



Department of English
Thomas Harriot College of Arts and Sciences
East Carolina University • 2201 Bate Building • Greenville, NC 27858-4353
252-328-6041 office • 252-328-4889 fax
www.ecu.edu/english

DATE: November 15, 2013

TO: Educational Policies and Planning Committee

FROM: Marianne Montgomery
Director of Undergraduate Studies and Curriculum Liaison
Department of English

SUBJECT: English curricular changes: memorandum of request

The Department of English's Undergraduate Committee and full faculty have approved this change to our degree programs:

Creation of minor in creative writing (approved by English faculty 13 May 2013)

The creation of this new minor is a response to student interest as demonstrated by enrollment in currently offered creative writing courses and by interest expressed among current students in pursuing a minor in creative writing.

Creative Writing at ECU began laying the groundwork for a minor in creative writing when in 2008 it added an intro to creative writing and four genre-specific "readings from a writer's perspective" courses to the English department's curriculum. These are, according to the Association of Writers and Writing Programs, essential components of an undergraduate minor in creative writing.

The development of this proposal has been guided by the Associated Writing Program's "Hallmarks of an Effective Minor in the Undergraduate Study of Creative Writing." To cultivate the student's expertise as a reader, the most essential component of a young writer's education, this minor emphasizes a wide of range of study in literature and other disciplines to provide students with the foundations needed to become resourceful--as readers, as intellectuals, and as writers. Our goal is to teach our students how to read closely as writers and to engage them in the practice of literary writing, and in the process to expand their knowledge base of academic areas of interest. To that end, our proposed curriculum gives students the ability to analyze, appreciate, and create the components that comprise works of literature in cultural, historical, and literary contexts.

Because our intro to creative writing course proved so successful--at least two sections (18 seats) have filled in each semester since 2008--we began curriculum construction for the proposed minor

To gauge interest among current ECU students in pursuing creative writing as a minor--and to assure our own creative writing faculty that student interest went beyond the level of an introductory course--we arranged a survey in fall 2012 of 675 students currently enrolled in these English courses: freshman comp, freshman & sophomore literature surveys, required courses for English majors, and currently offered creative writing courses.

The results indicated that 38% of students responding were very or somewhat interested in a CW minor [112 students were "very interested," 142 "somewhat interested" in pursuing this minor.

This proposed new minor will not adversely impact any existing minors in the English Department. We believe that it will, in fact, interest additional students to major in English. No new courses nor faculty are needed to support the minor.

The minor in creative writing complements the QEP in its focus on reading, writing, and critical thinking. It complements especially the university's goals of providing cultural enrichment and powerful inspiration in our work to sustain and improve quality of life, and of equipping students with a strong foundation in the liberal arts as essential for intellectual growth and lifelong learning. The minor especially will further the position of ECU within our region as a magnet for talent and creativity.

The effectiveness of the minor will be assessed according to criteria established by ECU's Institutional Planning, Assessment and Research division so that its high quality is assured by two key evidence-based methods. (1) by a writing portfolio collected from each graduating student in the last semester of undergraduate studies; and (2) by student survey in which those minoring in creative writing will complete an assessment in narrative form that evaluates their individual opinions of the effectiveness of instruction within the minor as well as the overall effectiveness of the minor in preparing them for pursuing literary writing after graduation.

Undergraduate studies in creative writing are currently offered at the following UNC-system universities: UNC-CH, UNC-Wilmington, Appalachian State, and Western Carolina. Only one of these (Western Carolina) offers a formal minor, but it, like each of the others, is focused exclusively on creative writing offerings. None of them offers the variety of exposure to other academic disciplines necessary for the development of a well-rounded and successful creative writer. It is this interdisciplinary background that the ECU minor in creative writing seeks to provide for its students.

Attached please find a budgetary memorandum, marked catalog copy inserting the minor into it, a signature form, and a pdf file containing notifications and responses from all affected units.

Thank you for considering this change to our curriculum.

