film Directors (Mason Core)	3
THR 412	Great Film Performances (Mason Core)	3

Global History (3 credits)

By focusing on historical experiences that reflect the diversity of Mason's student body, students will be able to see how their families and communities fit within, and contribute to, global history from the pre-modern period to our present day. These courses offer a long-term historical perspective on structural issues challenging our world today, including demographic and environmental changes, national and global inequalities, and the underrepresentation of marginalized groups. Students will gain an understanding of how interconnections and inter-dependencies have been forged through the global movement of people, pathogens, goods, and ideas.

Learning Outcomes:
Upon completing a Global History course, students will be able to:

1. Identify major chronological developments in global history from the pre-modern period (before 1400 CE) to the present.
2. Communicate a historical argument through writing, speech, and/or digital media using a variety of primary and secondary sources.
3. Apply historical knowledge and historical thinking to contemporary global issues.

Required:
One approved course.

Code	Title	Credits
HIST 125	Introduction to Global History (Mason Core)	3
HIST 394	Globalization and History (Mason Core) [1]	3

[1]

Registration limited to students with Junior or Senior standing. Incoming first year students should plan to take HIST 125 to meet this requirement.

Global Understanding (3 credits)

The goal of the Global Understanding category is to help students see the world from multiple perspectives, reflect upon their positions in a global society, and be prepared for future engagement as global citizens. While it may include a historical perspective, Global Understanding courses focus primarily on a contemporary understanding of one's place in a global society.

Learning Outcomes:

Courses in the Global Understanding category must meet a minimum of three learning outcomes. Upon completing the Global Understanding category, students will be able to:

1. Identify and articulate one's own values and how those values influence their interactions and relationships with others, both locally and globally.

2. Demonstrate understanding of how the patterns and processes of#globalization#make visible the interconnections and differences among and within contemporary global societies.

3. Demonstrate the development of#intercultural#competencies.

4. Explore individual and collective responsibilities within a global society through analytical, practical, or creative responses to problems or issues, using resources appropriate to the field.

Required:

One approved course.

Note: A student may also meet the Global Understanding requirement through a full-semester study abroad or 12-15 credit hour program; shorter-term study abroad courses must include and meet the learning outcomes listed below and be evaluated prior to departure.

Code	Title	Credits
ANTH 302	Peoples and Cultures of Latin America (Mason Core)	3
ANTH 307	Ancient Mesoamerica (Mason Core)	3
ANTH 308	Peoples and Cultures of the Middle East (Mason Core)	3
ANTH 309	Peoples and Cultures of India (Mason Core)	3
ANTH 312	Political Anthropology (Mason Core)	3
ANTH 313	Myth, Magic, and Mind (Mason Core)	3
ANTH 331	Refugees (Mason Core)	3
ANTH 332	Cross-Cultural Perspectives on Globalization (Mason Core)	3
ANTH 382	Urban Anthropology (Mason Core)	3
ARTH 319	Art and Archaeology of the Ancient Near East (Mason Core)	3
ARTH 320	Art of the Islamic World (Mason Core)	3
ARTH 382	Arts of India (Mason Core)	3
ARTH 383	Arts of Southeast Asia (Mason Core)	3
ARTH 384	Arts of China (Mason Core)	3
ARTH 385	Arts of Japan (Mason Core)	3
BUS 200	Global Environment of Business (Mason Core)	3
CEIE 100	Environmental Engineering around the World (Mason Core)	3
COMM 305	Foundations of Intercultural Communication (Mason Core)	3
CONF 340	Global Conflict Analysis and Resolution (Mason Core)	3
CRIM 405	Law and Justice around the World (Mason Core)	3
CULT 320	Globalization and Culture (Mason Core)	3
DANC 118	Global Dance Perspectives I (Mason Core)	3
DANC 318	Global Dance Perspectives II (Mason Core)	3
DANC 418	Global Dance Intensive (Mason Core)	3
ECON 360	Economics of Developing Areas (Mason Core)	3
ECON 361	Economic Development of Latin America (Mason Core)	3
ECON 362	African Economic Development (Mason Core)	3
ECON 380	Economies in Transition (Mason Core)	3
EDSE 204	Disability in a Global Society (Mason Core)	3
ENGH 362	Global Voices (Mason Core)	3
ENGH 366	The Idea of a World Literature (Mason Core)	3
ENGH 374	Screening the Global City (Mason Core)	3
ENGR 398	Applied Engineering Abroad (Mason Core)	3
EVPP 381	Nature and Culture in Global Wetlands (Mason Core)	4
FAVS 300	Global Horror Film (Mason Core)	3
FAVS 320	Afrofuturism and Their Kin (Mason Core)	3
FOLK 100	Global Folklore (Mason Core)	3
FRLN 331	Contexts for Global Cinema (Mason Core)	3
GCH 205	Global Health (Mason Core)	3
GEOC 150	International Experience: Global Understanding (Mason Core)	0
GGS 101	Major World Regions (Mason Core)	3
GGS 317	Geography of China (Mason Core)	3
GLOA 101	Introduction to Global Affairs (Mason Core)	3
GOVT 132	Introduction to International Politics (Mason Core)	3
GOVT 133	Introduction to Comparative Politics (Mason Core)	3
GOVT 134	Grand Challenges to Human Security (Mason Core)	3
HIST 251	Survey of East Asian History (Mason Core)	3
HIST 252	Survey of East Asian History (Mason Core)	3
HIST 261	Survey of African History (Mason Core)	3
HIST 262	Survey of African History (Mason Core)	3
HIST 271	Survey of Latin American History (Mason Core)	3
HIST 272	Survey of Latin American History (Mason Core)	3
HIST 281	Survey of Middle Eastern Civilization (Mason Core)	3
HIST 282	Survey of Middle Eastern Civilization (Mason Core)	3
HIST 315	STEM and Society: A History (Mason Core)	3
HIST 328	Rise of Russia (Mason Core)	3
HIST 329	Modern Russia and the Soviet Union (Mason Core)	3
HIST 354	Modern China (Mason Core)	3
HIST 356	Modern Japan (Mason Core)	3
HIST 357	Postwar Japan (Mason Core)	3
HIST 358	Post-1949 China (Mason Core)	3
HIST 360	History of South Africa (Mason Core)	3
HIST 364	Revolution and Radical Politics in Latin America (Mason Core)	3
HIST 365	Conquest and Colonization in Latin America (Mason Core)	3

