

Creative Writing Learning Compact

Students graduating in this area of concentration should have acquired creative and critical thinking abilities, communication skills, and content knowledge that will allow them to interpret and articulate complex ideas; will serve as the basis for further study in Creative Writing, Literature, English, or related disciplines; and will prepare them for careers that demand strong communication skills together with creative and critical thinking.

Discipline-Specific Expected Outcomes	Creative & Critical Thinking	Communication Skills	Content Skills
1. Demonstrate a rich and articulate understanding of the genre(s) in which they write, as evidenced by original work.	X	X	X
2. Develop and employ techniques of intensive revision.	X	X	X
3. Demonstrate an understanding of the contemporary creative writing profession.	X		X
4. Demonstrate mastery of various literary theories and techniques, with an attention to period, gender, genre and multiculturalism.	X		X
5. Create polished original creative work.	X	X	X

Measures to Track Student Progress

Students enrolled in Creative Writing courses are evaluated through their performance in writing portfolios, class presentations, participation in class discussions, craft papers, annotated bibliographies, workshop submissions and responses, and self-evaluations. Many students also pursue independent writing tutorials under faculty direction and are evaluated through original written work and reflective writing. Finally, student progress is continually monitored through faculty conferences. In the fifth semester students submit a provisional AOC form and describe the work they have done and will do to meet the AOC requirements. This is reviewed and approved by two faculty members.

This combination of evaluative tools allows each student to gain a picture of their progress in creating polished, original creative work, employing techniques of revision, and developing a rich and articulate understanding of the landscape of contemporary creative writing in the genre(s) in which they write.

Specific Measures to Demonstrate Each Graduate's Competence

All students with a concentration in Creative Writing are required to research and write a senior thesis under the direct supervision of a member of the Creative Writing faculty, and defend that thesis in a public oral baccalaureate exam. Theses are judged according to the quality and originality of creative work; the students' ability to articulate intention and self-reflexivity in relation to their artistic choices and process; and the students' ability to situate creative work within the landscape of contemporary creative writing and the history of literature. Performance on the oral exam is judged by how well the student responds to questions, demonstrates knowledge of the field, and articulates intention behind their artistic choices.