CC: Harriot College Curriculum Committee, Foundations and Instructional Effectiveness Committee, Writing Across the Curriculum Committee, Council for Teacher Education Curriculum Committee

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and Sciences
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September 4, 2013

To: ECU Undergraduate Curriculum Committee

From: Jeffrey Johnson
Chair, Department of English

Re: Budgetary and staff impact of Creative Writing minor proposal

The purpose of this memo is to confirm that the Department of English has adequate staff and technology for the proposed Creative Writing minor. This proposal will have no budgetary or staffing impact on our courses and programs.

cc: Harriot College Curriculum Committee

Creative Writing Minor

Amber Flora Thomas, Coordinator, 302 Erwin Hall

The minor in creative writing provides a solid background in appreciating and writing original creative work in four principal genres: fiction, poetry, creative nonfiction, and play/scriptwriting. The minor also incorporates the study of literature and other disciplines to provide students with the foundations needed to become successful and resourceful readers, intellectuals in various disciplines, and creative writers. Students learn how to read closely as writers and to engage successfully in the practice of literary writing.

This interdisciplinary minor also provides students an overview of the precedents established by writers of many eras, continents, ethnicities, and sensibilities. Students will learn how to analyze, appreciate, and create the components that comprise works of literature.

By creating their own works of literature, student writers should be able to apply what they have learned about the elements of literature to their own work and discover which genres of creative writing they wish to pursue further.

Because undergraduate creative writing students are not expected to specialize in a single genre, the minor requires in its core an introductory workshop course that exposes students to each of the four genres as well as a minimum of two workshop courses in specific genres.

Other appropriate courses, including special topic courses (when the theme is relevant) and directed readings may be considered for inclusion as electives upon review by the director.

Minimum requirement for the minor in creative writing is 24. s.h. of credit as follows:

1. Core - 12 s.h.

- ENGL 2815 - Introduction to Creative Writing
- PHIL 2271 - Introduction to the Philosophy of Art

Choose two from:

- ENGL 3830 - Introduction to Play Writing
- ENGL 3840 - Introduction to Poetry Writing
- ENGL 3850. Introduction to Fiction Writing
- ENGL 3860 - Introduction to Nonfiction Writing

2. Cognates - 6 s.h.

Choose two from:

- ENGL 3831 - Plays from the Writer's Perspective
- ENGL 3841 - Poetry from the Writer's Perspective
- ENGL 3851 - Fiction from the Writer's Perspective
- ENGL 3861 - Creative Nonfiction from the Writer's Perspective
- ENGL 4930 - Film: The Writer's Perspective

3. Electives – 6 s.h.

Choose additional courses from above or from the following:

- ANTH 3300 - Language and Culture
- ART 1250 - Digital Photography for Non-SOAD Majors
- ART 3002 - Book Arts One
- ART 3003 - Introduction to Letterpress
- ART 3004 - Book Arts Two

- CLAS 1300 - Greek and Latin for Vocabulary Building
- CLAS 3300 - Ancient Greek Culture and Civilization
- CLAS 3400 - Roman Culture and Civilization: The Republic
- CLAS 3405 - Roman Culture and Civilization: The Empire
- ENGL 2230 - Southern Literature
- ENGL 2710 - English Grammar
- ENGL 3240 - U.S. Latino/a Literature
- ENGL 3250 - Native American Literatures
- ENGL 3260 - African American Literature
- ENGL 3280 - African Literature
- ENGL 3290 - Asian American Literature
- ENGL 3300 - Women and Literature
- ENGL 3460 - Topics in Literature and Mythology
- ENGL 3570 - American Folklore
- ENGL 3630 - The Bible as Literature
- ENGL 3700 - History of the English Language
- ENGL 3720 - Writing Systems of the World
- ENGL 3750 - Introductory Linguistics
- ENGL 3810 - Advanced Composition
- ENGL 3870 - Introduction to Editing and Publishing
- ENGL 3885 - Writing and Document Design
- ENGL 4230 - North Carolina Literature
- ENGL 4730 - Language and Society
- ENGL 4835 - Classical Rhetorics
- ENGL 4885 - Digital Writing
- ENGL 5840 - Advanced Poetry Writing
- ENGL 5850 - Advanced Fiction Writing
- ENGL 5860 - Advanced Nonfiction Writing
- ENGL 5890 - Advanced Script Writing
- FILM 2900 - Introduction to Film Studies
- GRBK 2000 - Introduction to the Great Books
- GRBK 2010 - Great Books of Modern China
- GRBK 2400 - Great Books of the Middle Ages and Renaissance
- GRBK 2500 - Great Books of Enlightenment
- GRBK 2600 - Great Books of the 19th and 20th Centuries
- HIST 3333 - Biography and History
- PHIL 3272 - Aesthetics
- PHIL 3331 - Modern Philosophy
- PHIL 3350 - Great Philosophers
- POLS 3012 - Politics Through Film
- POLS 3045 - Humor and American Politics
- Other courses related to creative writing as approved by the program coordinator.