HIST 384	Global History of Christianity (Mason Core)	3
HIST 387	Topics in Global History (Mason Core)	3-6
HIST 462	Women in Islamic Society (Mason Core)	3
INTS 102	Global Networks and Communities (Mason Core)	6
INTS 303	Introduction to International Studies (Mason Core)	3
INTS 315	Spirituality and Conflict Transformation (Mason Core)	6
INTS 390	International Internship (Mason Core)	1-6
INTS 406	Global Leadership (Mason Core)	3
INTS 416	Refugee and Internal Displacement (Mason Core)	3
INYO 105	U.S. American Cultures (Mason Core)	3
JAPA 310	Japanese Culture in a Global World (Mason Core)	3
MBUS 305	Introduction to International Business (Mason Core)	3
MUSI 103	Musics of the World (Mason Core)	3
MUSI 431	Music History in Society III (Mason Core)	3
PHIL 243	Global Environmental Ethics (Mason Core)	3
PROV 150	International Experience: Global Understanding (Mason Core)	0
PSYC 379	Applied Cross-Cultural Psychology (Mason Core)	3
RELI 100	The Human Religious Experience (Mason Core)	3
RELI 211	Introduction to Religions of the "West" (Mason Core)	3
RELI 212	Introduction to Religions of Asia (Mason Core)	3
RELI 310	Judaism (Mason Core)	3
RELI 313	Hinduism (Mason Core)	3
RELI 315	Buddhism (Mason Core)	3
RELI 322	Religions of Africa (Mason Core)	3
RELI 341	Spirituality and Healing (Mason Core)	3
RELI 358	Islamic Thought (Mason Core)	3
RELI 369	Religion and Revolution in Latin America (Mason Core)	3
RELI 384	Global History of Christianity (Mason Core)	3
RUSS 354	Contemporary Post-Soviet Life (Mason Core)	3
SOCI 120	Globalization and Society (Mason Core)	3
SOCI 320	Globalization and Social Change (Mason Core)	3
SOCI 330	US Immigrants and Immigration (Mason Core)	3
SOCI 332	The Urban World (Mason Core)	3
SPAN 212	Intermediate Spanish II: Local and Global Contexts (Mason Core)	3
SPAN 322	Introduction to Latin American Culture (Mason Core)	3
SPAN 466	Latin American Civilization and Culture (Mason Core)	3
SYST 202	Engineering Systems in a Complex World (Mason Core)	3
SYST 497	Applied Engineering Abroad (Mason Core)	3
THR 359	World Stages (Mason Core)	3
TOUR 210	Global Understanding through Travel and Tourism (Mason Core)	3
UNIV 381	Foundations for Building a Just Society (Mason Core)	3
WMST 100	Global Representations of Women (Mason Core)	3

Literature (3 credits)

Courses in the Literature category develop students' abilities to read for comprehension, detail, and nuance; identify specific literary qualities of language as employed in texts they read; analyze the ways specific literary devices contribute to the meaning of a text; identify and evaluate the contribution of the social, political, historical, and cultural contexts in which a literary text is produced; and evaluate a critical argument in others' and one's own context.

Learning Outcomes:

Courses in the Literature category must meet a minimum of three learning outcomes. Upon completing the Literature category, students will be able to:

1. Read for comprehension, detail, and nuance.
2. Identify the specific literary qualities of language as employed in the texts they read.
3. Analyze the ways specific literary devices contribute to the meaning of a text.
4. Identify and evaluate the contribution of the social, political, historical, and cultural contexts in which a literary text is produced.
5. Evaluate a critical argument in others' writing as well as one's own.

Required:

One approved course.

Code	Title	Credits
ARAB 325	Major Arab Writers/Stories (Mason Core)	3
CHIN 310	Survey of Chinese Literature (Mason Core)	3
CHIN 311	Modern Chinese Literature in Translation (Mason Core)	3
CHIN 325	Major Chinese Writers (Mason Core)	3
CHIN 328	Asian American Women Writers (Mason Core)	3
CLAS 250	Classical Mythology (Mason Core)	3
CLAS 260	The Legacy of Greece and Rome (Mason Core)	3
CLAS 340	Greek and Roman Epic (Mason Core)	3
CLAS 350	Greek and Roman Tragedy (Mason Core)	3
CLAS 360	Greek and Roman Comedy (Mason Core)	3
CLAS 380	Greek and Roman Novels (Mason Core)	3
ELED 258	Children's Literature for Teaching in Diverse Settings (Mason Core)	3

