



COLLEGE OF
Letters & Science
UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON

4 March 2019

TO: Department Chairs and Academic Program Directors

FROM: Eric Wilcots, Deputy Dean
Shirin Malekpour, Associate Dean for Teaching and Learning Administration

RE: L&S Team Teaching Initiative

The College of Letters & Science announces a request for proposals for new or revised courses to be team-taught in a truly innovative and integrated manner.

The first expectation of team taught courses is that all instructors share the instructional responsibilities, and are present and interacting with students and each other as a key component of this learning opportunity. In addition, team-taught courses should do the following four things:

- Create an opportunity for undergraduate students that would otherwise be unavailable in a course taught by a single instructor;
- Provide students with an opportunity to engage in multiple ways of thinking, different approaches to a practice within a given discipline, or to different disciplinary approaches to address and understand a topic;
- Demonstrate sustainability, utility, and departmental support for this form of instruction; and
- Attract an enrollment that would at least be equal to at least as many the number of students as that would have enrolled in separate courses that otherwise would have been taught.

We realize that creation of courses that meet these expectations may require course renovation, redesign, or creation. To achieve a sustainable model, faculty committees may need to revisit policies and practices regarding workload, as well as the extent to which such courses are incorporated into the regular course offerings for the department(s) involved. Please consult the L&S Administrative Gateway for Guidance on Policy and other Considerations about team teaching.

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To facilitate the creation of such innovative and integrated courses, the College is able to provide some resources for the creation of up to four truly innovative new team-taught courses. Proposals for these funds should address all five principles listed above, provide a compelling narrative conveying the value of the course for the L&S undergraduate experience, demonstrate commitment on the part of the relevant department(s) for offering the course, and describe how the funds will be used to launch the new course. The College is particularly interested in courses that will attract large enrollments. For this pilot, we are restricting this call for courses taught exclusively by faculty and staff in L&S. Proposals should be no more than two (2) pages in length, and they are due May 15, 2019.

For more information, please consult the following documents in the L&S Administrative Gateway:

- [L&S Policy Guidance: Team Teaching in L&S](#)
- [L&S Teaching & Learning Excellence Guidance: Considerations for Team Teaching](#)

Questions may be directed to Associate Dean Shirin Malekpour (shirin.malekpour@wisc.edu; please copy your academic Associate Dean, too).

CC: Cal Bergman, Associate Dean for Student Academic Affairs
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