4-VA at GMU
Course Redesign using Open Educational Resources (OER)
Request for Proposals Fall 2017

4-VA at GMU, in collaboration with the University Libraries and Mason Online, introduces a Request for Proposals regarding Open Educational Resources (OER). This project is focused on innovative course redesign that reconsiders the materials currently used with the intent purpose to integrate digital materials. Courses of particular interest are those that 1) have high enrollment numbers, 2) are required courses for majors, 3) count in the Mason Core, or 4) carry high textbook costs.

Open Educational Resources are defined as "teaching, learning, and research resources that reside in the public domain or have been released under an intellectual property license that permits their free use and re-purposing by others. Open educational resources include full courses, course materials, modules, textbooks, streaming videos, tests, software, and any other tools, materials, or techniques used to support access to knowledge." Open Educational Resources. *The William and Flora Hewlett Foundation, 2016.*

Redesigning courses to include open educational resources can accomplish the following:

- Reduce the cost of instruction for students
- Improve teaching and learning outcomes
- Create student economic opportunity through open access to quality educational resources

Who May Apply

GMU full-time faculty who teach high demand, highly populated courses. Adjunct faculty may apply as part of a team. For example, a group proposal may contain an adjunct instructor and full-time faculty from a department. Teams representing multiple sections of a course are encouraged to apply.

Grant Amounts

Competitive grants will be awarded ranging from $1,000-$5,000, depending on the nature of the work and the level of team collaboration. Larger amounts will be considered for projects that develop original materials.

NOTE: Mason Publishing Group, a department of the University Libraries, is available to aid faculty in developing OER textbooks or workbooks as a part of this project. Telephone: (703) 993-3636, publish@gmu.edu.

Required materials
1. [This cover sheet](#) with title, unit, and signatures.
2. A statement—no more than two pages—that gives the rationale for the OER grant and addresses each of the following questions.
    a. How will your OER grant proposal meet the criteria for an innovative, accessible OER course? Please provide a project summary and identify what initiatives are being addressed.
    b. Who is involved in your grant proposal? All participants must be listed and their role in the grant delineated.
3. What will your measures or indicators for success be with this project? *Completed OER course proposals should have an initial offering date of either Fall 2018 or Spring 2019 semester*.
4. A timeline for developing, implementing, and assessing the project. Projects that do not have articulated strategies for assessing success or outcomes will not be considered.
5. Please complete the table below and include it with the proposal.

Course number/title	Number of sections	Number of students/section	Current textbook costs

For additional information

Contact Associate Provost, Janette Kenner Muir, Mason 4-VA Coordinator, jmuir@gmu.edu.

Deadlines

- Completed application: **December 1, 2017**
- Award notification: **December 15, 2017**
- Funds distributed: **January 16, 2018**

Submit proposal electronically to

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