ENGH 201	Reading and Writing about Texts (Mason Core)	3
ENGH 202	Texts and Contexts (Mason Core)	3
ENGH 203	Western Literary Tradition (Mason Core)	3
ENGH 204	Western Literary Traditions (Mason Core)	3
FREN 325	Major French Writers (Topic Varies) (Mason Core)	3
FREN 329	Problems of Western Civilization in French Literature (Mason Core)	3
FRLN 330	Topics in World Literature (Mason Core)	3
GERM 325	Major Writers (Mason Core)	3
HIST 334	American Scriptures (Mason Core)	3
INTS 101	Narratives of Identity (Mason Core)	6
INTS 363	Social Justice Narratives (Mason Core)	3
ITAL 320	Topics in Italian Film and Literature (Mason Core)	3
ITAL 325	Major Italian Writers (Mason Core)	3
JAPA 340	Topics in Japanese Literature (Mason Core)	3
KORE 311	Modern Korean Literature in Translation (Mason Core)	3
PHIL 253	Philosophy and Literature (Mason Core)	3
RELI 235	Religion and Literature (Mason Core)	3
RELI 333	Spiritual Autobiography (Mason Core)	3
RELI 339	The Bible as Literature (Mason Core)	3
RUSS 325	Major Russian Writers (Mason Core)	3
RUSS 326	19th-Century Literature in Translation (Mason Core)	3
RUSS 327	20th-Century Literature in Translation (Mason Core)	3
SEED 370	Young Adult Literature in Multicultural Settings (Mason Core)	3
SPAN 325	Major Hispanic Writers (Mason Core)	3

Natural Science (7 credits total)

Natural Science courses engage students in scientific exploration; foster their curiosity; enhance their enthusiasm for science; and enable them to apply scientific knowledge and reasoning to personal, professional, and public decision-making. Natural Science Lab courses must meet all five learning outcomes. Natural Science Overview (non-lab) courses must meet learning outcomes 1 through 4.

Learning Outcomes:

Upon completing the Natural Science courses, students will be able to:

1. Understand how scientific inquiry is based on investigation of evidence from the natural world, and that scientific knowledge and understanding: a) evolves based on new evidence, and b) differs from personal and cultural beliefs.
2. Recognize the scope and limits of science.
3. Recognize and articulate the relationship between the natural sciences and society and the application of science to societal challenges (e.g., health, conservation, sustainability, energy, natural disasters, etc.).
4. Evaluate scientific information (e.g., distinguish primary and secondary sources, assess credibility and validity of information).

5. Participate in scientific inquiry and communicate the elements of the process, including: a) making careful and systematic observations, b) developing and testing a hypothesis, c) analyzing evidence, and d) interpreting results.

Required:

Two approved science courses. At least one course will include laboratory experience.

Approved combinations of lecture and lab sections (4 credits):

Note: The lecture components of the approved combinations listed below can be taken alone to fulfill 3 credits of the non-lab requirement, or they can be paired with the lab component to fulfill 4 credits of the lab requirement. The lab components of the approved combinations below must be taken after or concurrently with their approved lecture.

Code	Title	Credits
ASTR 103 & ASTR 112	Astronomy (Mason Core) and The Solar System Lab (Mason Core)	
ASTR 103 & ASTR 114	Astronomy (Mason Core) and Stars, Galaxies, and the Universe Lab (Mason Core)	
ASTR 111 & ASTR 112	The Solar System (Mason Core) and The Solar System Lab (Mason Core)	
ASTR 113 & ASTR 114	Stars, Galaxies, and the Universe (Mason Core) and Stars, Galaxies, and the Universe Lab (Mason Core)	
BIOL 103 & BIOL 105	Introductory Biology II-Survey of Cell and Molecular Biology (Mason Core) and Introductory Biology II Laboratory (Mason Core)	
BIOL 107 & BIOL 106	Intro Biology II Lecture (Mason Core) and Introductory Biology I Laboratory (Mason Core)	
CDS 101 & CDS 102	Introduction to Computational and Data Sciences (Mason Core) and Introduction to Computational and Data Sciences Lab (Mason Core)	
CHEM 211 & CHEM 213	General Chemistry I (Mason Core) and General Chemistry Laboratory I (Mason Core)	
CHEM 212 & CHEM 214	General Chemistry II (Mason Core) and General Chemistry Laboratory II (Mason Core)	
CHEM 271 & CHEM 272	General Chemistry for Engineers Lecture (Mason Core) and General Chemistry for Engineers Lab (Mason Core)	
CLIM 111 & CLIM 112	Introduction to the Fundamentals of Atmospheric Science (Mason Core) and Introduction to the Fundamentals of Atmospheric Science Lab (Mason Core)	
CLIM 111 & PHYS 112	Introduction to the Fundamentals of Atmospheric Science (Mason Core) and Introduction to the Fundamentals of Atmospheric Science Lab (Mason Core)	

EVPP 108 & EVPP 109	Ecosphere - Introduction to Environmental Science I-Lecture (Mason Core) and Ecosphere- Introduction to Environmental Science I- Lab (Mason Core)	
EVPP 112 & EVPP 113	Ecosphere: Introduction to Environmental Science II-Lecture (Mason Core) and Ecosphere: Introduction to Environmental Science II–Lab (Mason Core)	
GEOL 101 & GEOL 103	Physical Geology (Mason Core) and Physical Geology Lab (Mason Core)	
GEOL 102 & GEOL 104	Historical Geology (Mason Core) and Historical Geology Laboratory (Mason Core)	
GEOL 120 & GEOL 121	The Changing Ocean (Mason Core) and The Changing Ocean Laboratory (Mason Core)	
PHYS 111 & CLIM 112	Introduction to the Fundamentals of Atmospheric Science (Mason Core) and Introduction to the Fundamentals of Atmospheric Science Lab (Mason Core)	
PHYS 111 & PHYS 112	Introduction to the Fundamentals of Atmospheric Science (Mason Core) and Introduction to the Fundamentals of Atmospheric Science Lab (Mason Core)	
PHYS 160 & PHYS 161	University Physics I (Mason Core) and University Physics I Laboratory (Mason Core)	
PHYS 170 & PHYS 161	Introductory and Modern Physics I (Mason Core) and University Physics I Laboratory (Mason Core)	
PHYS 243 & PHYS 244	College Physics I (Mason Core) and College Physics I Lab (Mason Core)	
PHYS 245 & PHYS 246	College Physics II (Mason Core) and College Physics II Lab (Mason Core)	
PHYS 260 & PHYS 261	University Physics II (Mason Core) and University Physics II Laboratory (Mason Core)	
PHYS 262 & PHYS 263	University Physics III (Mason Core) and University Physics III Laboratory (Mason Core)	
PHYS 270 & PHYS 261	Introductory and Modern Physics II (Mason Core) and University Physics II Laboratory (Mason Core)	

Natural Science Overview (non-lab) (3 credits):

Note: For additional Natural Science Overview (non-lab) options, please see the list above. The lecture components of the approved course pairings can be taken alone for non-lab credit.