[Albright, Alex](#)

Actions

To:

M

Thomas, Amber F

Tuesday, October 29, 2013 11:20 AM

Flag for follow up. Start by Tuesday, October 29, 2013. Due by Tuesday, October 29, 2013.

To help protect your privacy, some content in this message has been blocked. If you're sure this message is from a trusted sender and you want to re-enable the blocked features, [click here](#).

Creative Writing minor electives

From Drought, Michael **Date** September 20, 2012 1:50:03 PM EDT
To Albright, Alex
Cc Drought, Michael; Robinson, Lisa Beth
Subject Creative Writing minor electives
Alex,

The School of Art and Design supports the creation of the Creative Writing minor. The courses you have listed are appropriate for your proposed minor. Please let me know if you need further assistance.

Michael

Michael H. Drought Director
School of Art and Design
East Carolina University
Mail stop 502
2000 Jenkins Fine Arts Center Greenville, NC 27858

252/328-6665
droughtm@ecu.edu

From: <Albright>, Alex <ALBRIGHTD@ecu.edu>
Date: Thursday, September 13, 2012 2:45 PM
To: Office 2004 Test Drive User <robinsonli@ecu.edu>
Cc: "Drought, Michael" <DROUGHTM@ecu.edu>, "Malmrose, Craig D" <MALMROSEC@ecu.edu>

Subject: Creative Writing minor electives Creative Writing minor electives

Dear Lisa Beth: Thanks again for setting up the meeting with you , Michael, and Craig, and for Art's enthusiastic interest in our proposed Creative Writing minor. As I mentioned, we're interested in including the following Art courses in the minor's list of electives: ART 1250 Digital photography Art 2905 (should it become available again) Art 3002 Book arts I Art 3003 Intro to letterpress Art 3004 Book arts II I believe that I understood that you would be revising the pre-requirements for Art 3003 & 3004 to reflect "consent of instructor" as one way of entering the course. We in CW are not averse to including a good background course as a pre-requisite. I don't believe that the letter Art might draft to support the inclusion of the above courses in our list of electives needs to address the pre-req issue. It may come up once the proposal gets to curriculum committee, and perhaps by that time you'll have your new pre-reqs established. I'd appreciate a note from Art indicating that you're okay with inclusion of these courses. Best wishes, Alex Albright, Associate Professor Co-ordinator, Creative Writing English • ECU
252.328.4876

• • •

These courses are fine. You have our endorsement. But if you are going to include these, you should also include:

GRBK 2500 Great Books of the Enlightenment.

which is identical to the others in the sequence.

-- John Stevens

From: Albright, Alex
Sent: Thursday, October 03, 2013 3:09 PM
To: Stevens, John
Subject: Re: Creative Writing minor proposal

Dear John,

Our proposal for a creative minor is coming along nicely. We've deleted the GRBK 3001 course from our list of electives.

I can't seem to locate a note from you that indicated it was okay with Great Books to include these

- GRBK 2000 - Introduction to the Great Books
- GRBK 2010 - Great Books of Modern China
- GRBK 2400 - Great Books of the Middle Ages and Renaissance
- GRBK 2600 - Great Books of the 19th and 20th Centuries

IO Below is a copy of the complete curriculum as we are proposing it.
We hope that you're okay with keeping these courses as part of our minor.

Best wishes

Alex Albright

I

1. Core - 12 s.h.

-
- ENGL 2815 - Introduction to Creative Writing
 - PHIL 2271 - Introduction to the Philosophy of Art

Choose two from:

- ENGL 3830 - Introduction to Play Writing
- ENGL 3840 - Introduction to Poetry Writing
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- ENGL 3860 - Introduction to Nonfiction Writing

2. Cognates - 6 s.h.

Choose two from:

-
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- GRBK 2600 - Great Books of the 19th and 20th Centuries
- HIST 3333 - Biography and History
- PHIL 3272 - Aesthetics
- PHIL 3331 - Modern Philosophy
- PHIL 3350 - Great Philosophers
- POLS 3012 - Politics Through Film
- POLS 3045 - Humor and American Politics
- Other courses related to creative writing as approved by the program coordinator.

