College of Arts and Sciences
Graduate Faculty Committee Minutes

September 11, 2026
4:00 pm

Kinard 018

I. Welcome & Introduction of Officers – Amanda Hiner, Chair

   a. Meeting called to order at 3:35 PM

   b. Graduate Faculty Committee Secretary – Karin Evans

   c. Graduate Faculty Committee Parliamentarian – Aubrey Sejuit

II. Approval of meeting minutes from March 6, 2026 – Appendix A

   a. There were no changes or corrections to the March 6, 2026 minutes,

      minutes were approved unanimously

III. Curriculum Proposals or Modifications – Appendix B

   a. BIOL 672 (Graduate Research in Biology)– provides additional experience beyond BIOL 671 – Approved)

   b. BIOL 620 (Supervised Lab Instruction) – provides additional experience – Approved

   c. WRIT 502 – (Digital English Studies) – updated course – Approved

   d. Blanket Petitions – BIOL 571 and BIOL 695

IV. Old Business

   a. None

V. New Business

a. None

VI. CAS Graduate Director's Remarks – Dr. M. Gregory Oakes

a. Graduate Enrollments are slightly down from last year; most likely due to last year's increase from Limestone students matriculating into WU (MSW in particular).

b. Kelly Richardson asked about specific English Courses – Greg clarified numbers are included in the ENGA, CRWR, ENGL designators

c. Graduate school Open House will be moved to Spring instead of Fall

d. Hunter Huggins will be visiting schools (n=20) to assist with graduate student recruitment – schedule presented for school visitations from 9/3/26-11/18/2026

e. Greg to meet with Grad Program directors next week – encouraged to contact him to set up time/date

f. Inquiry about Gabby Bissonette position – looking to hire in mid-Oct/November; position description to change for new hiree

VII. Announcements

a. Dr. Hiner encouraged participation in Migration Convention

b. Encourage students to participate in Santee Cooper visit to campus

c. Dr. Blair encouraged graduate student participation in SOURCE

VIII. Meeting adjourned 3:45 PM

Note: Quorum is 35% of full-time graduate faculty. The minimum attendance to do business is 20% of

full-time graduate faculty.

Appendix A

College of Arts and Sciences
Graduate Faculty Committee Meeting Minutes
March 6, 2026

4:00 pm
Kinard 018

I. Welcome & Introduction of Officers – Julie Orme

   a. Meeting called to order at 4pm

II. Approval of meeting minutes from January 16, 2026 – Appendix A

   a. Motion made and seconded, minutes approved with no corrections or changes

III. Curriculum Proposals or Modifications – Appendix B

   a. MLAN591M: Principles of Teaching Modern Lang Mechanics – prereq. change (approved)

   b. MLAN591S: Principles of Teaching Modern Lang Skills – prereq. change (approved)

   c. WRIT501: Digital Authorship Practices – title change (approved)

   d. LART694: Graduate Studio in Liberal Arts (approved)

   e. SOCL535: Advanced Criminology Theories (approved)

   f. MLA in Liberal Arts – Liberal Arts: change capstone requirement, cross list with MA-ENGL capstone (approved)

   g. MLA in Liberal Arts – Political and Civic Engagement: change

capstone requirement, crosslist with MA-ENGL capstone (approved)

h. MLA in Liberal Arts – Criminology and Criminal Justice (approved)

i. PLSC 540 Comparative Constitutional Law –new course (approved)

IV. Old Business

a. None

V. New Business

a. Amanda Hiner was nominated for GFC Chair

VI. Graduate Director's Remarks — Dr. M. Gregory Oakes remarks provided in writing (Appendix C)

VII. Meeting adjourned at 4:10 pm

Appendix B

I. Curriculum Proposals or Modifications

a. New Courses

i. BIOL672 Graduate Research in Biology - Approved, pending update of max hours (set for 1 but it is a 3hr course)

b. Course Edits

i. BIOL620 Supervised Laboratory Instruct - Approved

ii. WRIT502 Digital English Studies – Approved

c. Blanket Petitions

i. BIOL 571 & 695: approved