Code	Title	Credits
ANTH 135	Introduction to Biological Anthropology (Mason Core)	3
ASTR 302	Foundations of Cosmological Thought (Mason Core)	3
ASTR 303	Black Holes (Mason Core)	3
BIOL 140	Plants and People (Mason Core)	3
CHEM 101	Introduction to Modern Chemistry (Mason Core)	3
CHEM 102	Chemistry for Changing Times (Mason Core)	3
CLIM 101	Global Warming: Weather, Climate, and Society (Mason Core)	3
COS 301	Great Ideas in Science (Mason Core)	3
EVPP 201	Environment and You: Issues for the Twenty-First Century (Mason Core)	3
FRSC 101	Principles of Forensic Science (Mason Core)	3
GEOL 134	Evolution and Extinction (Mason Core)	3
GGS 102	Physical Geography (Mason Core)	3
INTS 103	Human Creativity: Science and Art (Mason Core)	6
INTS 210	Sustainable World (Mason Core)	4
INTS 211	Introduction to Conservation Studies (Mason Core)	3-6
INTS 301	Science in the News (Mason Core)	3
INTS 410	Contemporary Health: Intersections in Science and Society (Mason Core)	4
NEUR 101	Introduction to Neuroscience (Mason Core)	3
NUTR 295	Introduction to Nutrition (Mason Core)	3
PHIL 271	How Science Works (Mason Core)	3
PHYS 106	The Quantum World: A Continuous Revolution in What We Know and How We Live (Mason Core)	3
PHYS 160	University Physics I (Mason Core)	3

Natural Science with Lab (4 credits):

Note: For additional options, see the list above for approved course pairings.

Code	Title	Credits
ASTR 115	Finding New Worlds (Mason Core)	4
BIOL 102	Introductory Biology I-Survey of Biodiversity and Ecology (Mason Core)	4
BIOL 213	Cell Structure and Function (Mason Core)	4
CHEM 103	Chemical Science in a Modern Society (Mason Core)	4
CHEM 104	Chemistry for Changing Times (Mason Core)	4
CHEM 155	Introduction to Environmental Chemistry I (Mason Core)	4
CHEM 156	Introduction to Environmental Chemistry II (Mason Core)	4
CLIM 102	Introduction to Global Climate Change Science (Mason Core)	4
GGS 121	Dynamic Atmosphere and Hydrosphere (Mason Core)	4
INTS 311	The Mysteries of Migration: Consequences for Conservation (Mason Core)	6
INTS 401	Conservation Biology (Mason Core)	6
INTS 403	Conservation Behavior (Mason Core)	6

| PHYS 103 | Physics and Everyday Phenomena I (Mason Core) | 4 |
| PHYS 104 | Physics and Everyday Phenomena II (Mason Core) | 4 |

Social and Behavioral Sciences (3 credits)

Students will develop the ability to explain how individuals, groups, or institutions are influenced by contextual factors; demonstrate awareness of changes in social and cultural constructs; and use appropriate methods and resources to apply social and behavioral science concepts, terminology, principles, and theories in analysis of significant human issues, past or present.

Learning Outcomes:

Upon completing a Social and Behavioral course, students will be able to:

1. Explain how individuals, groups, or institutions are influenced by contextual factors.
2. Demonstrate awareness of changes in social and cultural constructs.
3. Use appropriate methods and resources to apply social and behavioral science concepts, terminology, principles, and theories in the analysis of significant human issues, past or present.

Required:

One approved course.

Code	Title	Credits
AFAM 200	Introduction to African American Studies (Mason Core)	3
ANTH 114	Introduction to Cultural Anthropology (Mason Core)	3
ANTH 120	Unearthing the Past: Prehistory, Culture and Evolution (Mason Core)	3
ANTH 121	People of the Earth: Humanity's First Five Million Years (Mason Core)	3
ANTH 135	Introduction to Biological Anthropology (Mason Core)	3
ANTH 363	Humans, Disease, and Death (Mason Core)	3
ANTH 396	Issues in Anthropology: Social Sciences (Mason Core)	3
BUS 100	Business and Society (Mason Core)	3
CONF 101	Conflict and Our World (Mason Core)	3
CONS 410	Human Dimensions in Conservation (Mason Core)	3
CRIM 100	Introduction to Criminal Justice (Mason Core)	3
ECON 100	Economics for the Citizen (Mason Core)	3
ECON 103	Contemporary Microeconomic Principles (Mason Core)	3
ECON 104	Contemporary Macroeconomic Principles (Mason Core)	3
ECON 105	Environmental Economics for the Citizen (Mason Core)	3
ECON 367	Money, Markets, and Economic Policy (Mason Core)	3
EDEP 110	Academic Success Through Self-Regulated Learning (Mason Core)	3