From: <Stevens>, John <STEVENSJ@ecu.edu<<mailto:STEVENSJ@ecu.edu>>>

Date: Wednesday, August 22, 2012 3:30 PM

To: Donald Alex <albrightd@ecu.edu<<mailto:albrightd@ecu.edu>>>

Subject: RE: Creative Writing minor proposal

This message has been archived. View the original item

<<https://vault68.intra.ecu.edu/EnterpriseVault/ViewMessage.asp?VaultId=1964094BB30B94145AFE88741E62F3A151110000vaultsite&SaveSetId=201210220941006~201208221930170000~Z~E05D03729E85B1630200134864154091>>

I'm afraid we have only offered GRBK 3001 once, are not sure when we will find a scientist who can offer it again (and since Ac. Standards wouldn't allow it FC credit, enrollment is in serious doubt) and that is in no way a creative writing course. That is, it is all but banked and I don't think it's appropriate for inclusion. -- John Stevens

From:

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RE: Creative writing minor/CLAS electives

From Given, John

Date January 31, 2013 3:27:32 PM EST

To Albright, Alex

Cc

Subject RE: Creative writing minor/CLAS electives

Alex,

The Creative Writing minor looks like it will be an excellent addition to the ECU curriculum. I agree that CLAS 1300 would be good to include in the program. CLAS 2600, though, was deleted from the Undergraduate Catalog last year and will no longer be offered. Its material was integrated into some upper-level courses: CLAS 3300 (Greek Culture and Civilization), 3400 (Roman Culture and Civilization: The Republic) and 3405 (Roman Culture and Civilization: The Empire). I doubt those courses would be suitable for your minor, but I would have no objection to your including them.

John

From: Albright, Alex

Sent: Thursday, January 31, 2013 3:22 PM

To: Given, John

Subject: Creative writing minor/CLAS electives

Professor John Given, Director Classical Studies ECU Dear Professor Given: We are developing a proposal for a Creative Writing minor and would like to include two Classical Studies courses as electives in it: CLAS 1300: Greek & Latin for Vocabulary Building and CLAS 2600: Power of Image in Ancient Greece & Rome. We hope you'll agree that both courses would be good ones for writing students to take. Part of the process for securing the minor includes notification of programs and departments that may be affected by it, and thus I'm writing you this note to see if you are okay with inclusion of these courses as electives in this proposed minor. Below is a draft of the proposed curriculum, as it has developed thus far. I look forward to hearing from you. Best wishes, Alex Albright, Associate Professor Co-ordinator, Creative Writing English • ECU

RE: Proposed Creative Writing minor

From Daniel, Randy **Date** August 22, 2012 4:52:36 PM EDT
To Albright, Alex
Cc

Subject RE: Proposed Creative Writing minor
Dr. Albright,

I have consulted with the relevant faculty in the department and we welcome the inclusion of ANTH 3300 as an elective in your proposed Creative Writing minor. Good luck with your pursuit.

Regards,
Randy

I. Randolph Daniel, Jr.
Professor and Interim Chair
Department of Anthropology
Flanagan 271
East Carolina University
Greenville, NC 27858
Phone: 252-328-9455
Fax: 252-328-9464
email: danieli@ecu.edu

From: Albright, Alex
Sent: Wednesday, August 22, 2012 2:49 PM
To: Daniel, Randy
Subject: Proposed Creative Writing minor

Professor I. Randolph Daniel, Chair
Department of Anthropology
ECU

Dear Professor Daniel:

We are hoping to develop a Creative Writing minor this year and would like to include ANTH 3300: Language & Culture as one of the electives in this program. Part of the process for securing the minor includes notification of programs and departments that may be affected by it, and thus I'm writing you this note to see if you are okay with inclusion of this course as an elective in this proposed minor. I look forward to hearing from you.

Best wishes,

Alex Albright, Associate Professor

Co-ordinator, Creative Writing

English • ECU

252.328.4876

RE: Creative writing minor/CLAS electives

From Given, John **Date** January 31, 2013 3:27:32 PM EST

To Albright, Alex

Cc

Subject RE: Creative writing minor/CLAS electives

Alex,

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John

From: Albright, Alex

Sent: Thursday, January 31, 2013 3:22 PM

To: Given, John

Subject: Creative writing minor/CLAS electives

Professor John Given, Director Classical Studies ECU Dear Professor Given: We are developing a proposal for a Creative Writing minor and would like to include two Classical Studies courses as electives in it: CLAS 1300: Greek & Latin for Vocabulary Building and CLAS 2600: Power of Image in Ancient Greece & Rome. We hope you'll agree that both courses would be good ones for writing students to take. Part of the process for securing the minor includes notification of programs and departments that may be affected by it, and thus I'm writing you this note to see if you are okay with inclusion of these courses as electives in this proposed minor. Below is a draft of the proposed curriculum, as it has developed thus far. I look forward to hearing from you. Best wishes, Alex Albright, Associate Professor Co-ordinator, Creative Writing English •

We do two sections (96 seats) of 2271 every term. Sometimes three.

