

True Blue Core Committee Meeting

January 23, 2026

12.30 pm in Faculty Senate Chambers, James Union Building

Voting members in attendance: Virginia Hemby-Grubb, Jane Seok Jeng Lim, Suzanne Mangrum, Rebecca Oldham, Stephanie Totty, Ashlee Hover, Andrew Fialka, Andrea Hall, Teresa Davis, Laura Cochrane, John Zemora, Xin Yang, Brielle Campos

Voting members absent: Andrea Taylor, Sylvester Lamin, Michael Peasley, Nia Moore, Amber Shelton, Jorge Vargas, Kari Neely

Guest: Mohammad Meerzaei, Jerod Hollyfield, Ann McCullough

True Blue Core Team: Christina Cobb (Absent), Natalie Hoskins, Molly Walters, Abby Arnold

Welcome

Terri Davis, Chair of True-Blue Core Committee, welcomes the committee members back for 2026.

Approval of minutes

With no other amendments, a motion was called to approve the minutes for December 5, 2025. Motion for approval- John Zemora and seconded by Laura Cochrane. The meeting minutes were approved with a Vote (11/11)

Discussion of Course Proposal

RS 2500: Religion and Sports – new course. Mohammad Meerzaei presented the course proposal

The committee went through the questions tabled from the last meeting on December 5, 2025, regarding the course proposal

- a. Faculty assigned- Mohammad Merzaei addressed the concern raised by Suzanne Mangrum, as there will be a rotation of both tenure and adjunct faculty to teach this course. He shared that this course is popular and will easily recruit students. Might be offering more than one section of the course with sufficient faculty to teach it.
- b. Breath and width of content - Mohammad Merzaei addressed the concern raised by Laura Cochrane and Terri Davis. He elaborated on the 8 areas of topic as presented in the curriculum and how it will address several areas of public concerns
 1. Religion as Ceremonial Exchange
 2. Religion as Habitation
 3. Religion, Sports, and Identity Formation and Performativity
 4. Religion, Sports, and Society
 5. Religion, Sports, and Global Collective Identities
 6. Religion, Sports, and Mental Health
 7. Religion, Sports, and Their Interactions with the Gift and Monetary Economies

8. Religion, Sports, and Ethics - Morality and Ethics in Sports
 - c. Terri Davis was concerned regarding the Final video project, whether it is a group assignment or an individual assignment. It needs to be converted into an individual project for the assessment. Mohammad Merzaei will confirm this and make the changes.

With all questions addressed, a motion to approve RS 2500 was called. Jane Lim called for the motion, and Rebecca Oldham seconded. RS 2500 was approved with a vote (13/13)

VFP 1000: Film Appreciation – new course. Jerod Hollyfield presented the course proposal

The committee went through the questions tabled from the last meeting on December 5, 2025, regarding the course proposal

- a. Elaboration on course content, TBC course category. Terri Davis noted that the course content had undergone a revision, and more details have been added and elaborated
- b. Assessable assignment not aligned to TBC rubrics. Both Terri Davis and Brielle Campos feel the assignment should be better aligned with the TBC rubrics, as the final annotated bibliography does not fully address them. Jane Lim suggested adding a reflection for each movie watched, and Rebecca Oldham added that the reflection should address the three TBC categories: Creativity & Culture Expression (CCE), Intercultural Understanding (C1), and Discovery in Fine Arts and Humanities (CCE).

A motion was called to make amendments and revisions to the annotated bibliography with added reflection to address the three TBC categories: Creativity & Culture Expression (CCE), Intercultural Understanding (C1), and Discovery in Fine Arts and Humanities (CCE). Approval will be pending on the final revision of VEP 1000. Christina Cob will work with the faculty to address this concern. Rebecca Oldham called for the motion, and John Zemora seconded with a vote (12/12).

FREN 2910: Study Abroad – existing course. Ann McCullough presented the course proposal

Ann McCullough shared that FREN 2910 will address the TBC Foundational Skills- Non-written communication. The department wanted to use course substitution for students taking FREN 2910 as a study abroad course rather than on campus, since they will be learning the same content and completing the same assessable assignment. However, Tyler Henson felt it might be administratively complicated; thus, the course was presented as a TBC study abroad.

Stephanie Totty asked whether there will be other study abroad courses to be submitted as TBC courses, as FREN 2910 will be the first TBC offering for study abroad. Ann McCullough shared that other study abroad courses might focus more on intercultural understanding instead of foundational skills. Natalie Hoskins added that Christina Cobb is considering adding more study abroad courses for TBC in the future.

With no other questions, a motion was called to approve FREN 2910: Study Abroad. Jane Lim called for the Motion, and Laura Cochran seconded it. FREN 2910: Study Abroad was approved with a Vote (12/12).

Discussion: True Blue Core Outstanding Teacher Award

Natalie Hoskins shared that Amendments have been made to the websites, and nominations are already coming in.

New business

NA

Other matters

With no other matter, the meeting was adjourned at 1.18 p.m.

Meeting notes submitted by Jane Seok Jeng Lim, Recording Secretary

January 23, 2026

Edits and revisions submitted by Christina Cobb