EDEP 350	Perspectives on Achievement Motivation (Mason Core)	3
EDSE 203	Disability in American Culture (Mason Core)	3
EDUC 200	Introduction to Education: Teaching, Learning and Schools (Mason Core)	3
EDUC 203	Disability in American Culture (Mason Core)	3
GCH 325	Stress and Well-Being (Mason Core)	3
GGS 103	Human Geography (Mason Core)	3
GGS 301	Political Geography (Mason Core)	3
GOVT 101	Democratic Theory and Practice (Mason Core)	3
GOVT 103	Introduction to American Government (Mason Core)	3
GOVT 367	Money, Markets and Economic Policy (Mason Core)	3
HDFS 200	Individual and Family Development (Mason Core)	3
HEAL 230	Introduction to Health Behavior (Mason Core)	3
HIST 121	Formation of the American Republic (Mason Core)	3
HIST 122	Development of Modern America (Mason Core)	3
INTS 203	Inquiry for Action: Facilitating Change (Mason Core)	6
INTS 300	Law and Justice (Mason Core)	3
INTS 304	Social Movements and Community Activism (Mason Core)	4
INTS 316	Introduction to Childhood Studies (Mason Core)	4
INTS 317	Issues in Family Relationships (Mason Core)	4
INTS 319	Contemporary Youth Studies (Mason Core)	3
INTS 321	Parent-Child Relations (Mason Core)	4
INTS 331	The Nonprofit Sector (Mason Core)	4
INTS 334	Environmental Justice (Mason Core)	4
INTS 336	Poverty, Wealth and Inequality in the US (Mason Core)	3
INTS 347	Gender Representation in Popular Culture (Mason Core)	3-6
INTS 362	Social Justice and Human Rights (Mason Core)	3
INTS 371	Food Systems and Policy (Mason Core)	3
INTS 436	Social Justice Education (Mason Core)	4
INTS 437	Critical Race Studies (Mason Core)	3
INTS 438	Representations of Race (Mason Core)	4
LING 100	Human Language (Mason Core)	3
LING 306	General Linguistics (Mason Core)	3
PSYC 100	Basic Concepts in Psychology (Mason Core)	3
PSYC 211	Lifespan Development (Mason Core)	3
PSYC 231	Social Psychology (Mason Core)	3

PSYC 333	Industrial and Organizational Psychology (Mason Core)	3
SOCI 101	Introductory Sociology (Mason Core)	3
SOCI 308	Race and Ethnicity in a Changing World (Mason Core)	3
SOCI 315	Contemporary Gender Relations (Mason Core)	3
SOCI 352	Social Problems and Solutions (Mason Core)	3
SOCI 355	Social Inequality (Mason Core)	3
SOCI 360	Youth Culture and Society (Mason Core)	3
SOCI 371	The Individual and Society (Mason Core)	3
SOCW 200	Introduction to Social Work (Mason Core)	3
SPAN 430	Spanish in the United States (Mason Core)	3
TOUR 311	Women and Tourism (Mason Core)	3
UNIV 381	Foundations for Building a Just Society (Mason Core)	3
WMST 200	Introduction to Women and Gender Studies (Mason Core)	3
WMST 208	Introduction to Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, and Queer Studies (Mason Core)	3

Integration Requirements (9 credits)
Written Communication (upper-level)
Learning Outcomes:
As the second course in Mason's vertical writing curriculum, students build on their understanding of rhetorical and genre awareness and writing processes begun in Foundation-level Written Communication through advanced rhetorical analysis, inquiry-based research into a variety of scholarly and public perspectives, and writing oriented toward investigating, engaging with, and responding to meaningful disciplinary questions in a variety of academic and non-academic writing contexts. Across the Foundation and Integration-level Written Communication courses, students learn to use writing to explore, construct, and communicate knowledge. These skills are built upon in Writing Intensive courses where students engage with increasingly complex rhetorical and field-specific problems, issues, or areas of inquiry and creativity.

Required:
One approved course.

Code	Title	Credits
ENGH 302	Advanced Composition (Mason Core)	3

Writing Intensive Course Requirement (usually 3 credits)
As part of the university's commitment to student writers in all undergraduate programs, at least one upper-division course in each major is designated as fulfilling the "Writing Intensive" (WI) requirement. As the third course in Mason's vertical writing curriculum, WI courses build upon the knowledge and skills that students develop in ENGH 100 or 101 at the Foundation level and ENGH 302 at the Integration level. To do so, WI courses further integrate rhetorical and field-specific knowledge as students engage the specific writing, critical thinking, and problem-solving methods of their chosen fields across a range of academic, professional, and civic contexts.

Learning Outcomes:
Upon completing a Writing Intensive Course, students will be able to:

1. Use informal or formal writing in ways that deepen their awareness of the field of study and its subject matter (Writing to Learn).
2. Compose one or more written genres specific to the field of study in order to communicate key ideas tailored to specific audiences and purposes; genres may be academic, public, or professional (Writing to Communicate).
3. Draft and revise written works based on feedback they receive from instructors and peers, using strategies appropriate to the genre, audience, and purpose (Writing as a Process).

Required:
One approved course. The following courses have been approved to meet the Writing Intensive requirement. NOTE: Students MUST select the course approved for their major.#See specific degree program for details.

Code	Title	Credits
ACCT 461	Assurance and Audit Services	3
ACCT 493	Financial Planning and Wealth Management Capstone	3
ANTH 490	History of Anthropological Theory	3
ARAB 331	Reading and Conversation II	3
ARTH 400	Historiography and Methods of Research in Art History (Topic Varies)	3
ARTH 420	Advanced Studies in Ancient Art	3
ARTH 430	Advanced Studies in Medieval or Islamic Art	3
ARTH 440	RS: Advanced Studies in Renaissance and Baroque Art	3
ARTH 460	RS: Advanced Studies in 20th-Century European Art	3
ARTH 471	Advanced Studies in Art of the United States	3
ARTH 472	RS: Advanced Studies in 20th-Century Latin American Art	3
ARTH 474	Advanced Studies in Contemporary Art	3
ARTH 482	RS: Advanced Studies in Asian Art	3
ARTH 490	Independent Study in Art History	3
ARTH 491	Independent Study in Art History	3
ARTH 492	Honors Directed Readings	3
ARTH 493	Honors Directed Research	3
ARTH 495	RS: Curating an Exhibit	3
ARTH 499	Advanced Studies in Art History	3
ASTR 402	RS: Methods of Observational Astronomy (Mason Core)	4
AVT 395	Writing for Artists	3
AVT 396	Writing for Designers	3
BENG 360	Biomedical Imaging	3
BIOL 308	Foundations of Ecology and Evolution	5
BIOL 338	Lab for Fundamentals of Ecology and Evolution	2
BIS 390	The Research Process	3
CDS 302	Scientific Data and Databases	3
CEIE 301	Engineering and Economic Models in Civil Engineering	3

