

Habits of Mind Team Teaching Award

The Office of the Provost is pleased to announce a team-teaching opportunity for faculty interested in teaching an experimental AU Core Habits of Mind course. This team-teaching opportunity will model for our students the value and importance of interdisciplinary approaches to teaching and learning. From these interactions, students should understand both the possibilities and limitations of different approaches; learn to engage in respectful forms of disagreement and consideration of alternative perspectives based on scholarly inquiry; and achieve higher levels of synthesis and integration.

Habits of Mind courses form the heart of the new AU Core curriculum and are designed to expose our students to different modes of inquiry. Habits of Mind courses are well-suited to be team-taught, because students benefit from exposure to multiple ways of asking and answering questions within a mode of inquiry. The five Habits of Mind areas are:

- Creative-Aesthetic Inquiry
- Cultural Inquiry
- Ethical Reasoning
- Natural-Scientific Inquiry
- Socio-Historical Inquiry

Additional information about the Habits of Mind learning outcomes can be found here: <https://www.american.edu/provost/undergrad/core/habits.cfm>

There are three awards of \$4,500 each available to units that allow their faculty to team-teach in other academic units or departments as part of this pilot program. Faculty whose courses are selected for this pilot program will be named “AU Core Team-Teaching Fellows.” In addition, each participating faculty member whose proposal is approved will receive a course development stipend of \$500.

Each team-taught Habit of Mind course has a minimum enrollment of 30 students. Each course must be 3 credits (with the exception of Natural-Scientific Inquiry courses, which must be 4 credits). Courses approved under this pilot are offered on an experimental basis and are not considered to be permanent courses.

Final applications are due on February 19, 2018.

Faculty cannot accept both a Bridges to Collaboration Award and a Habits of Mind Team Teaching Award (though faculty may apply for both).

Interested fulltime faculty must submit a proposal containing:

- (1) A proposed course syllabus developed in collaboration with one other faculty member in another discipline, field, or profession within the same unit or with a faculty member in another unit. The syllabus must involve both instructors in all classes for the entirety of the course. The course must be a true collaboration for the entire term of two (2) faculty and not a joint effort with part-time support from each individual. Each team may only

have two instructors. The proposal must indicate if the course will be team taught in Fall 2018 or Spring 2019.

- (2) A one-page cover memo attached to the syllabus making a case for: (1) how this course meets the Habits of Mind learning outcomes; (2) how this course strengthens the AU Core curriculum; (3) how the team-teaching collaboration will be visible to students inside of the classroom; (4) how the instructors will model the distinct disciplinary approaches; and (5) how students will apply the skills of integration to assignments or activities.
- (3) A memorandum of approval from the unit directors/chairs of the two faculty. With this approval, the contributing unit agrees to accept \$4,500 from the Office of the Provost to cover teaching cost of one regular course that would have been taught by the team teaching faculty in the home department/division. The *contributing unit* is defined as the unit that frees up a faculty to team teach a course based in another unit or department.
- (4) Each participating faculty will receive a full credit for one course. The responsibility to meet overall course obligations remains that of the head of the unit.

The proposal package (syllabus, cover memo, approval from unit directors/chairs) must be submitted to core@american.edu by February 19, 2018. The chairs of the five Faculty Senate Habits of Mind subcommittees will jointly consider each proposal, and approval or denial of completed proposals will be made by based on merit and resources available. Questions regarding this pilot program should be directed to [Jessica Waters, Dean of Undergraduate Education](#).

The course evaluation forms (SETs) for each team-taught course will include separate faculty sections and questions for both instructors. However, each instructor will only see the results associated with him or herself.