We have not taught 3272 in ages but could if you could ensure us of 10 students.

We offer the other two courses regularly enough, 3332, anyway, but I must confess I cannot imagine why you would require a creative writing major to take either of those courses. As a rule, 3350 is a different course every time it is taught.

George

From: <Albright>, Alex <ALBRIGHTD@ecu.edu>
Date: Wednesday, August 22, 2012 2:58 PM
To: East Carolina University <baileyg@ecu.edu>
Subject: Proposed Creative Writing minor

Professor George Bailey, Chair
Department of Philosophy
ECU

Dear George:

We are hoping to develop a Creative Writing minor this year and would like to include PHIL 2271: Intro to Philosophy of Art in its core and three philosophy courses as electives: PHIL 3331: Modern Philosophy, PHIL 3350: Great Philosophers, and PHIL 3272: Aesthetics. Part of the

process for securing the minor includes notification of programs and departments that may be affected by it, and thus I'm writing you this note to see if you are okay with inclusion of these courses as in this proposed minor.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Best wishes,

Alex Albright, Associate Professor
Co-ordinator, Creative Writing
English • ECU
Hey George,

We got this proposal through college curriculum committee today. Next up is the university cc.

This process reminded me that I had not responded to your note below.

We in creative writing are interested in our students diversifying their knowledge, reading, and areas of specialization. The advanced PHIL courses look especially attractive to potential minors in CW because of how they would build off of PHIL 2271. I don't think we'd send many your way for the advanced courses, however, as these are listed in an electives part of the minor that only has room for 6 s.h. But bottom line is that we want our writers to be better thinkers, too, and we believe that any exposure to PHIL courses at ECU would help further that goal.

We are grateful to you & philosophy for allowing the inclusion of 2271 especially as foundational to the minor.

Best wishes,

Alex Albright

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Alex,

Yes, please go ahead, sorry for the delay in responding.

We have not offered HIST 3333 since I've been here, but that's not to say that someone won't take an interest and revive it.

Gerry

Gerald J. Prokopowicz, J.D., Ph.D.
Chair, History Department
Brewster A-315
East Carolina University
Greenville, NC 27858
252-328-1027

Albright, Alex

Hey Gerry, I'm still in New Orleans, till Wednesday; Curriculum committee wants our package by tomorrow. Hoping we're still good to include HIST 3333 in the proposal? Thanks. Alex/

10/14/2013

Albright, Alex

Sent Items

Thursday, October 10, 2013 11:38 AM

Dear Gerry,

Somehow I've lost in folders or cyberspace your response to our query about whether or not History would support this proposed minor in Creative Writing. I recall at this point that you caught my spelling gaffe in the subject line and, I believe, that you suggested we only include HIST 3333: Biography & History, which is the only History course still on the proposal. So now I'm out of town trying to get this last bit of our proposal together by the time I return to campus next week. I hope that you won't mind responding to the proposal again. Below this email is my original one to you, from Sept 2012.

best wishes,

Alex Albright

ps: as you can see I'm also having some trouble negotiating fonts & margins with my off-campus Outlook access.

[Proposed minor in Creative Writing](#)

From Albright, Alex
To Prokopowicz, Gerald J.
Cc
Subject Propoesed minor in Creative Writing
Professor Gerald Prokopowicz
Chair
Department of History
ECU

Dear Professor Prokopowicz:

We are hoping to develop an interdisciplinary minor in Creative Writing this year and would like to include two history courses as electives in this program: HIST 3333 Biography & history and

HIST 3993 Approaches to historical objects. Part of the process for securing the minor includes notification of programs and departments that may be affected by it, and thus I'm writing you this note to see if you are okay with inclusion of these courses as electives in this proposed minor.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Best wishes,

Alex Albright, Associate Professor
Co-ordinator, Creative Writing
English • ECU