CHEM 336	Physical Chemistry Lab I	2
CHEM 465	Biochemistry Lab	2
CHIN 480	Fourth-Year Chinese I	3
CLIM 408	Senior Research	3
COMM 300	Rhetorical Theory and Criticism	3
CONF 302	Culture, Identity, and Conflict	3
CRIM 495	Capstone in Criminology, Law and Society (Mason Core)	3
CS 306	Synthesis of Ethics and Law for the Computing Professional (Mason Core)	3
CS 321	Software Engineering	3
CYSE 491	Engineering Senior Seminar	3
DANC 390	Dance History I (Mason Core)	3
DANC 391	Dance History II (Mason Core)	3
ECE 333	Linear Electronics I	3
ECED 411	Assessment of Diverse Young Learners	3
ECON 355	The Political Economy of Nonprofit Institutions	3
ECON 365	Topics in Economic History	3
ECON 395	Effective Writing in Economics	3
ECON 435	Economics of Energy	3
ECON 470	Economics of Regulation	3
ECON 485	Smithian Political Economy I	3
EDSE 452	Intersectionality and Disability	3
ELED 459	Researching Problems of Practice in Elementary Education	3
ENGH 305	Dimensions of Writing and Literature	3
EVPP 337	Environmental Policy Making in Developing Countries	3
FAVS 304	Ways of Thinking: Film, TV, and Beyond	3
FAVS 380	TV Writing	3
FAVS 496	Advanced Visual Storytelling (Mason Core)	3
FAVS 498	Development for Senior Project	3
FNAN 477	Student Managed Investment Fund	3
FNAN 493	Financial Planning and Wealth Management Capstone	3
FNAN 498	RS: Contemporary Topics in Finance	3
FREN 309	Reading and Writing Skills Development	3
FRSC 302	Forensic Trace Analysis	3
FRSC 304	Forensic Chemistry	3
GAME 332	RS: Story Design for Computer Games	3
GCH 411	Health Program Planning and Evaluation	3
GCH 611	Health Program Planning and Evaluation	3
GEOL 305	Environmental Geology	3
GEOL 317	Geomorphology	4
GEOL 334	Vertebrate Paleontology	4
GGS 415	Seminar in Geographic Thought and Methodology	3
GOVT 490	Synthesis Seminar (Mason Core)	3
GOVT 491	Honors Seminar (Mason Core)	3
HAP 465	Integration of Professional Skills and Issues (Mason Core)	3
HDFS 401	Family Law and Public Policy	3

HIST 300	Introduction to Historical Method (Mason Core)	3
HIST 499	RS: Senior Seminar in History (Mason Core)	3
INTS 321	Parent-Child Relations (Mason Core)	4
INTS 334	Environmental Justice (Mason Core)	4
INTS 491	Senior Capstone	3
IT 343	IT Project Management	3
KINE 450	Research Methods	3
KORE 370	Advanced Korean Writing	3
LAS 499	Research Seminar in Latin American Studies (Mason Core)	3
MATH 300	Introduction to Advanced Mathematics	3
ME 444	Mechanical Design II (Mason Core)	3
MGMT 313	Organizational Behavior	3
MIS 330	Systems Analysis and Design	3
MIS 431	Data Mining for Business Applications	3
MKTG 471	Marketing Management	3
MLAB 300	Science Writing	2
MUSI 332	Music History in Society II	3
MUSI 438	Music History in Society B	3
NEUR 410	Current Topics in Neuroscience	3
NEUR 411	Seminar in Neuroscience	3
NURS 465	Examination and Integration of Professional and Health Care Issues (Mason Core)	3
NURS 480	Professional Issues in Nursing	3
NUTR 326	Food Systems	3
OSCM 456	Quality Management	3
PHED 340	Social and Cultural Issues in Physical Education	3
PHIL 421	Seminar (Mason Core)	3
PHIL 422	Honors Seminar (Mason Core)	3
PHYS 407	Senior Laboratory in Modern Physics (Mason Core)	4
PHYS 410	Computational Physics Capstone (Mason Core)	4
PSYC 301	Research Methods in Psychology	4
PSYC 304	Principles of Learning	4
PSYC 309	Sensation, Perception, and Information Processing	4
RELI 420	Capstone Seminar in Studies of Religion	3
RUSS 302	Russian Conversation and Composition	3
RUSS 325	Major Russian Writers (Mason Core)	3
SOCI 303	Methods and Logic of Inquiry	3
SOCI 412	Contemporary Sociological Theory	3
SOCI 485	RS: Sociological Analysis and Practice (Mason Core)	3
SOCW 471	Research in Social Work	3
SPAN 370	Spanish Writing and Stylistics	3
SRST 450	Research Methods	3
STAT 489	Pre-Capstone Professional Development	3
SYST 489	Senior Seminar	3
THR 350	Script Analysis	3

| THR 351 | Dramatic Theory and Criticism | 3 |
| THR 482 | Advanced Screenplay Workshop | 3 |

Synthesis or Capstone Experience Requirement (minimum 3 credits)

Students are required to complete either a Synthesis or a Capstone course to meet this requirement.

Synthesis

The purpose of the Synthesis course is to provide students with the opportunity to synthesize the knowledge, skills, and values gained from the Mason Core curriculum. Synthesis courses strive to expand students' ability to master new content, think critically, and develop life-long learning skills across the disciplines. While it is not feasible to design courses that cover "all" areas of general education, Synthesis courses should function as a careful alignment of disciplinary goals with a range of Mason Core learning outcomes.

Learning Outcomes:

The Mason Core Synthesis course must address outcomes 1 and 2, and at least one outcome under 3. Upon completing a Synthesis course, students will be able to:

1. Communicate effectively in both oral and written forms, applying appropriate rhetorical standards (e.g., audience adaptation, language, argument, organization, evidence, etc.).
2. Connect issues in a given field to wider intellectual, community, or societal concerns using perspectives from two or more disciplines.
3. Apply critical thinking skills to:
   a. Evaluate the quality, credibility, and limitations of an argument or a solution using appropriate evidence or resources, OR
   b. Judge the quality or value of an idea, work, or principle based on appropriate analytics and standards.

Required:

One approved course.

Synthesis Courses

Code	Title	Credits
ANTH 400	Engaging the World: Anthropological Perspectives (Mason Core)	3
ARTH 394	The Museum (Mason Core)	3
AVT 385	EcoArt (Mason Core)	3
AVT 497	Senior Project (Mason Core)	3
AVT 498	Senior Design Project (Mason Core)	3
BENG 492	Senior Advanced Design Project I (Mason Core)	3
BINF 354	Foundations in Mathematical Biology (Mason Core)	3
BIOL 301	Biology and Society (Mason Core)	3
BIS 490	RS: Senior Project (Mason Core)	4
CEIE 490	Civil Engineering Senior Design Project I (Mason Core)	1-3
COMM 326	Rhetoric of Social Movements and Political Controversy (Mason Core)	3
COMM 362	Argument and Public Policy (Mason Core)	3
COMM 454	Free Speech and Ethics (Mason Core)	3
CONF 490	RS: Integration (Mason Core)	3
CONS 490	RS: Integrated Conservation Strategies (Mason Core)	3
CONS 491	RS: Conservation Management Planning (Mason Core)	4
COS 310	Introduction to Science Policy (Mason Core)	3
CRIM 495	Capstone in Criminology, Law and Society (Mason Core)	3
CS 306	Synthesis of Ethics and Law for the Computing Professional (Mason Core)	3
DANC 490	Senior Dance Seminar (Mason Core)	3
ECE 492	Senior Advanced Design Project I (Mason Core)	1
ECE 493	RS: Senior Advanced Design Project II (Mason Core)	2
EVPP 480	Sustainability in Action (Mason Core)	4
FAVS 352	Ethics of Film and Video (Mason Core)	3
FRLN 385	Multilingualism, Identity, and Power (Mason Core)	3
GAME 490	Senior Game Design Capstone (Mason Core)	3
GEOL 420	Earth Science and Policy (Mason Core)	3
GGS 303	Geography of Resource Conservation (Mason Core)	3
GGS 304	Population Geography (Mason Core)	3
GOVT 490	Synthesis Seminar (Mason Core)	3
GOVT 491	Honors Seminar (Mason Core)	3
HAP 465	Integration of Professional Skills and Issues (Mason Core)	3
HDFS 400	Advanced Family Processes (Mason Core)	3
HIST 300	Introduction to Historical Method (Mason Core)	3
HIST 499	RS: Senior Seminar in History (Mason Core)	3
IT 492	Senior Design Project I (Mason Core)	3
LAS 499	Research Seminar in Latin American Studies (Mason Core)	3
MATH 400	History of Math (Topic Varies) (Mason Core)	3
NEUR 424	Sleep and Circadian Rhythms (Mason Core)	3
NEUR 473	Current Neuroscience Research in Germany (Mason Core)	3
NURS 465	Examination and Integration of Professional and Health Care Issues (Mason Core)	3
PHIL 309	Bioethics (Mason Core)	3
PHIL 343	Topics in Environmental Philosophy (Mason Core)	3
PHIL 379	Perspectives on Time (Mason Core)	3
PHYS 346	Quarks to Strings (Mason Core)	3
PROV 342	The George Mason Debates in Current Affairs (Mason Core)	3
PSYC 405	Mystery, Madness, and Murder (Mason Core)	3

PSYC 406	Psychology of Communication (Mason Core)	3
PSYC 427	Community Engagement for Social Change (Mason Core)	3
RELI 490	Comparative Study of Religions (Mason Core)	3
RUSS 353	Russian Civilization (Mason Core)	3
SOCI 377	Art and Society (Mason Core)	3
SOCI 483	The Sociology of Higher Education (Mason Core)	3
SOCW 375	Human Behavior and the Family Life Course (Mason Core)	3
SPAN 388	Introduction to Latina/o Studies (Mason Core)	3
SYST 495	Senior Design Project II (Mason Core)	3
THR 440	Advanced Studies in Directing/ Dramaturgy (Mason Core)	3
THR 496	Text in Production (Mason Core)	3

Capstone:

The purpose of the Capstone course, or sequence of courses, is to provide a high impact, culminating element of an undergraduate education, helping students develop a more comprehensive and integrative understanding of their area of study and utilize critical thinking skills. Capstone courses provide students opportunities to apply and demonstrate their knowledge and generally involve integrative/ applied/experiential projects. Student learning in a Capstone course is assessed using a set of identified program-level learning outcomes, as well as for critical thinking, as defined by the American Association of Colleges & Universities.

While each academic degree program defines its learning outcomes, a Capstone course or sequence should follow these guidelines:

- Minimum of 3 credits
- Later in the curriculum, after a student has taken at least 85 credits, and at the 400#course level
- No more than 35 students in the course or equivalent instructional/ mentored support
- Emphasis on experiential/applied/integrative learning
- Allow students to apply critical thinking skills
- Learning outcomes defined by the degree program

Required: One approved upper-division course. Students should speak with an advisor to determine the appropriate course to fulfill their major's requirement.

Capstone Courses

Code	Title	Credits
ARAB 351	Media Arabic (Spoken and Written) (Mason Core)	3
ARAB 440	Topics in Arabic Religious Thought and Texts (Mason Core)	3
ASTR 402	RS: Methods of Observational Astronomy (Mason Core)	4
ATEP 441	Senior Seminar in Athletic Training (Mason Core)	3
AVT 453	Professional Practices (Mason Core)	3
AVT 497	Senior Project (Mason Core)	3
AVT 498	Senior Design Project (Mason Core)	3
BAS 491	Applied Sciences Capstone (Mason Core)	3
BAS 493	BAS Capstone (Mason Core)	3
BENG 492	Senior Advanced Design Project I (Mason Core)	3
BIOL 379	RS: Ecological Sustainability (Mason Core)	4
BUS 498	Capstone Course: Advanced Business Models (Mason Core)	3
CDS 492	Capstone in Data Science (Mason Core)	3
CEIE 490	Civil Engineering Senior Design Project I (Mason Core)	1-3
CHEM 460	Chemistry in the Kitchen (Mason Core)	3
CHIN 318	Introduction to Classical Chinese (Mason Core)	3
CHIN 355	Readings in Chinese Poetry and Poetics (Mason Core)	3
CHIN 475	Chinese Popular Culture (Mason Core)	3
CONS 496	Research in Conservation (Mason Core)	6
CYSE 493	Senior Advanced Design Project II (Mason Core)	3
ECE 492	Senior Advanced Design Project I (Mason Core)	1
ECE 493	RS: Senior Advanced Design Project II (Mason Core)	2
ECED 490	Internship in Early Childhood Education (Mason Core)	6-12
ECED 492	Internship in Early Childhood Education (Non-Licensure) (Mason Core)	6-12
ECON 491	Capstone in Economics (Mason Core)	3
ECON 493	Capstone Internship (Mason Core)	3
ECON 495	RS: Honors Thesis in Economics (Mason Core)	3-6
EDSE 481	Internship: Professional Services (Mason Core)	12
EDSE 482	Internship: General Curriculum (Mason Core)	12
EDSE 483	Internship: Adapted (Severe Disabilities) (Mason Core)	12
EDSE 484	Internship: Blindness and Visual Impairments (Mason Core)	12
ELED 490	Internship in Elementary Education (Mason Core)	3-9
ENGH 401	RS: Honors Thesis Writing Seminar (Mason Core)	3
ENGH 417	RS: Topics in Folklore Research (Mason Core)	3
ENGH 458	RS: Topics in Literary Research (Mason Core)	3
ENGH 470	RS: Topics in Film/Media History (Mason Core)	3
ENGH 484	RS: Writing Ethnography (Mason Core)	3
ENGH 486	RS: Writing Nonfiction for the Public (Mason Core)	3
ENGH 495	Capstone and Thesis (Mason Core)	3

EVPP 378	RS: Ecological Sustainability (Mason Core)	4
FAVS 496	Advanced Visual Storytelling (Mason Core)	3
FAVS 497	Senior Film Practicum (Mason Core)	3
FAVS 499	Senior Project (Mason Core)	3
GAME 490	Senior Game Design Capstone (Mason Core)	3
GCH 465	Community Health Capstone (Mason Core)	3
GCH 466	Physical Activity in Public Health Capstone (Mason Core)	3
GLOA 400	Global Affairs Capstone (Mason Core)	3
GLOA 492	Honors Research Project in Global Affairs (Mason Core)	3
HAP 489	Pre-Internship Seminar (Mason Core)	3
HAP 498	Health Administration Internship (Mason Core)	4
HDFS 499	Advanced Internship and Analysis in Human Development and Family Science (Mason Core)	3
IT 492	Senior Design Project I (Mason Core)	3
IT 493	Senior Design Project II (Mason Core)	4
KINE 490	Kinesiology Internship (Mason Core)	6-12
LING 480	RS: First Language Acquisition (Mason Core)	3
MATH 401	Mathematics through 3D Printing (Mason Core)	3
ME 444	Mechanical Design II (Mason Core)	3
MUSI 324	Junior Recital (Mason Core)	1
MUSI 424	Senior Recital (Mason Core)	1
MUSI 489	Music Technology Capstone (Mason Core)	3
MUSI 490	RS: Musical Communication in Context (Mason Core)	3
MUSI 491	Musical Communication in Performance (Mason Core)	1
MUSI 495	Internship in Music Education (Mason Core)	6-12
NURS 490	Health Policy and Advocacy in Nursing (Mason Core)	3
PHED 415	Student Teaching in Physical Education (Mason Core)	12
PHIL 421	Seminar (Mason Core)	3
PHIL 422	Honors Seminar (Mason Core)	3
PHYS 407	Senior Laboratory in Modern Physics (Mason Core)	4
PHYS 410	Computational Physics Capstone (Mason Core)	4
RMGT 490	Recreation Management Internship (Mason Core)	12
SEED 492	Internship: Secondary Education English (Mason Core)	6
SEED 493	Internship: Secondary Education Math (Mason Core)	6

SEED 494	Internship: Secondary Education Science (Mason Core)	6
SEED 496	Internship: Secondary Education Computer Science (Mason Core)	6
SOCI 416	Internship in Sociology I (Mason Core)	3-6
SOCI 485	RS: Sociological Analysis and Practice (Mason Core)	3
SOCW 472	RS: Integrative Methods in Social Action and Social Change (Mason Core)	3
SPMT 490	Internship (Mason Core)	12
STAT 490	Capstone in Statistics (Mason Core)	3
SYST 495	Senior Design Project II (Mason Core)	3
TOUR 490	Hospitality, Tourism, and Events Management Internship (Mason Core)	12